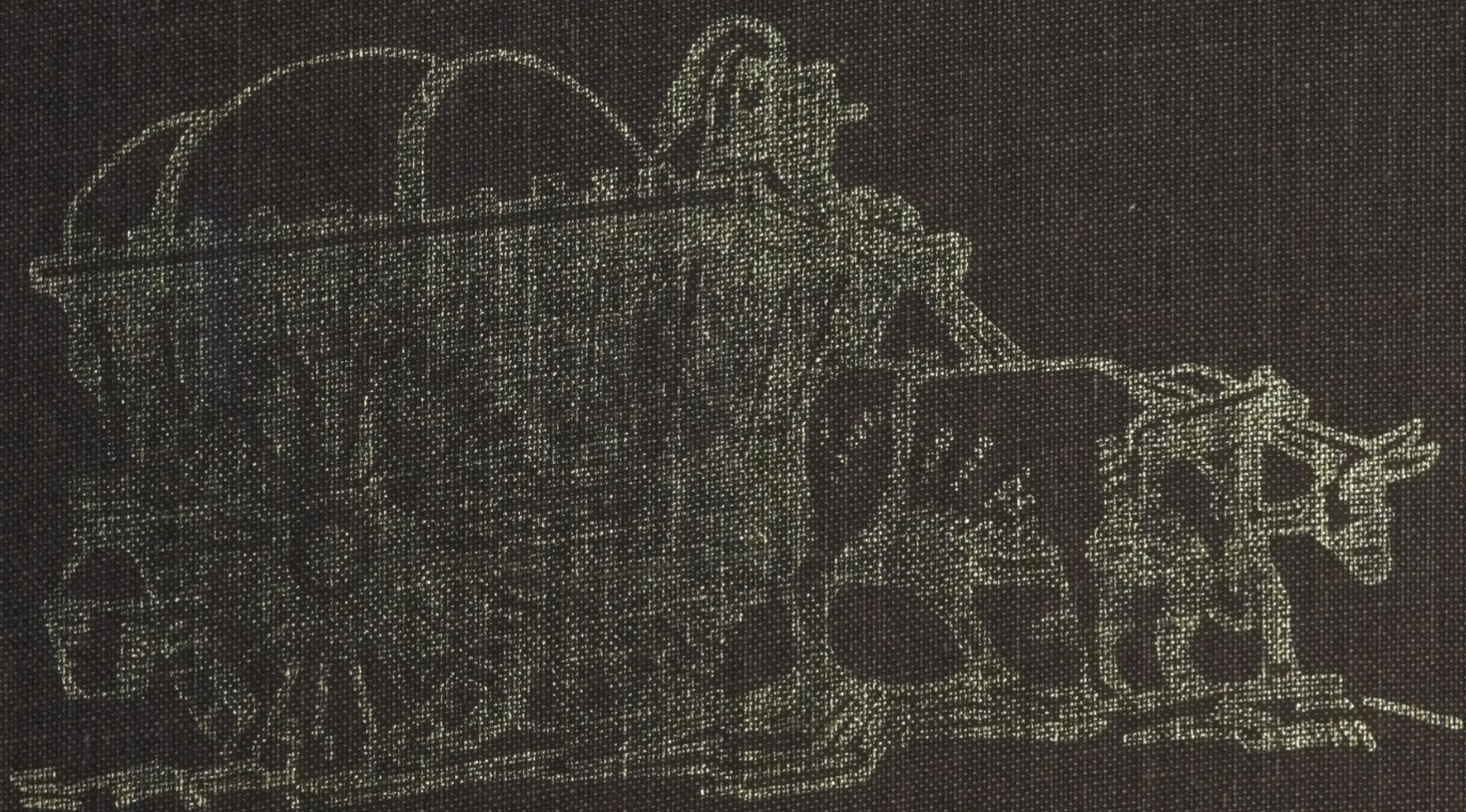




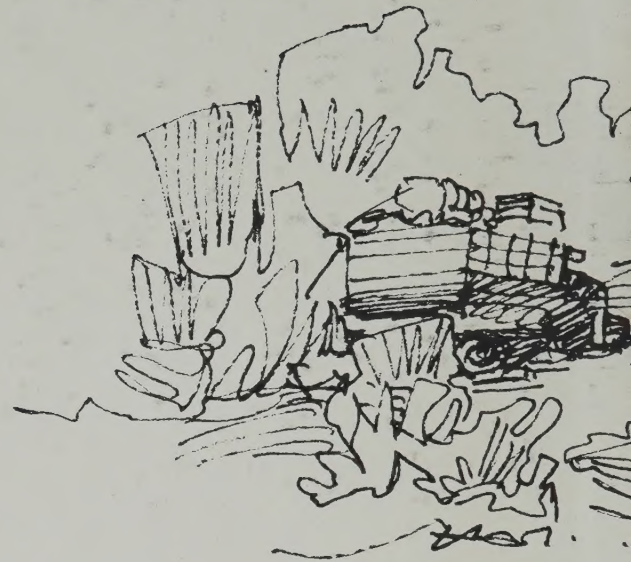
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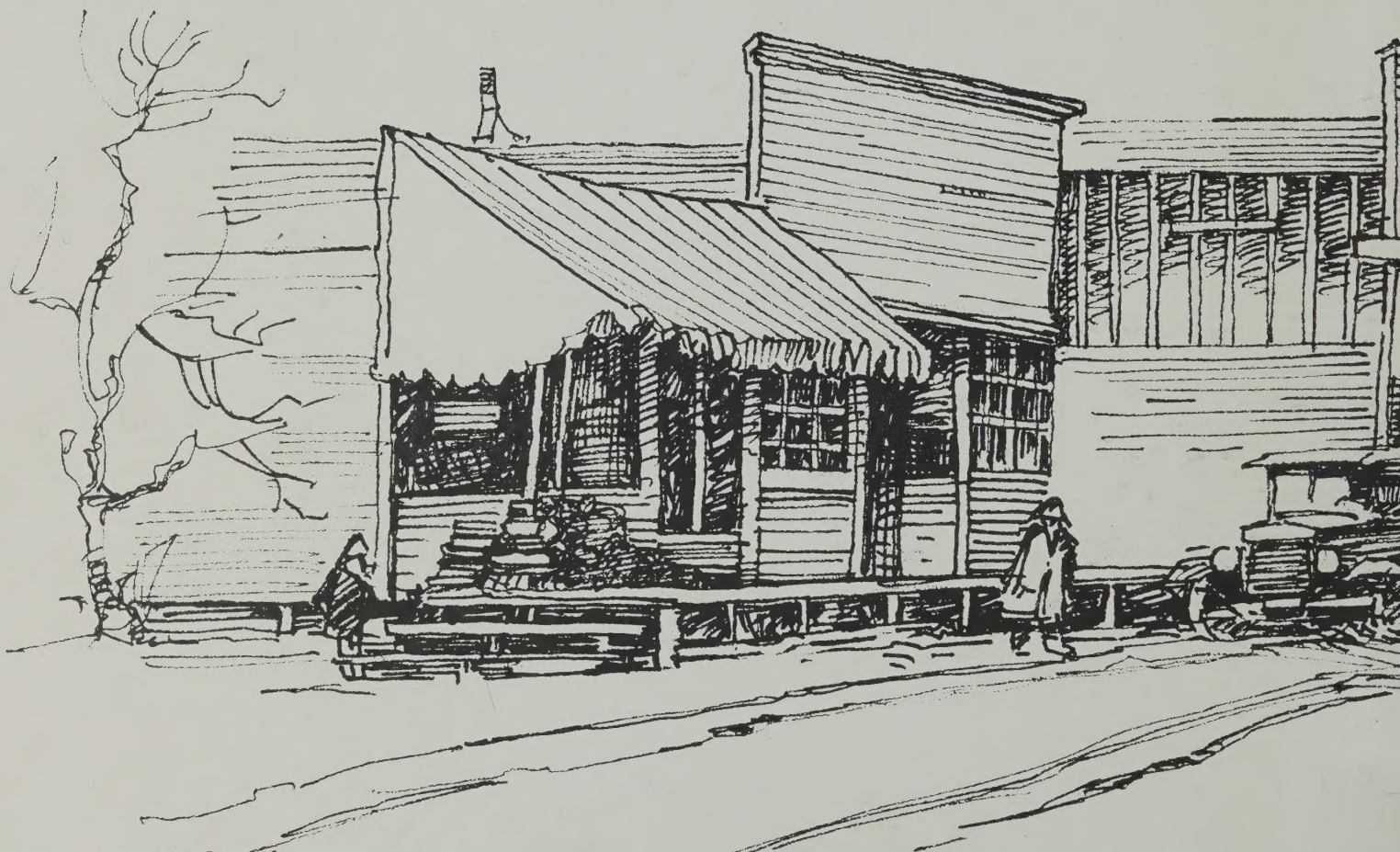
EACH STEP LEFT ITS MARK



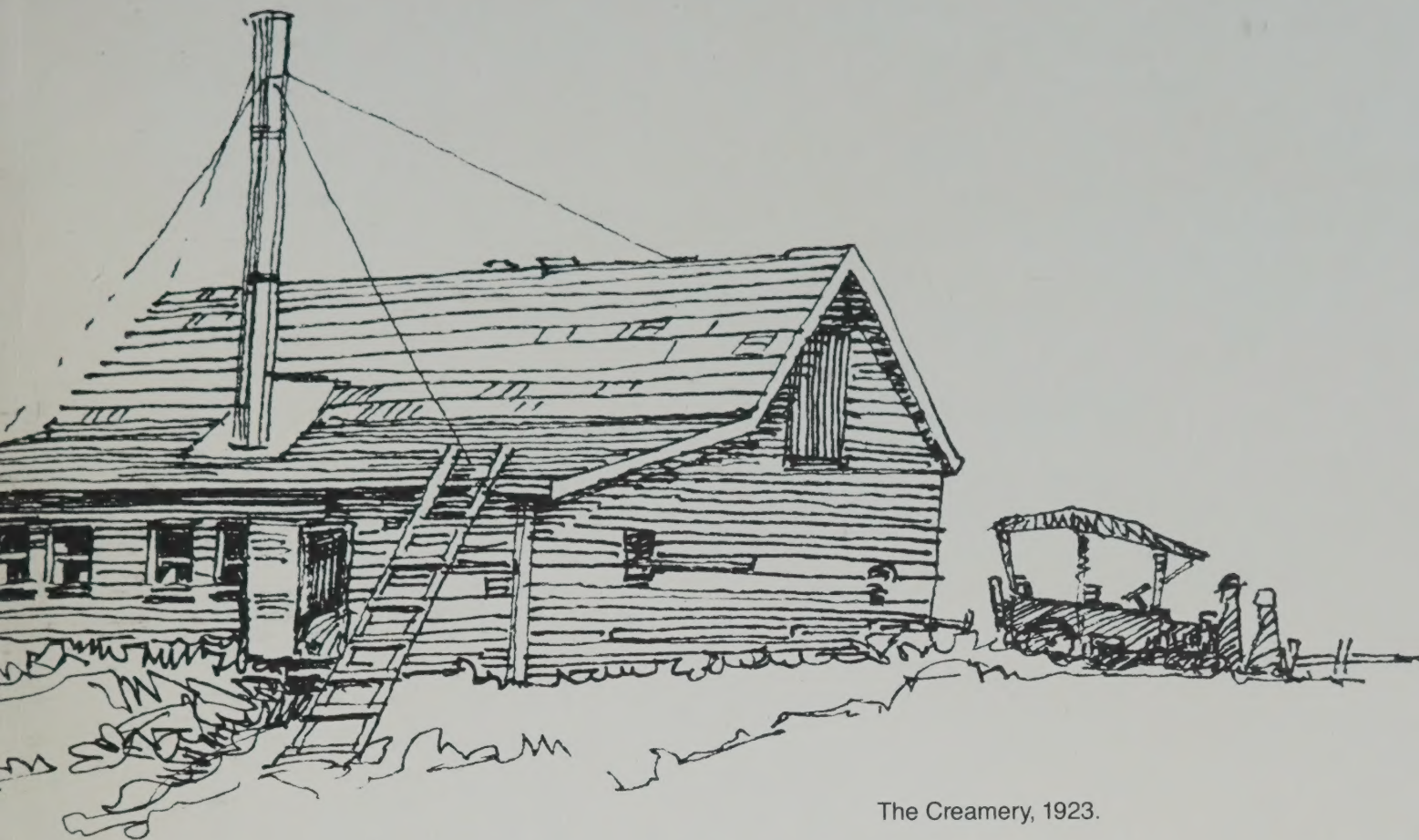
A History of Hay Lakes
and Surrounding Area



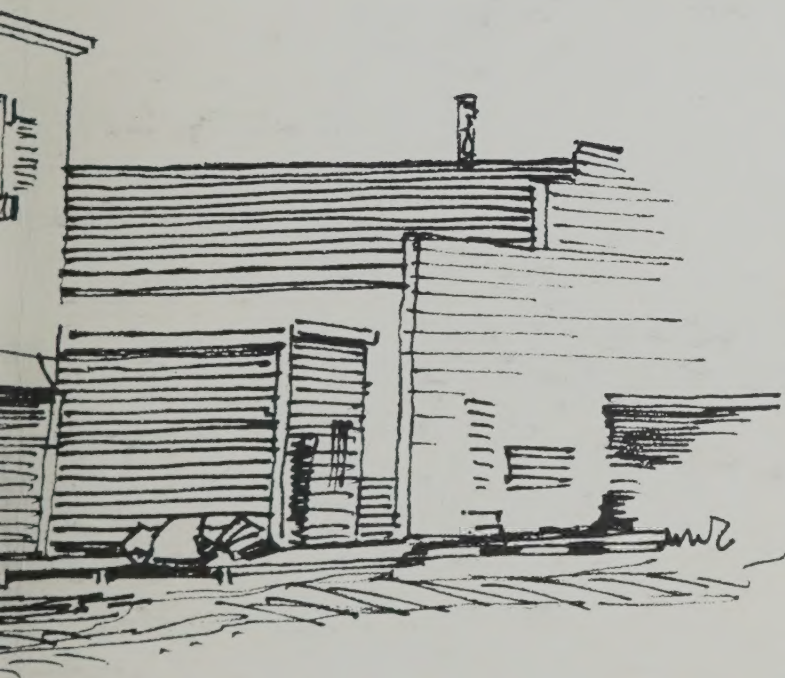
MEREDITH EVANS '82



MEREDITH EVANS '82

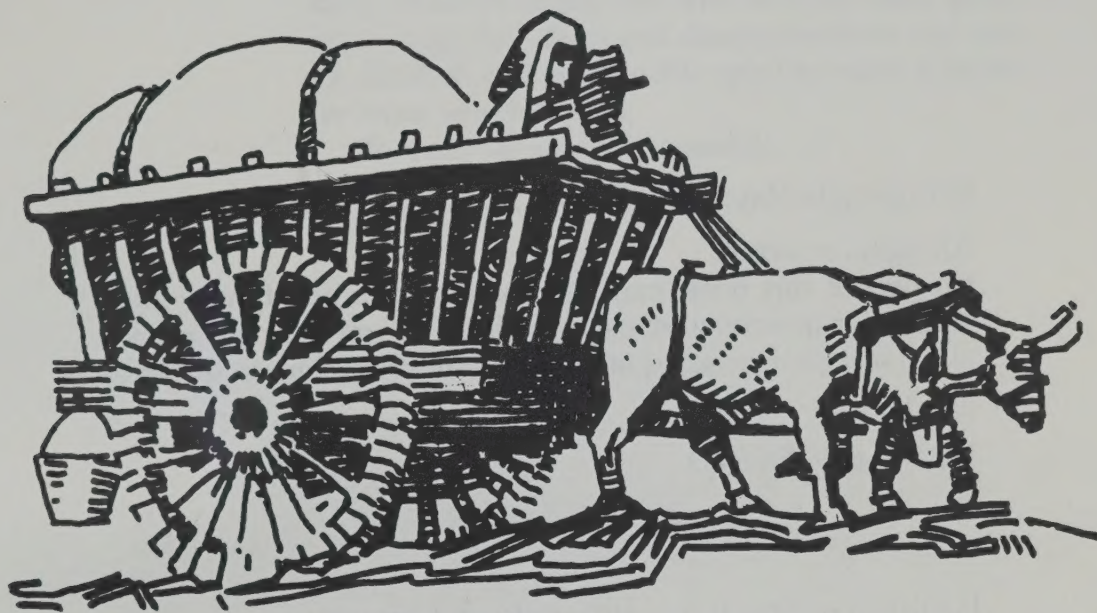


The Creamery, 1923.



Main Street Hay Lakes, 1921.

EACH STEP LEFT ITS MARK



A History of Hay Lakes
and Surrounding Area

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the memory of the many pioneers of this area who suffered many hardships, tragedies, fears and disappointments and had the fortitude and indomitable spirit to create a future for those who followed.

To them we are most grateful.

Acknowledgement

We, the committee for "Each Step Left Its Mark", have been privileged to garner the threads of the history of Hay Lakes and district and to weave them into a fabric honoring the pioneers whose destiny brought them to this fair corner of Alberta.

This privilege brought with it the responsibility to exhaust every avenue of information available to illuminate the shadows of the past. This perception will, hopefully, give to succeeding generations, an added dimension to their appreciation of their heritage bought with a heroic struggle. We acknowledge our debt to those who made this task possible. In the spring of 1980, a group of Hay Lakes citizens gathered in the Recreation Center to proceed with the job; to do the best possible. Those elected to serve on the executive were: Leslie Webster — chairman, Pat Rost — secretary, and Martha Nordin — treasurer. It was regrettable that in many instances the direct expressions that would have given a clearer perception of the pioneers themselves, have been lost because the sands of time have run out for some of them and many of our remaining seniors have already passed beyond the time of their best recollection.

We compiled what we could, with the aid of the surviving pioneers and the members of their families, to whom we are grateful.

However, it must be acknowledged that the recapture of the spirit of the Hay Lakes area was made possible by those people who voluntarily and faithfully over many years, recorded, maintained and preserved the news and records of this area and are still doing so.

There were many types of weavers of this historical tapestry whose interest in preserving the past generated concern for "our book". Rae Kroll (Cover) and Meredith Evans gave valuable work of art. The Hay Lakes Senior Citizens Club gave us the use of their facilities. There were those whose example of community leadership and involvement inspired the less inspired to carry the commitment to its conclusion. More sadly, there were those who were not destined to continue the work for which they were partly instrumental in its early struggle, nor even saw its culmination. This revealed to us a privileged responsibility before more "sands of time flowed by".

We needed to authenticate our history with dates, land title and locations for which we thank the Provincial Archives, the Camrose Canadian, the Camrose Library, the County of Camrose, Fort Ed-

monton, Western Producer Prairie Books, Hay Lakes Municipal Library and those who were instrumental in its inception, which was a particularly arduous task.

Many thanks to Chris Knight of Friesen Printers for his encouragement and helpful advice in the preparation of this book. Tribute is given to the Alberta Government through the Camrose County 75th Anniversary Committee. Also to New Horizons of Ottawa through their Edmonton Representative, and to Alberta Culture for their assistance in publication of this book.

We apologize for any errors or omissions due to oversight or neglect on the part of the committee. We are sorry that some of the community's family histories do not appear in this book due to reluctance by family members to provide us with information about their heritage.

We offer this book to succeeding generations believing it will rekindle, from time to time, a belief in man's will to struggle, to strive, in harmony and good-will, in a sphere of encompassing love with his neighbor.

It is not possible to thank everyone who contributed, but special mention must be made of those who spent endless hours gathering and compiling information. There were: Margaret Arnston, Gola Berry, Anne Berkholtz, Otto Drebert, Wanda Grahn, Helen Heinz, David and Doris Holdsworth, Alpha McLean, Lillian Mallas, Pauline Maruschak, Richard and Evelyn Pearson, Pat Rost, Carol Skaret and Gertie These.

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"Our generation passeth away, and another generation cometh; But the earth abideth forever".
Ecclesiastes 1:4

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HAY LAKES TRAIL

**FOR GENERATIONS HAY LAKES FORMED PART OF THE BLACKFEET INDIAN TRAIL FROM EDMONTON TO THE PRAIRIES
THE FIRST WESTERN TELEGRAPH LINE REACHED A LOCATION ONE MILE SOUTH EAST OF THIS POINT IN 1876 AND WAS THE ONLY TELEGRAPH STATION FROM EASTERN CANADA FROM 1877 UNTIL 1879
AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY SETTLERS OF ALMOST EVERY NATIONALITY CAME TO THIS FERTILE AREA FORMING ONE OF ALBERTA'S FINEST MIXED FARMING COMMUNITIES**

This sign was unveiled at Hay Lakes Jubilee celebration, July 1, 1955.

Introduction

Hay Lakes Trail

The Hay Lakes Trail was frequently referred to as the Battleford Trail. However, the trail that intersected this territory had been in existence since the early fur trading days, which had no bearing on the trail that was later developed from Battleford to Hay Lakes. The trail out of Fort Edmonton via Hay Lakes, was once used by the Métis who worked for the Hudson's Bay at Fort Edmonton. It was usually travelled when they made their buffalo hunts around Dried Meat Lake, but was also used by the fur traders. The trail was originally referred to as the Métis trail. When the first survey for the railway was made in 1873, the surveyers travelled this trail to Fort Edmonton for supplies. Since they had their camp quarters at Hay Lakes they would refer to it as the Hay Lakes Trail.

The trail was extended from this point to Clark's Crossing when the telegraph line was built along the survey route. This trail became the travel route from Battleford to Hay Lakes when the town of Battleford developed in 1876. It became known as the telegraph

trail since it was primarily used for building and maintaining the telegraph line. As the town of Battleford developed, the trail became the travel route from Fort Edmonton to Battleford by using the Hay Lakes Trail to the telegraph line. It was for this reason that many of those travellers would refer to it as the Battleford Trail.

For several years the trail was also used by a number of Hudson's Bay freighters which sought a shorter route to Winnipeg. The original trail where these freighters travelled was the Carlton Trail, while the trail through Battleford via Hay Lakes was much shorter. The freighters encountered many hazards in their travel, most of which was the lack of shelter for their rest stops. Only the hardy Métis seemed to survive the elements of camping outdoors, according to reports from the Edmonton Bulletin. The North West Mounted Police made frequent attempts to travel this trail. One of these reports reads as follows: "Serg't Major Belcher arrived from Battleford on Tuesday afternoon last, making the trip in seven days by the watch and coming in by the Hay Lakes road.

He reports the buckboard getting stuck while he was trying to pass between two buildings after a short run of about twenty yards. The horse was all right, but the buckboard had all the spokes neatly extracted from one wheel and a large majority from another, besides sustaining other serious simple and compound fractures. The two gentlemen arrived on foot from the scene of the dismantle about ten o'clock at night. The remains of the buckboard arrived next day."

It would appear that even the Mounted Police would lose their bearings in the wilds, as was reported in the Edmonton Bulletin in November 1881, which reads as follows: "Sergeant Geldert and two men arrived from Battleford on Monday last to reinforce the police at Fort Saskatchewan. They were to have taken the trail direct to Fort Saskatchewan and oats had been sent out for their use, but not being acquainted with the country they kept on the telegraph trail and came in here by Hay Lakes. Sgt. Geldert had his hand severely cut in getting the wagon and horse out of a slough in which they were mired, having broken through the ice. They brought ten horses and went on to Fort Saskatchewan on Tuesday."

When the Canadian Pacific Railway began building the railroad west of Winnipeg, the Hudson's Bay freighters explored the shorter routes to the end of steel where the freight could be picked up. One of the first trains to arrive from Fort Ellice gave the following report in the Edmonton Bulletin, dated September 2, 1882.

"Norris and Caray's train arrived on Monday, 34 days travelling from Ft. Ellice. The train comprised of 22 carts and 2 wagons, the former loaded from ten to eleven hundred each. They went and came by Hay Lakes, Flag Hill, Trampling Lake, Moose Woods, the northern end of Long Lake and Last Mountain. Striking the Qu'Appelle road a few miles west of that place. This is a good road and much shorter than the old one. The only drawback to it being the lack of ferry on the South Branch, which will probably be supplied by the Temperance Colony. The cars were delayed three weeks at Ft. Ellice waiting for the freight by the boat. On the railroad, matters were in utter confusion, and while it was not very difficult to get the freight to the end of the track, it was almost impossible to find it or get it after it was there."

As the construction of the railroad progressed in a westerly direction, the Hudson's Bay freighters discovered shorter routes to the end of the construction line which was extended from the Hay Lakes Trail. These temporary trails had few, if any, shelter stops for the men. However the Métis people managed to survive the elements of sleeping outdoors, sometimes in winter weather. Since much of their travel

crossed the open plains, they also had to gather their firewood wherever the supply could be found and carry it with their cargo to survive on the open plains.

The freight hauls over these trails came to an end when the railroad construction reached Calgary in 1883. The well-known Calgary Trail became the freight hauling route which soon developed into a stage coach line. Hotel stops were built along the trail to provide overnight shelter for the passengers of the coaches and for the freighters. This also ended the freight hauls over the Hay Lakes Trail. However, the use of this trail was far from over as the immigrants came flocking into the Edmonton immigration house some ten years later.

Those who settled in what is presently known as the Colchester district, were dependent on the use of the Hay Lakes Trail for more than a decade. This area was settled by German speaking families who had immigrated from Volhynia, Russia and Poland. When their colony became overpopulated, members of their families began investigating the homestead land in the Hay Lakes and New Sarepta area. In fact the Hay Lakes Trail had much influence on where they settled. When the Canadian Northern Railway built their line from Camrose to Edmonton, they followed the proximity of the trail, except that the route was much shorter. This was due to the upgrading of sloughs and potholes which the trail would wind around.

As the result of the railway track following the trail, all the hamlets along the track were serviced by this trail. For a decade the settlers in the Hay Lakes area were totally dependent on the use of the trail on their travels to Edmonton. The first alternate travel was the railway coach that came into service in 1914. By this time the trails in the Edmonton vicinity had been phased out of use, while the traffic was delivered over Municipal roads. However, the section from where the Wimbelton school was located, to Hay Lakes, remained intact until the late twenties. In fact the early model cars travelled the Hay Lakes Trail, barring the mudholes were dry enough or were frozen over.

When the use of the trail was terminated there were a number of farm homes that remained dependent on the use of the trail. When these families first settled they located their farm buildings along the trail for convenient use. In later years they found themselves isolated from the Municipal roads due to lake barriers across their land. There were a number of alternate roads built to service these areas. Most of these roads were surveyed to run parallel with the railway property. These roads are still servicing the hamlet of Looma and the villages of New Sarepta and Hay Lakes, along with a number of rural areas. The

road running north of the Hay Lakes Hotel was surveyed and built for the same purpose in 1928.

It would be difficult to conclude the story of the Hay Lakes Trail without mentioning the travelling conditions the early settlers encountered on this trail. There were no road building improvements made on this trail from the time when the early fur traders carved it through the wilderness, although a few corduroy fills were made by the settlers in later years to make some of the bottomless ravines safe to travel. Probably the best way to describe the travel hazards, which they encountered in the early days, is by extracting some excerpts from a story written by Bishop Clement Hoyler many years ago. Bishop Hoyler was a Moravian minister who served in a parish that was known as Bruederfeld, presently Millwoods. He first came to Hay Lakes in 1902 to select a township of land where he settled a German colony the following year.

Bishop Hoyler made frequent visits to minister to the families in the New Sarepta and Hay Lakes area and kept a recorded diary of his travel incidents. When he retired in Northfield, Minnesota in 1947, he prepared a historical review of his thirty years of ministry in Western Canada. One of his more light hearted chapters in the story was titled, "Tragedy and Comedy of Travel." The title of his story described the first incident he encountered when he made his first visit to the new colony in June of 1904. While travelling through one of the deepest mudholes, his horse came to a sudden stop and wouldn't move the buggy any further. After giving his horse some forceful coaxing, he snapped both tugs out the harness and saw his single-tree snap in pieces. After getting into his hipwaders, the Bishop dismounted from the buggy to investigate the problem. When reaching down under a foot of water, he discovered a severed root of tree stump was caught in the spoke of his buggy wheel.

In another incident in his story he quoted the following, "At times the Hay Lakes Trail became notoriously bad. One day I decided to keep count of all the mudholes I negotiated on my way from Bruederfeld to New Sarepta. I did not bother about the harmless little puddles, but counted only the real humdingers. There were one hundred and seventy-five of them, being of the hair-raising, breathtaking variety.

One of the more humorous, and yet humiliating stories was related to the Bishop by a lady who had come to Hay Lakes to visit her son. In reviewing the accounts of her story he wrote the following, "The Hay Lakes country furnished a number of travel stories. A typical one was related to me by an American woman of culture and refinement. Her name was

Broadhead, and though her story may sound a bit exaggerated to the uninitiated, I can vouch for the truth of the incident for I have had similar things happen and even went through them myself. The said lady originally came from New York City but had gone out to the Pacific Coast some years ago. From California she had now come to Hay Lake, Alberta, to visit a son who had taken up a homestead in that area.

One Sunday morning, according to Mrs. Broadhead's story, she and her two grandchildren, a grown-up girl and a fifteen-year-old boy, set out in a buggy drawn by a pony to visit some English people about six miles away. Through some error in judgement they became mired in a slough which they tried to cross. They got deeper and deeper into the soft muck until their pony could go no further. There was nothing for them to do but leap out into the water, dressed in their Sunday best as they were, and unhitch their pony. To do this the two grandchildren had to reach into the water to detach the tugs. Thereupon all three laboriously waded to higher ground where they held a solemn conclave as what to do next. Their plight indeed was desperate. Their dripping garments were clinging to them. They were still a mile from their destination.

Eventually they went on to the English settlers where every attention was shown them. They were given dry clothes, their buggy was salvaged, and they spent an interesting day at the home of their friends, probably saying uncomplimentary things about Alberta. Afterwards they returned to the homestead by a safer route."

It was evident from this story that Mrs. Broadhead was unfamiliar with the winter trails that were used in Alberta. These were side trails that cross over the frozen waters and swamps. They would shorten the travelling distance by a substantial margin but also mislead the unfamiliar wayfarer into hazardous spots in summer, much like the one Mrs. Broadhead encountered. The ease of winter travelling can best be described from the minister's diary. Clement Hoyler would clock his time of travel on each of his trips. It can be noted from his diary that his travel time varied from summer to winter by as much as three hours. In fact the early settlers would delay their heavy hauls, whenever possible, to take advantage of winter sledding over the shorter routes across the frozen lakes.

As yet I have made no mention of the fact that the Hay Lakes Trail had no bridges to cross. During normal conditions the creek beds could be forded by a horse galloping through the flowing waters, but when heavy rainfalls overflowed the creeks, travellers would have to take their lives into their own

hands to attempt a crossing. The most hazardous crossing enroute to Edmonton was referred to as Fish Creek. This creek is also known as Stoney Creek which flows north of Looma. Those who are familiar with Highway 21 today will find it passing under the highway at the service station. The travel hazards encountered at Fish Creek prompted Clement Hoyler to write the following story: "In the summer of 1908 road conditions became notoriously bad. Some of our people at times were in serious danger. A certain family composed of father and mother and two small children upset with their democrat at a treacherous place and were thrown bodily into the mire with the conveyance partly on top of them. Only by a miracle were they able to extricate themselves.

One of the settlers lost a horse by drowning, in what we came to call Fish Creek. When that creek was swollen by continuous rain it looked like a raging torrent. With heavy horses and a big lumber wagon, the wayfarer might hope to get through Fish Creek, but to try it with a single horse and light buggy would be as much as a man's life is worth. I feel that I was providentially saved from what might have result in disaster had not my horse become lame one Saturday morning when I should have set out for New Sarepta to fill my regular Sunday appointments, and Fish Creek was in flood."

On a final note regarding the Hay Lakes Trail, the section of this trail that was the last to be travelled was located on Edmonton City property. This was undeveloped property south of the Ritchie district. The trail made its entrance on city streets near the Ritchie school. Farmers who travelled with horses preferred the use of this trail when they made their shopping trips to the city. Farm horses tended to shy from the streetcar traffic on Whyte avenue. By making their entrance to the city over this trail they would avoid the streetcar traffic to get to the livery table. This trail vanished in the late forties when the city started to develop this property.

Hay Lakes in the Frontier Days

Most community centers across the province of Alberta derived their name from the early settlers, or else a name would be designated by the railroad Company to the Station that was to serve their area. However, there were a few places in Alberta which derived their names during the years of the fur trade. Hay Lakes had the distinction of being named by the early surveyors who charted the first maps of the Northwest Territories. The name was derived from a Cree word that was pronounced Apichikoochewas meaning "grassy swamps". The word was translated to give it the English pronunciation of Hay Lakes. This translation was made by Joseph Tyrrell who was

the geological engineer that charted the maps. He named two prominent lakes of this area as the Hay Lakes and Big Hay Lakes. Joseph Tyrrell also gave the plural name for those lakes. This was to distinguish the place from the lake bearing the same name in the Northwest Territories. Those two lakes were separated by some five miles. However, the topographical features that separated them seemed to fit the description of the Cree world meaning "grassy swamps" since there were plenty of them.



Hay Lakes Telegraph Station. Cairn dedicated October 5, 1960. Established in 1877 by James McKernan, this station was the farthest west of the telegraph line which ran along the proposed railway right of way. It was located on NW 32-48-21-W4. When the line was extended to Fort Edmonton in 1879, this station was abandoned. The Hay Lakes cart trail from the plains to Fort Edmonton passed this site.

The place called Hay Lakes did not have the distinction of having a trading post or a Mission center during the fur trading days. However, the place became well recognized when the first survey was made for the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1873. This survey was conducted by engineer-in-chief, Sandford Fleming, and crossed over the Hay lakes territory. Sandford Fleming put two survey parties to work on surveying the prairie section of the line. The section from Livingston, Manitoba to Hay Lakes that spanned four hundred and ninety-one miles was supervised by engineer-in-chief, D. Lucas. The section west of Hay Lakes extended to the Lobstick River which was supervised by engineer-in-chief, Ruttan.

The two sections of this survey were linked together at Hay Lakes on November 13, 1873.

At that time it was the intention of building the Canadian Pacific Railroad over the Yellowhead Pass. This survey was later abandoned in favor of the Roger's Pass. This resulted in building the first railroad through Medicine Hat and Calgary. However, while the building of the railroad was still in doubt during the mid-1870's, the arrival of the North West Mounted Police in 1874 dictated the need for rapid communications across the prairies. This was when the preliminary survey made by Sandford Fleming came into use.

It was in 1874 when Dominion Telegraph awarded the contracts for building a telegraph line that was to follow this survey. The initial contract was awarded to Sifton, Glass and Fleming for building a line from Selkirk, Manitoba to Swan River. Meanwhile the western section of the line was contracted by Richard Fuller for building a line from Swan River to a point where the present town of Leduc is now located. The contracts included the clearance of a line one hundred and thirty-two feet wide for a railway and the formation of a trail for mules and horses to travel.

A telegraph station was installed at what was known as Telegraph Flats at the mouth of the Battle River. It was here that most of the line men made their headquarters. However, Telegraph Flats was renamed to become Battleford in 1876 when the capital of the Northwest Territories was established there. Battleford also became the headquarters for the North West Mounted Police at that time. The capital only remained there for about eight years when it was relocated in Regina along with the police headquarters.

No use had been made of the telegraph line, west of Battleford, until 1877 when Richard Fuller contracted the maintenance of that line to James McKernan. He divided the contract into two sections and shared the maintenance duties with his brother, Robert McKernan, who made his headquarters at Grizzly Bear Coulee which was the midway point between Battleford and the Western terminals of the line. Meanwhile, James McKernan selected his headquarters at Hay Lakes. The location of his headquarters was an ideal spot where the Hay Lakes trail intersected the telegraph line on the south shore of the lake. The Hay Lakes Trail provided access to his headquarters from Fort Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan. This attracted many government officials to his headquarters for sending and receiving telegrams. The first message that was transmitted was sent on November 20, 1877 by Major Jarvis of Fort Saskatchewan to Colonel Walker in command at Battleford.

The Hay Lakes territory soon came to the attention of the newspapers that started publishing during that era. One of the early editions of the Saskatchewan Herald that was published in Battleford in mid-October, 1878 reported the following: "James and Robert McKernan, Hutchings, Hamilton and John Dougherty and others with their families and outfits . . . the whole forming the colony of Hutchingsville at Hay Lakes, stayed here a few days and went on West on the 10th". The report went on to say that they had plenty of implements and supplies.

While Hay Lakes residents would have no recollection of this Hutchingsville Colony that was reported by the Saskatchewan Herald at that time, there are some indications that a section of land located a mile and a half north of the Village could have been formed by this colony. This is in reference to the land owned by Bill Harke which is located on Section 18. According to the Dominion Lands records this land was not claimed as homesteads. In 1897, a man named Hutchings sold two quarters of section 18 to the Elliott Brothers. There was also evidence that a tract of land containing this section was once fenced for a cattle ranch.



Mrs. Turnbull, niece of the first telegraph operator, J. McKernan, and Simon Grue on whose land the cairn was located.

Hay Lakes also came to the attention of Frank Oliver when he published the first edition of the Edmonton Bulletin on December 6, 1880. The report on the front page read as follows: "As the line has been down since Saturday between Hay Lakes and here, we are without telegrams for this issue. A man will leave tomorrow to repair it and by next week we hope to be able to give the latest news from the east up to date".

Hay Lakes also had its first crime investigation reported by the Edmonton Bulletin dated January 10, 1881. The following report was headlined as follows:

“Latest from Hay Lakes”

“The police got back from Hay Lakes on Friday afternoon and gave the following further particulars of the troubles there. Before McKernan sent his last telegram a young Indian had drawn his knife on him and had knocked him down with the butt of his rifle. Some of the Indians also had, without the knowledge of the chief, taken potatoes out of his pit and so caused the remainder to be frozen. When the police got there at eleven o'clock on Wednesday forenoon the Indians had disappeared, but the chief before leaving had promised to pay for the potatoes. The police started after them at three o'clock next morning and brought them back. The chief expressed a wish to settle the matter with McKernan privately and was allowed to do so. He first offered one horse, then two, and finally three horses in payment. McKernan accepted the last offer in full. This settled the whole business. The police then gave the Indians what provisions had been taken out — two dollars altogether of flour and bacon — and they left for their home at the Battle Lakes”.

One thing we must bear in mind is that Hay Lakes had no market or Post Office while this history was made. The hamlet first started about a decade after the first homesteaders settled there. It was the building of the railroad in 1912 that started the hamlet on the Pithouse farm. There has been some confusion as to the original name of the hamlet. This may have resulted from the fact that a New Sarepta Post Office existed on the Elliott farm a mile and a half north of the Village. This Post Office had been there since 1905 and it served the area where the Pithouses homesteaded.

Prior to the development of the hamlet the Hay Lakes district was served by three different postal regions. The families living east of Hay Lakes in the Swan Hill and Brandland district were served by a Post Office named Lundemo. This was a store and post office that was started by John Waldum around the turn of the century. There was also a store and post office operated by Arthur Ladell and Charles Butcher. This store was located five miles south of Hay Lakes which was named Halley. The store served the families living in the Ellswick and the Thordenskjold districts.

When the hamlet of Hay Lakes developed into a trading center, these places slowly vanished out of existence to become part of the Hay Lakes district. The New Sarepta Post Office was relocated in a new hamlet that derived its name from the post office. The Lundemo Post Office remained in existence until 1948, although the store was closed in 1928 following the death of Mr. Waldum. The Halley store and post office closed its business around 1919.

As for the telegraph station at Hay lakes, it was in operation for about two years. In 1879, James McKernan notified Mr. Fuller that he would do no more operating since his contract called for maintenance only. Following this notice, Richard Fuller sent Alex Taylor from Edmonton to operate the station at Hay Lakes. Alex Taylor remained in this position for only a few months due to the fact that the line was being extended that summer. The extension resulted from a petition that was sent to the Government by the people from Edmonton. They wanted the line to be extended from the terminal point at Leduc to Fort Edmonton. An offer to defray the cost of extension was made by the fur traders at the Fort. This was providing that the department would establish an office there. However, the contractor, Mr. Fuller, offered to supply the wire and other material free of charge. Meanwhile, the Hudsons' Bay Company contributed the poles. When this line was completed an office was opened in a building opposite the Fort which was owned by Walters and Irvine. Alex Taylor who had left his position at Hay Lakes became the first operator at Fort Edmonton. Meanwhile, Jim McKernan remained at Hay Lakes as a lineman until the use of the line was terminated. Recommendation for terminating this line was made by F. N. Gisborne of the telegraph and signal service in Ottawa in the fall of 1883. He came to inspect the entire line from Winnipeg to Edmonton on August 22, 1883. When arriving in Winnipeg he purchased a pair of horses and buckboard for making this inspection. After having to replace his stolen horses at Qu'Appelle, he completed this inspection by late October.

In his inspection report he made the following recommendations regarding the line from Battleford to Edmonton. “That the twenty-five miles of No. 9 wire west of Battleford be taken down and that the line thence to Edmonton which passes through an almost entirely uninhabited country one not likely to be settled or traversed by a branch railway for many years and for south of the North Saskatchewan River route of travel via Fort Pitt be abandoned in total”. It should be noted that the line west of the aforementioned location was of inferior quality being No. 11 wire that was too light for proper transmitting and the insulators were reported to be of inferior quality. This resulted in total abandonment of the line.

In further recommendations Mr. Gisborne suggested that an entirely new line be furnished with tamarack and spruce poles to be erected between Edmonton and Calgary, a distance of one hundred and eighty-five miles. It can be assumed that Mr. McKernan remained at Hay Lakes until this new line replaced the Battleford line, although his farming interests may have kept him there for a while longer.

However, Simon Grue filed the homestead where the telegraph station once stood. The building was almost collapsed by 1902.

James McKernan became well recognized in Edmonton where he made his permanent residence. He was involved in the business development on Whyte Avenue when Strathcona was beginning to develop. A number of the buildings he erected are now being preserved in the old Strathcona place. One of the buildings he erected was the Princess Theater which is now preserved as an old movie house. McKernan Lake was named in his honor which provided recreation for south-siders for many years. The lake has now been drained through the city sewage system and developed into a residential area, much to the dismay of the oldtimers.

It was a fitting tribute to the Hay Lakes first pioneer, James McKernan, when a historic site was supplied by the Alberta Government. This spot was preserved where the telegraph station once stood on the Simon Grue farm. A Cairn was unveiled there by Mrs. Robert Turnbull, who was McKernan's niece, on October 5, 1960. This was eighty-three years after the first telegram was transmitted. It is also a fitting tribute to Mr. Simon Grue who so carefully preserved a plot where the first oxcart trail can still be identified. The only drawback to the location is that there is no access road to this reserved park. It is hoped that the Historical Resource Branch will correct this matter in the near future in order to make the park open for tourists and enrich their knowledge of Canadian History.

Early History of Hay Lakes

Before the turn of the century, the Cree Indians roamed this area hunting the buffalo which provided them with all the necessities of life. There also were many fur-bearing animals and the lakes abounded with wild fowl. The area was ideal for the Crees. The Cree word for Hay Lakes is: "A-pi-chi-koo-chi-was" meaning "little swamp" presumably from the lush growth of grass known as "prairie wool" to the pioneers. Hay Lakes is actually one of the heaviest hay producing districts in all of Alberta. Thousands of tons have been shipped annually when the demand was good.

The Canadian Pacific Railway reached Winnipeg in the summer of 1881 and with incredible speed crossed the prairies. Sometimes six miles of track were laid in one day. The railway reached Calgary in 1883.

The Hudson's Bay Company then established a wagon road between Calgary and Fort Edmonton which followed higher land as much as possible. Some thirty miles southeast of Edmonton the trail

passed a group of lakes which were called Hay Lakes. The trail became known as the Hay Lakes Trail. This trail was one of the first, if not the first, surveyed roads in the province.

In 1891, the Canadian Pacific Railway reached Strathcona (South Edmonton) from Calgary. With the completion of the railway from Calgary to Edmonton, Wetaskiwin was established and became the point of embarkation for the settlers, east, west, north and south of Wetaskiwin.

After the Homestead Lands Act was passed, land was surveyed by surveyors who came from Ottawa by rail as far as they could and then used horses for further transportation. Once the land was surveyed settlers flocked in by the thousands from Europe, Eastern Canada and the United States. By November, 1902 the Edmonton Land Office had issued 11,845 homestead receipts.

In 1911 the Canadian National Railway began its Edmonton to Calgary line following closely along the old Hudson's Bay Trail. When the railway went through this area Hay Lakes was put on the map. The village grew very quickly. Being situated in a well settled mixed-farming area it was supported and appreciated by the settlers for many miles around.

A good supply of feed made the dairy industry around Hay Lakes important even from the very beginning. At first cream was shipped to Camrose but later a creamery was established at Hay Lakes, collecting its supply within a radius of fifteen miles or more from the village.

Two factors have meant a great deal to the Hay Lakes district. One was the drainage of Little Hay Lake in the mid twenties which made a section or so of land suitable for hay and farming.

The other was the discovery of oil in the Joseph Lake area in 1949 and the Armena area in 1951. On February 19, 1954, the Joseph Lake, Armena and Camrose fields were combined into the Joarcam Field. It is of interest to note that Joarcam was named by taking the first two letters of Joseph, the first two letters of Armena and the first three letters of Camrose.

Today, where once the buffalo roamed, the land is covered with roads, modern homes and schools, and waving fields of grain. The cities of Edmonton and Camrose are within an hour's drive from Hay Lakes. Some of the businesses in the village have closed but people are continually moving into the village and taking up residence. There still remains a very strong tie between the village and the people of the surrounding areas.

Those that first settled in the Hay Lakes area have created by their hard work and perseverance one of the most productive regions of Alberta.

What is a Homestead?

In the early 1900's there was an influx of people from distant countries seeking a new way of life and a piece of land to call their own.

The land available in Western Canada had been surveyed into quarter sections of one hundred and sixty acres, more or less, and there was a long iron rod driven into the ground at the corner of each quarter section. Engraved in Roman Numerals on the square end of each stake was the land location.

All even-numbered sections were designated as homestead land with the exception of 8 and 26 which were reserved as Hudson's Bay land. Originally the Hudson's Bay had owned all land that drained into the Hudson Bay. In 1879, all this land except sections 8 and 26 was sold to the Government for one and a half million dollars.

A homesteader could go to the nearest land office, get a list of the land available and inspect it. Upon choosing a quarter he could file a claim on it and pay the Government the necessary \$10.00. The only stipulation was that the homesteader must be sole head of the family or a male over eighteen years of age, live on the land for six months of the year for three consecutive years, work at least thirty acres into crop, and build a house worth \$300.00, after which he was given the title to the land.

Claims for this homestead land were filed very quickly and by 1910 it was reported that there was no homestead land available south of the North Saskatchewan River.

Later settlers could buy land from the Canadian Pacific Railway which had been given all odd-numbered sections with the exceptions of 11 and 29. The Railroad Company had received these sections as a token for building the Continental railway. Sections 11 and 29 were reserved by the Crown as school land and although schools were not always built on this land funds from their sale were used to support the schools. The Canadian Pacific Railway and Hudson's Bay lands were later offered for sale to immigrants for a far greater sum. These companies still retain some land.

Coming to Canada

In the above payment is included:

Breakfast and Supper: Tea or coffee with sugar and fresh bread

Dinner: Soup, beef, pork or fish, potatoes and bread.

Forwarding of luggage viz: 10 Cubic feet for Steerage-passengers over 12 years (the moiety for children over 1 year)

The passengers will be received by the Company's Agents and forwarded by Railway to the place of destination. Should the departure of an emigrant be



Canadian Pacific Steamship Line 1912.

prevented by sickness he will be allowed to proceed by a subsequent steamer or should the police prevent his departure the money will be returned to the Policemaster.

During the whole course of the voyage to place of Landing and the time of detention from any cause whatever at any place before it's termination the passengers will be supplied with sufficient provision. Should the ship mentioned in this contract be prevented by any accident from accomplishing the voyage, the passengers will be forwarded by an equally eligible ship as soon as possible and shall be maintained while detained as before stated.

The emigrant is entitled to a check for such effects as are not under his own care, and will receive for same a compensation not exceeding kroner 50 per adult, and not exceeding kroner 25 for children between 1 and 12 years, in the event of non-delivery of the effects on surrender of said check upon arrival at place of landing in America, but no compensation will be allowed for loss or damage of effects caused by said accident.

A deposit of 20,000 Norwegian kroner has been made to the Norwegian government as security for due fulfillment of this contract.

The passengers should keep this contract until they arrive at their destination, and have to deliver only the separate ticket.

A Homestead

A settler who has been granted an entry for a homestead is required by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act and the amendments thereto to perform the conditions connected therewith, under one of the following plans:

(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year during the term of three years.

(2) If the father (or mother, if the father is deceased) of any person who is eligible to make a homestead entry under the provisions of this Act, resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered

for by such person as a homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother.

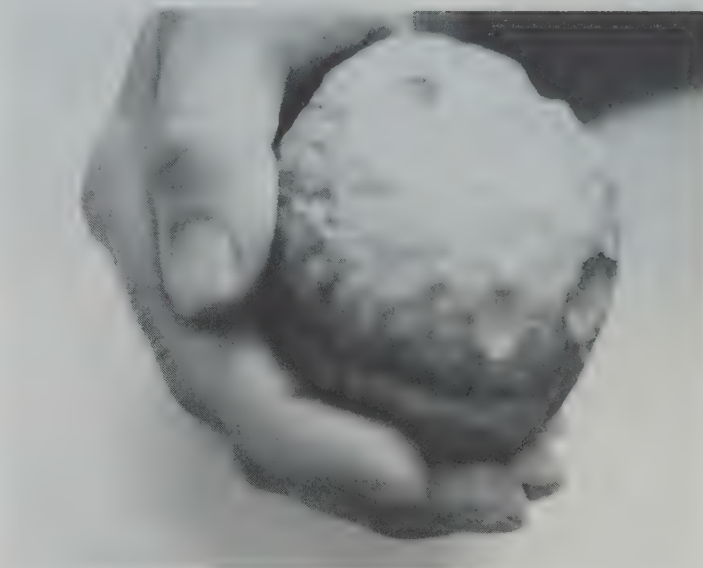
(3) If a settler has obtained a patent for his first homestead, or a certificate for the issue of such patent countersigned in the manner prescribed by this Act and has obtained entry for a second homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by residence upon the first homestead.

(4) If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon the said land.

Indian Artifacts



Knives and Arrow heads found by David Holdsworth in Hay Lakes area.



Medicine Man artifact showing two views of the same rock, found by David Holdsworth in the Hay Lakes area.



Club and Hatchet found by David Holdsworth in Hay Lakes area.

Historical Memories

by Mrs. Helen Hiebner

History is the story of life in the past;
Of men, women and children that made up the cast.
We respect all achievements made great in their day,
As this was now home and they had planned here to stay.
It's the written account of the years long ago,
As through their trials and triumphs that we can bestow;
Our thanks, gratitudes by the accounts in this book,
Never will make up for hours of labor it took,
To settle this country in the ways they knew best;
By the sweat of their brows and no time for real rest.
History is teaching by experiences told.
As memories of others begin to unfold.
To reveal all the work by the toil of their hand,
Having come to this country with visions so grand.
These visions were dreams they had for you and for me,
As they had the foresight and had come to be free.
By revealing the days, months and years of the past.
A history is written where memories last.
Between these covers are stories as told.
They made history that are memories worth gold.



Johann, Edward and Edmund Mittelstaedt.



St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church in the Ellswick district, built by the pioneers in 1910.

Churches

Old Skandia Cemetery

When the early settlers arrived in the Hay Lakes, Armena area in the 1890's there were no cemeteries, so in 1896 the Territorial Government donated three acres of land on a hill along the west side of NE 2-48-21 as a burial ground.

In April 1904 a church was built on the south side of the cemetery with Cornelius Grue as the carpenter and volunteer help from the congregation. This church was later moved and the cemetery is no longer in use. It is estimated there are about fifty people buried there.

In 1977 a Government grant of \$15,000 was received for improving the cemetery, so a new fence was built and a monument was erected in memory of the early settlers.

The plan of the old cemetery cannot be located, so trusting to the memories of several people and visits to the cemetery this list has been compiled.

NAME	BIRTH or AGE	DIED
Almber, Brit	—	1906

Anderson, John	1843	—
Blakely, Alvina	83	1923
Blakely, Ezra (Bud)	60	1935
Blakely, George	60	1931
Blakely, Newton	62	1935
Blakely, Will	69	1934
Boe, Mina	1888	1898
Broen, Eric	—	—
Broen, Ingvold	—	1933
Broen, John	70	1933
Broen, Mary	87	1961
Brown, "Nancy"	93	1907
Erickson, Carrie	1832	1903
Grue, Josephine	1899	1906
Grue, Nels Edward	1907	1907
Grue, Olava	1823	1919
Grue, Simon Thorson	1823	1903
Grue, Selmer	1901	1919
Hendrickson, Martin G.	—	—
Johnson, Amanda	1894	1943
Johnson, Nester	—	—
Kelstad, Clara	—	1904
Kelstad, Mrs. Christ.	—	—
Lyseng, Anna	—	—
Lyseng, Henry	1895	1908
Lyseng, Mabel	—	—
Lyseng, Richard	1901	1902



First Skandia Lutheran Church built June 1904 and finished in 1905. Cornelius Grue — carpenter.

McPhee, Tilda	27	1918
Moe, Earle	1924	1926
Moe, Gina	1891	—
Moe, Ida	1894	1920
Moe, Maret	1856	1940
Moe, John	1854	1928
Moe, Johan	1889	1900
Moe, Orvil	1918	1918
Movold, Gea	1863	1945
Movold, Ingward	1886	1902
Ole, Movold	1848	1922
Munroe, Matilda	1875	1924
Nelson, Pete	—	—
Olson, Perry	1902	1904
Skalin, Betsy	1856	1913
Skalin, Robert	1897	1903
Strand, Anna	1831	1910
Strand, Johan Peterson	1827	1912
Welda, Anna	1877	1931

Holy Angels — All Saints — St. Dunstan Church — Ellswick District

The Ladell and Roper families had come west from Ontario in the early 1900's. A lady who wished to remain anonymous, and who lived in England, contacted them to say she would like to donate money for a log church. Since there were several families of English descent who lived at the north side of Bittern Lake, it was decided to build the church in the north-

east corner of NE 1-48-22-W4. This site was almost across the road from the Halley Post Office and Ladell's General Store, which were located on the SW 7-47-22-W4.

The young men of the above families cut and hauled the logs for the church from a stand of timber on the east side of Big Hay Lake in the winter of 1907-1908. The church was built under the supervision of Karl Sikstrom of Hay lakes, who was skilled in this work.

The first service held in the new little church, which was known as Holy Angels and All Saints, was on Sunday, January 31, 1909. The minister at that



Holy Angels — All Saints — St. Dunstan Church at Halley, Alberta. It was located in the NE corner of NE 1-48-22-W4. The Hally Post Office which was also the home of Ladell family can be seen in the background.

time, and for several years following, was Rev. A. P. Carter. The organist for the services was usually Mrs. Ernest Roper, and when she was unable to be present, the duties were taken over by Miss Cicely Ladell, who later became Mrs. Oliver Smith. Services were held quite regularly, particularly in summer.

The first wedding to take place at this church was that of Mr. Cyril A. Thoms and Miss Edith Helena Clark, on April 15, 1909.

The second wedding took place June 29, 1909, between Mr. C.T.C. (Don) Roper and Edna Mary Ladell.

Events went along quite smoothly until World War I, when many of the young men from the district enlisted and the congregation became very small. On September 7, 1919, the last service was held in the little church. Thus ended an era; the little church stood empty.

At a special meeting held January 30, 1921, a letter was read from a Bishop of Edmonton, giving his consent to move the church to Bittern Lake. So, in the winter of 1921, before the ice broke up, the church was moved across the lake with twenty horses to Bittern Lake, and became known as St. Dunstan's. The name St. Dunstan's came from the parish of St. Dunstan's Canterbury, Kent, ancestral parish of the Roper family.

There were many improvements over the years. The logs were sided over and the church was painted white. The interior was covered with wall board and eventually painted. The porch with the steeple as it is today, was one of the first really big improvements. Mr. William Ransell was usually the carpenter for the many jobs.

In the late 1940's or early 1950, gas and electricity were brought into the church.

Gradually the congregation dwindled. The last service was held on December 30, 1966 and once again the little church stood empty.

The Ladell and Roper families were its staunch supporters from the very beginning.

The Camrose and District Museum Society had been looking for an old time church with a "history" to move to their property in Camrose. St. Dunstan's was chosen, and on August 6, 1974, it was moved to its present site on the Camrose and District Centennial Museum grounds.

The furnishings, which had been stored for safe-keeping, were returned to the church. Many of these furnishings are memorials and gifts to the church.

Churches

Churches played a very important part in the lives of the early settlers. The church was the centre of community life. Here the people gathered on Sunday

to worship God. Since there were no newspapers, any news that came from friends and relatives by letter, was shared by all after the service. Here also, local happenings were discussed.

The spiritual needs of the Ellswick community were taken care of by three churches:

Holy Angels — All Saints — an Anglican Church
The Holy Cross Church — a Ukrainian Catholic Church

St. Peter and Paul — a Roman Catholic Church.

The Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church

Father Beillevaire, the well-known missionary priest from Duhamel, was the first Catholic priest to serve all Catholic people of this area. He came from Duhamel with a horse and buggy in summer and a cutter in winter. Many were the hardships he endured during those early days in order to look after the spiritual needs of his people. Mass was served at different homes.



Holy Cross Church after it was completed in 1929.

In 1907, Father Paul Kulawy, a Roman Catholic priest, took up residence at Round Hill. He looked after the spiritual needs of all Catholics at Round Hill and surrounding communities. Hay Lakes was one of those communities. Services were held at different homes.

In 1910, the Roman Catholics and the Eastern Rite Catholics, who were the Ukrainians, decided to build a church in the Ellswick area. Matthew Shawaga, who lived on the SW 18-48-21-W4 do-



The congregation of the Holy Cross Catholic Church in 1959.

nated two acres of his homestead for the church and cemetery. A small church was built, and for some time it was used by used congregations.

Some time later, the people of the Eastern Rite decided to build their own church. However, since the congregation was small and the money scarce, they could not afford to build it at that time. Church services were held for a number of years at the home of Nicholas Maruschak and later at the home of George Sych Sr.

Once when Mr. Maruchak was bringing Rev. Basil Ladyka, O.S.B.M. from the station at Bittern Lake, they got lost on Bittern Lake and both narrowly escaped being frozen to death.

In 1921, the congregation decided to build the church. Mr. Nicholas Maruschak donated the land for the church and cemetery from his homestead on the SE 14-48-22-W4.

Rev. Philip Ruh, O.M.I. prepared plans for the church and the building was started that fall with Fred Hayduk as carpenter. The parishioners contributed many hours of voluntary labour. The church was named the Holy Cross Church.

At the beginning there were only twelve members: Nicholas Maruschak, Mathew Shawaga, George Sych Sr., Nick Kowal, Mike Kosovich, Harry Rubis, Mike Karpowich, Harry Sych, Mike Kohut, Henry Nalywayko, Julius Radawetz and Nick

Sapelak. The church was finished from the outside in 1922. As time went on, a few more families moved into the community and joined the church.

In 1929, Rev. Basil Ladyka O.S.B.M., who was consecrated bishop on July 14, 1929, got financial help for the church from the Basilian Fathers. This made it possible to complete the church inside and to have it painted both inside and outside.

First Episcopal Visitation was on September 27, 1935 by His Excellency Bishop Basil Ladyka. In



His Excellency Bishop Neil Savaryn O.S.B.M. visits the Holy Cross Church in 1956.

September 1956, Bishop Neil Savaryn O.S.B.M. visited the church. On July 19, 1962, His Excellency, Bishop Andres Sapelak of Argentina, visited the Holy Cross Church. He was in Canada on his mission and stopped to visit his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Sapelak, who at that time resided in Camrose but had been residents of the Hay Lakes area for many years.

In 1957, the church was enlarged, remodelled and repainted inside and out.



Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church after it was turned and enlarged in 1957. Located on SE 14-48-22-W4.

The Basilian Fathers served the people of the Holy Cross Church from the very beginning until November 10, 1957. That day Rev. Hrynshyn served the last Mass by the Basilian Fathers.

From January 7, 1958 to the present, the secular clergy have been attending to the needs of the people that belong to the Holy Cross Church. The secular priests that have served the parish include: Rev. Malay, Rev. Pawluk, Rev. Hankevych, Rev. Basiuk and Rev. Holowaty. The present priest is Rev. M. Martynkiw. At present church service is held once a month.

Basilian Fathers in Alberta

The Basilian Fathers were the first Ukrainian Catholic priests to serve the Ukrainian Catholic people in the Western world. Since they were missionary priests, they travelled far and wide and held services in many points throughout Alberta. There was a lot of work to be done so one priest did not serve one parish very long.

Father Filas, Father Dydak and Father A. Stotsky came to Edmonton on October 31, 1903. On January

13, 1905, Father Phylipiew and Father Timochko arrived.

On January 23, 1903, Father Filas bought a homestead about three miles from the present town of Mundare. That same year he bought a horse and a cart and started his missionary work around that area. On his homestead he built a small house and a little church. He was joined by Father Krezanoski and the two of them worked in that area.

Father Dydak and Father Hura stayed in Edmonton. For almost two years they used the Roman Catholic Church for Low Mass every Sunday. On June 26, 1904, the Ukrainian Catholic congregation, under the leadership of the two priests, started building St. Josaphat Church, the first Ukrainian church in Edmonton. In time this church was replaced by the present St. Josaphat's Cathedral.

The Most Rev. Basil Ladyka O.S.B.M. was ordained priest on August 4, 1912. After ordination he came to Edmonton. In 1913, he and Father Dydak undertook to build a monastery in Edmonton which became the residence of the Basilian Fathers in the west. From this monastery the Basilian Fathers served the Ukrainian people for many, many miles around.

The first four priests that made the monastery their home were Rev. Dydak, Rev. M. Hura, Rev. Phylipiew and Rev. Ladyka. As time went by, the monastery became a home to many Basilian Fathers.

Holy Cross Cemetery

Location: SE 14-48-22-W4

Burak, Baby	1930-1931	Maruschak, William	1912-1960
Burak, Dmytro (Mike)	1882-1959	Nalewayko, Alex	1919-1927
Burak, Tekla	1887-1964	Nalewayko, Henry	1884-1961
Blawuciak, Baby	1926-1926	Nalewayko, Maria	1883-1953
Blawuciak, Josepha	1876-1952	Nalewayko, Theodore	1918-1941
Blawuciak, Marie	1900-1971	Radawetz, Donald	1941-1941
Blawuciak, Mike	1901-1956	Radawetz, Edward	1938-1938
Blawuciak, Philip	1871-1961	Radawetz, Hazel	1920-1920
Dmytrowski, Eva	-1932	Radawetz, John	1918-1918
Karpovich, George	1910-1930	Radawetz, Julius	1884-1969
Karpovich, Henry	1918-1951	Radawetz, Katherine	1899-1975
Karpovich, John	1897-1928	Radawetz, Mary	1852-1930
Karpovich, Maria	1873-1953	Radawetz, Maurice	1935-1957
Karpovich, Michael	1882-1953	Rubis, Anna	-1931
Kohut, Anna	1880-1951	Rubis, Harry	1870-1961
Kohut, John	1905-1976	Rubis, Marie	1873-1935
Kohut, Michael	1879-1940	Rubis, Peter	1928-1929
Kohut, Valdimir (Lloyd)	1933-1949	Shawaga, Maria	-1945
Kosovich, Dmytro (Mike)	1886-1943	Shawaga, Mathew	1861-1946
Kosovich, Rose	1897-1981	Shawaga, Sophia	1853-1927
Kowal, Katherine	1873-1940	Sirdar, Stanley	
Kowal, Nicholas	1872-1955	Sych, George	1864-1951
Malik, Annie	1865-1932	Sych, Leona	1941-1941
Marusak, Annie	1898-1967	Sych, Maria	1866-1957
Marusak, Harry	1882-1974	Sych, Pearl	1907-1980
Maruschak, Baby	1950-1950	Sych, Vladimir	1942-1942
Maruschak, Maria	1874-1943	Trach, William	1895-1957
Maruschak, Nicholas	1874-1937	Zazulak, Steve	-1941

The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League — Holy Cross Parish

The League was organized on November 27, 1949 at the Holy Cross Church by Rev. Sebastian

Kurylo. Though the group was small, the women worked faithfully and diligently for the good of the church and community. Some of the ladies of the church were not members, but they were very co-operative and always willing to lend a hand with any project the League undertook.



Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of the Holy Cross Church, April, 1954. Standing, L. to R.: Mrs. Rose Kosovich, Mrs. Mary Sych, Mrs. Helen Blawuciak, Mrs. Mary Blawuciak, Mrs. Annie Marusak, Mrs. Mary Rubis, Mrs. Sophie Sych, Mrs. Pearl Sych. Seated: Mrs. Mary Sych, Mrs. Elsie Sych, Mrs. Caroline Rubis, Mrs. Pauline Maruschak, Mrs. Kate Kohut.

Meetings were held once a month in the homes of the members. The League took upon itself the responsibility of providing certain necessities for the church.

In 1957-58 the League contributed most of the money for remodelling and painting the church inside and outside.

For about twelve years the League was very active. The ladies raised funds by raffles, bake sales and suppers. They held bazaars, proceeds from which were used to buy things needed for the church. Then gradually the membership dwindled, and the organization was disbanded.

St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church

The spiritual needs of all Catholic people in this community at the beginning of the century were met by a missionary priest by the name of Father Bellevaire, who came from France. Father Bellevaire came to Dunhamel in 1881 and established a Mission there. From Dunhamel he travelled many miles either by horseback or by cart to take care of the spiritual needs of all Catholics whether they were Ukrainian, Polish or Native people. Even years later he occasionally visited and had services at the homes

of some of the natives in this area. He remained at Duhamel until the time of his death in 1937.

Between 1902 and 1905 Father Olsezewski served the people of the community holding services a few times during the year in different homes.

Around 1905 a rectory was built at Round Hill. Father Kulawy took up residence there and began to serve the people of Round Hill, Hay Lakes and Kopernick. He lived in the rectory until 1914. He then moved to Edmonton, but continued to serve the people of the three parishes until 1917.



The blessing of the St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church bell. L. to R.: Mrs. Anton Pelz, John Famulak, Katie Willisko, Mary Rubis, Pearl (Tina) Rubis, and Annie Maruschak — 1919.

The first St. Peter and Paul church was built in 1910 jointly by the Roman Catholics, who were mostly Polish, and the Catholics of the Eastern Rite who were the Ukrainians. The church was built on the SW 18-48-21-W4 on land donated by Mathew Shawaga, an early homesteader in this area.

The first building was of logs, some of which were cut at Nisku and hauled by horses to the church site. Joe Hamula was one who did the hauling; there were also others. Money, lumber and work were donated by the local parishioners. The church was used by both congregations for a short time, then the Ukrainians decided to build their own church. The Roman Catholics, who were mostly Polish, used the church until 1957 when a new church was built and the old one dismantled.

The new church was started in 1957 and completed in 1960. It was just a few feet away from the original church. Edgar Grahn, Ted Hanson, and Morris Aspell helped the parishioners with the foundation and cement work. The rest of the labour was donated by the parishioners with Peter Galenza and Isidore Hamula as main carpenters. The bell donated to the original church by Anton Pelz and John Famulak, was installed in the new church. Morris Aspell and Mike Sank made the pews.



St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church in the Ellswick area. The building was started in 1957 and completed in 1960.

The church was dedicated on June 29, 1960 by Archbishop Anthony Jordan O.M.I. of Edmonton. Following the formal blessing services Rev. S. Zenko celebrated High Mass. Rev. J. J. Harold, the former priest of the church delivered the sermon. The choir consisting of Sisters of Good Shepherd, sang throughout the service. A banquet for approximately two hundred people was served in the basement of the church by the C.W.L.

Priests attending the blessing of the church included Very Rev. P. F. Harrington, Rev. N. Schmeltzer, Rev. J. J. Harold, Rev. E. Elkin, Rev. J. Leszczinski, Rev. S. MacInnis and Rev. L. Klug.

The travelling Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima was brought to the church in October of 1957.

In early days the Mass was said in Latin and the homily was given in Polish. At present the whole service is in English.

Catechism (Sunday School) used to be taught by the priest in the church after Mass. Later a priest would come out for about two weeks during July or August and teach catechism daily during that time.

After that the Sisters of Service came out for a week or two during the summer to teach. They would teach at the church and stay at the homes of parishioners. Many children of the parish also took lessons from Sisters of Service by correspondence.

For the last three or four years Mrs. Evans has been teaching catechism every Sunday before Mass.

Marie Famulak was the last one buried from the old church — 1953.

Vivian Hamula and Raymond Pelz were the last couple married in the old church.

In the new church the first baptized was Ronald Baier in 1958. The first marriage was Jean Sych and John Poniewozik and the first burial was Mrs. Anton Pelz in 1961.



The travelling statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Hay Lakes, at the Roman Catholic Church in October of 1957.

Many priests have served the parish throughout the years; Father Kulawy was succeeded by Father Sylla (1917-1927), Father Rosiecki (1928-1938), Father Zenko (1938-1945), Father Harold (1945-1956), Father Lenckowski (1956-1958), Father Zenko again (1958-1961), Father Tomczak (1961-1971). Father Miksa and Father Kaluzyy also served, but for shorter periods.

In 1971 St. Peter and Paul became a mission of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Camrose with Fathers Mazerolle as pastor and Father Guimond as associate pastor. In 1972 Father John Campbell replaced Father Mazerolle and in 1975 Father Andrew Morasse replaced Father Guimond. Father Killan assisted in the parish for a year from September 1975 to September 1976 with Father Adam Przysiezniak. In 1978 Father Boland helped with the parish duties. Sister Anna Moran joined the parish team in 1978.

In August 1979 Father Campbell and Father Morasse left Camrose and Father Len Gartner and Father Gervais Kragbe became our parish priests. At present we have service almost every Sunday.

Saint Peter and Paul Cemetery

Location SW 18-48-22-W4

Baran, John	1831-1911	Hamula, Joseph	1868-1912
Cardinal Girls		Hamula, Peter	1905-1978
Collins, Thomas		Hamula, Teresa	1877-1952
Famulak, Jan	1859-1957	Jacknife Girl	
Famulak, Lorna	1927-1930	Marganski, Andrew	1908-1932
Famulak, Marie	1952-1953	Nalesnik, Joseph	1904-1918
Famulak, Michael	1898-1978	Pasula, Domocila	1878-1927
Famulak, Michael	1859-1915	Pasula, Emilia	1907-1920
Famulak, Verna		Pasula, Joseph	1872-1940
Famulak, Zophia	1861-1945	Pelz, Anthony	1876-1952
Galenza, Barbara	1877-1951	Pelz, Mary	1876-1961
Galenza, John	1867-1937	Pelz, Mary Ann	1907-1964
Galenza, Joseph	1905-1955	Rubis, Kate	1866-1925
Galenza, Lenard	1942-1942	Schurek, Michael	1897-1943

Galenza, Martin	1857-1924	Schurek, Stanley	1925-1975
Galenza, Rodney	1945-1945	Wawzinkewich,	1852-1907
Galenza, Ronald	1948-1949	Willisko, Alex	1876-1939
Hamula, Andrew	1870-1954	Willisko, Harry	1872-1942
Hamula, Baby	1910-1910	Willisko, Rosie	1880-1932
Hamula, Frank	1905-1974	Willisko, Rosie	1877-1974
Hamula, Carl	1903-1981		

St. Peter and Paul Altar Society

On October 4, 1972, in the church basement with ten ladies present, Sister Bednar organized the Hay Lakes Altar Society. Election of officers took place. They were as follows: President — Kate Pasula, Secretary — Carol Galenza, Treasurer — Louise Pelz.

The organization was active for a few years and then it disbanded.

C.W.L. of St. Peter and Paul Parish

The St. Peter and Paul C.W.L. held their first meeting at the home of Mrs. Anton (Kate) Pasula in October of 1949. Mrs. Deering, a very honorable guest from Edmonton came by train to Kate Pasula's to organize the meeting. She remained as an over-night guest at the Pasula home.

The purpose of organizing the C.W.L. was to strengthen the family ties of the faithful and to join and meet with the members of other C.W.L. groups.

For a number of years the organization was quite active. The women raised money by raffles, bake sales, birthday teas, pancake suppers, perogy suppers, bingo, card parties, travelling aprons and by carolling at Christmas. For a few years an annual dinner was held at the church on the 29th of June, the Feast of St. Peter and Paul. The money the ladies made was donated to the church.

However, as time went on, the membership dwindled and the organization held its last meeting in May of 1967.

Churches: St. Stephens, St. Lukes and Our Saviour Lutheran Church

"The following explanation will give some idea as to when and where many of the settlers came from and settled in Canada. Even though many of them are of German descent it is interesting to note that they were born in Russia. The following is a brief outline as to why the German people came to be in Russia, taken from the book "The German-Russians" by Karl Stumpp.

"In the 1700's the Russian governments invited peasants from other countries to settle as it was necessary to introduce agriculture and populate the vast areas of untilled land to guard against the Asiatic tribes from taking over those territories. The Russians particularly wanted the Germans to emigrate as they were known to be a clever people and they were



Mission festival at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in the mid thirties.

keenly interested in German technical skill, orderliness and culture.

"There were political, economic and religious reasons that induced so many Germans to leave their homeland. For instance, Russia offered freedom from military service; offer of land and freedom from taxation; self-administration and freedom of religion; conditions that were fast fading in Germany.

"The German settlements of Volhynia came into existence more through private initiative than government action. In the beginning these colonists lived as tenant-farmers on the estates of Polish landlords. but after the liberation of the Russian peasants from serfdom (1862) the landlords lost their cheap supply of labor and therefore solicited buyers in Germany. In those days one could buy a hectare (2.7 acres) of land for ten to sixteen rubles (about ten to sixteen dollars).

"Until about 1871 there was a growth of prosperity among the German-Russians which was evident in the acquisition of land; improved cultural conditions (well-developed school system, cultural associations, etcetra). But it was precisely this progress that became a thorn in the eye of the Russians and a movement arose which opposed the further expansion of the Germans in Russia. Thereby the era of self-administration came to an end, records now had to be kept in Russian and they were now compelled to enter into military service. These altered conditions led people to emigrate to other countries such as Canada. Just as the Russian government had formerly been interested in the immigration of Germans and had granted special rights and areas of free land, so now the governments of the New World extended similar offers. According to the law of 1872, every immigrant to Canada could obtain a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres for only ten dollars, which became his property after ten years. Thus began the great immigration movement of the German-Russians to Canada."

The first Church of the West Hay Lakes District was organized in 1906 by early German pioneers from Europe who wished to carry on the Lutheran Faith of their Fathers.

For some years they congregated in the Robert Stebner home, (SE10-49-22-W4), to conduct their reading services and named their small congregation Friedenstal. Later the name was changed to St. Stephens.

In 1912, Pastor Turkheim came to serve the combined Hay Lakes and New Sarepta parish as their first pastor. From such a humble beginning their church grew, with the guidance of various pastors.

Since most of their social life was centered around the Church, a brass band was formed about 1914 to provide music for the many gatherings, such as festivals and picnics. At this time, services were held in the Canard schoolhouse.

Then during the ministry of Pastor Walbaum, the St. Stephens Church was built and dedicated on September 8, 1918, with forty-seven families enrolled. Services were all in German; later they were gradually changed to English.

In 1925, the congregation separated from New Sarepta and bought a parsonage in the village of Hay Lakes with Pastor E. Goos serving St. Stephens and the English Mission in town, conducting English services in the Village schoolhouse.

To meet the needs of the people, a church was built in 1932 in the village, on property donated by Mr. F. Henschell. At that time German services were also introduced and this was known as the United Lutheran Church but this name was later changed to St. Lukes Church.

St. Stephens and St. Lukes each had a very active



L. to R., Back Row: Mrs. John Zucht, Mrs. William Henschell, Mrs. Johnny Lyle and daughter Lorna, Mrs. McLeod, Violet Blakely, Mrs. Jack McCoy and Joyce, Mrs. Cohen. Front: Mrs. Blakely, Mrs. Lentz, Rev. Lentz and Marlene, Mrs. Fred Henkelman, Mrs. Robertson.



St. Lukes Church in Hay Lakes. Built in 1932.



St. Stephens Ladies Aid — 1942. L. to R., Back: Mrs. Ed Tober, Mrs. John Radtke, Mrs. Ed Spitzer, Mrs. Gus Lachman, Mrs. Henry Zucht, Mrs. Helmut These, Mrs. Carl Wolf, Mrs. Gus Knopp, Mrs. Ernest Pgetzke, Mrs. Wm. Lede, Mrs. Rudolph Lachman, Mrs. Gottlieb Knopp. Sitting: Mrs. Oscar Mallas, Mrs. Wm. Wesenberg, Mrs. Gus Mittelstadt, Mrs. Albert Lachman, Mrs. Albert Thiel, Mrs. Ewald Tober.

Ladies Aid, started by Mrs. Goos in 1926, which supported many church projects.

Of special interest at St. Stephens Church in the early years were the projects of the then called Frauen Ferein (Ladies Aid) to raise money for church improvements. These included delicious chicken suppers every fall, and handicrafts such as knitting, quilting, etcetra, which were auctioned off to the highest bidder.

With the growth of the community the church

organized a Young People's Society, Sunday School Classes and a Choir. During the summer, the Luther League held a one-day sports competition. The young people came from the surrounding parishes, with a shield being presented to the winner of the sport events and a silver cup given for the winning soft ball team.



St. Stephens Softball Team 1934. L. to R.: Reinhard Tober, Ernest Soch, Alfred Soch, Emil Schultz, Oscar Mallas, Ewald Tober, Reinhold Mittelstadt, Rudolph Rost, Ted Tober.



St. Stephens girls Luther League ball team — 1934. L. to R. Back: Martha Mittelstaedt, Selma Mittelstaedt, Elsie Lede. Center: Martha Werner, Martha Tober, Hedwig Lede. Front: Frieda Tober, Olga Hintz, Martha Soch.

After having won the two events for three consecutive years the St. Stephen's Youth were entitled to keep the trophies.

Entertainment during winter time for the young people was self-made. Meetings in the Church base-

ment held once a week including sing-songs, debates, and practices for plays, which were presented to the congregation once a year in the Church basement.

During summer time, a local Sports' day was held to raise money for expenses for the year's activities.

Hard times were in evidence in Hay Lakes when Pastor A. Schreiber came in 1931. Word soon got around that he had studied as a veterinarian in Germany and soon got calls for veterinary service, but this was not his calling here so this had to be discontinued.

As walking was the method of the day, with no other transportation, Pastor Schreiber accepted the offer of Oscar Mallas who invited him to jump on the back of Oscar's old motorcycle on his way home from the Young People's meetings.



Installing the bell in the steeple at St. Stephens Church.

The Church had been built with a bell tower but had no bell, so in 1937 funds were collected and a beautiful bell was purchased and placed in the tower at a cost of one thousand and eighty-two dollars and eighty-five cents.

Congregations were hard pressed to raise enough money to pay the Pastor's salary, even though it was little enough by today's standards. Thus payment was often in arrears.



St. Stephens Young People's Society 1934. L. to R., Back: Emma Mittelstaedt, Olga Soch, Frieda Tober, Elsie Lede, Martha Soch, Ida Berkholtz, Martha Tober, Leokadia Frederick, Olga Hintz, Martha and Selma Mittelstaedt, Hedwig Lede, Hedwig Radtke. Center: George Mogdans, Ted Berkholtz, Ed Frederick, Fred Schipper, Walter Mittelstaedt, Emil Schultz, Alfred Soch, Reinhard Tober, Oscar Mallas, Pastor F. Lentz. Front: Sam Krueger, unknown, Ted Tober, Leo Frederick, Rudolph Rost, Reinhold Mittelstaedt, Ewald Erickson, Sam Berkholtz.

Even in 1942 when Pastor L. Koss was called to serve, the economy was still rather slow. However, he was a willing and hard worker in his ministry; he also helped the farmers at harvest time thus supplementing his earnings.

The funds for Missions were mostly raised on a



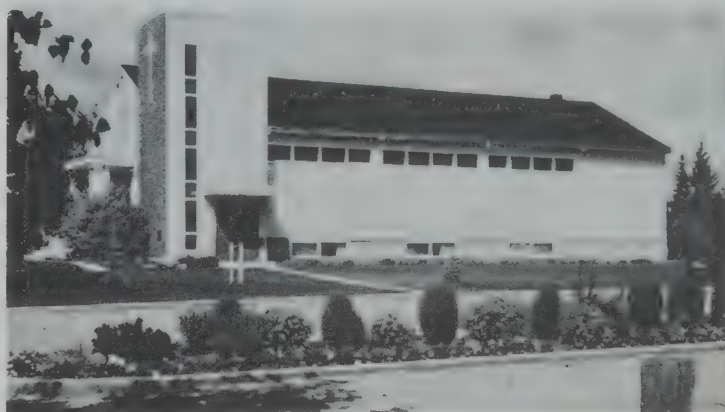
St. Stephens Choir 1933. L. to R., Back: George Mogdans, Adolph Mittelstaedt, Ernest Soch, Henry Tober, Gus Knopp, Louis Soch, Ernest Frederick. Front: Olga Soch, Martha Mittelstaedt, Lena Soch, Leokadia Frederick, Emma Mittelstaedt, Elsie Lede, Selma Mittelstaedt and conductor Reinhold Mittelstaedt.

Sunday set aside once a year (in the summer). At a service in the morning, a guest Pastor was invited to speak on Missions, a dinner was served at noon by the ladies, the Band played, and another service was held in the afternoon. The offering of the day was then sent to Missions.

In 1947 a new parsonage was built in Hay Lakes.

In the years following great progress was made with modern methods of farming and the Church prospered too. St. Stephens celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary in 1956 and St. Lukes observed its Twenty-fifth Anniversary in 1957.

A few years later the people felt the need to construct a new and larger church for better accommodation. Thus in 1961 the congregations of St. Lukes and St. Stephens decided to merge and build a new church in Hay Lakes.



Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes. Built in 1962.

The fine modern building which is now known as Our Saviour Lutheran Church is indeed a tribute to the Lutherans of the Hay Lakes district. Much of the work was done by volunteer labor, thus enabling the church to be debt free. The bell from St. Stephens was transferred to the new church.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church was dedicated on September 9, 1962 with a membership of ninety families.

In 1977 Pastor R. Kemppainen accepted a call to serve Our Saviour congregation. After consultation with the Wilhelmina congregation east of Hay Lakes, it was agreed that he would serve both congregations with a service in each church every Sunday morning.

A service in Germany is provided by retired supply Pastors on two Sundays per month.

Former Pastors: (since 1911)

Rev. E. Terkheim
1911-1912
Rev. A. Schlange
1912-1914
Rev. Hempel
1914-1917

Rev. H. Walbaum
1917-1924
Rev. C. Kleiner
1924-
Rev. E. Goos
1925-1931



Confirmation class 1935. Combined St. Stephens and St. Lukes churches.

Rev. A. Schreiber
1931-1933
Rev. F. Lenz
1933-1940
Rev. K. Wulf
1940-1941
Rev. E. Koch
1941-Supply Pastor
Rev. L. Koss
1942-1949
Rev. K. Keitel
1950-1955

Rev. R. Krisch
1956-1957
Rev. A. Querengesser
1957-1961
Rev. O. Frank
1961-1974
Rev. H. Enns
1974-1977
Rev. R. Kemppainen
1977-

Our Savior Lutheran Cemetery, 1906-1981

Upon searching the Church records, it was found that no mention was made of its Burial Grounds. However, according to information from past generations, the first Burial Grounds for this district was started on the homestead of Gottlieb Werner (S.W. 10-49-22-W4) approximately the year, 1903. A number of infants were buried there. About 1906, Karl Mittelstadt donated an acre in the southwest corner of his homestead (N.W. 2-49-22-W4) as a Cemetery. The bodies which had been buried at the above men-

tioned site were then exhumed and buried at the new site.

During the year of 1918, the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church was built on a two-acre site, the southeast corner of S.E. 3-49-22-W4. The first funeral service to be held in this church was for Karl Mittelstadt who was killed in a wood-sawing accident in March of 1919.

The cemetery was divided into an adults' area and a children's area. Because the mortality rate of children was quite high at that time and financial funds were few, many children and adults were buried without proper identification markers. The Burial Records and Grave Markings of those earlier days left much to be desired.

In 1954, an effort was made to have all graves properly marked and a Cemetery map made. In 1957 it was decided to level off part of the children's section where the unmarked children were buried, and to erect a large Grave Marker with the names of all forty-six unknown children's graves upon it.

In the 'Forties, the two congregations of St. Ste-

phen's and St. Luke's decided to enlarge the cemetery and so an additional one acre was purchased from the then owner, August Rost.

In 1962, the two congregations of St. Stephen's and St. Luke's amalgamated. The old St. Luke's Church in Hay Lakes was moved and a new church was built on its site. The name chosen for this new church was Our Savior Lutheran Church of Hay Lakes. The name of St. Stephen's Cemetery was then also changed and registered as Our Savior Lutheran Cemetery of Hay Lakes.

Soon after, improvements were made on the cemetery grounds. The bluff of wild poplar and willows situated in the northwest corner was cleared and the ground broke. Spruce and pine trees were planted in the place. On the west side, a new fence made from steel posts and pipe was erected complete with concrete gate posts, a steel gate and a steel sign.

The original large Cross, which stood in the centre of the cemetery, was made from tamarack by Gottlieb Werner and was brought from Strawberry Creek and set up in memory of his wife, Fredrika. After serving its time, it was replaced by a large Cross made from fir wood by Henry Zucht which stands there to this day.

Cemetery Caretakers during the past have been August Rost, Edward Tober, Oscar Mallas and, at present, Erwin Lachman.

The upkeep of the Cemetery has been done by the Congregation Members on a voluntary basis, with two work-bees during the summer.

A Graveyard Service is held on the cemetery every fall (weather permitting) in memory of loved ones who have passed on.

In 1979, it was decided to mark all the unmarked graves in the Cemetery. This was successful as a result of a two thousand dollar grant given by the Alberta government towards this project.

Presently, a Board of Five has been elected to manage the business regarding the cemetery. The five are as follows: John Groeller — Chairman; Erwin Lachman — Secretary and Caretaker; Bernard Lumpe, Marvin Schultz, Ron Mallas — Directors.

Ed Berkholtz	1905-1905	Caroline Hannusch	1917
Emilie Hein	1905	Samual Grams	1917-1917
Rosie Heintz	1905-1905	Walbert Prier	1917-1917
Alice Heintz	1906	Theodor Mittelstadt	1888-1918
Emma Mittelstadt	1910	Armin Grundmann	1915-1918
Frieda Werner	1839-1910	Hertha Grundmann	1917-1918
Herbert Lechelt	1911	Wilhelmina Kuss	1903-1918
Baby Mittelstadt	1911	Edward Kremmin	1883-1918
Schultz Twins	1915	Olga Gutknecht	1898-1918
Baby Bittner	1915	Minnie Buss	1903-1918
Arthur Prier	1915	Carl Mittelstadt	1884-1919
Arthur Rolof	1915	Ewald Lerke	1918-1919
Martha Bohn	1915	Walter Schultz	1918-1919
Samual Bohn	1915	Elsie Grams	1918-1919
John Schlecht	1870-1916	Rosalie Busenius	1919-1919
Eva Schultz	1880-1916	Walter Lede	1917-1920

Dorothea Jeske	1920-1920	Esther Bittner	1922-1936
Reinhardt Schultz	1920-1920	Ernest Lechelt	1923-1937
Alma Lede	1920-1920	Julia Stelmaker	1864-1937
Emilie Werner	1882-1920	Henry Tober	1876-1937
Alma Werner	1920-1920	Ruth Mielke	1938-1938
Wilhelm Knopp	1920-1921	Helmuth These	1884-1939
Arthur Henschell	1921-1921	Albert Thiel	1899-1939
Wilhelm Schmidt	1920-1921	Richard Schlender	1927-1940
Gottlieb Werner	1836-1922	Matilda Mittelstadt	1907-1940
Emma Soch	1902-1922	Otto Mallas	1915-1940
Danial Prier	1922-1922	Ottilia Hanusch	1940
Leonhard Lechelt	1921-1922	Emelia Kiel	1853-1941
Emil Schultz	1921-1922	Augusta Handke	1878-1942
Ludwig Knopp	1860-1922	John Werner	1880-1942
Andreas Tober	1845-1922	Gottlieb Soch	1882-1942
Auguste Lechelt	1892-1922	Gottlieb Hein	1855-1943
Baby Gunther	1922-1922	Herman Lechelt	1890-1943
Marie Knopp	1922-1922	Harvey Hintz	1943-1943
Alma Grams	1923-1923	Herbert Bittner	1943
Martha Fisher	1920-1923	Justina Zucht	1864-1943
Arthur Bittner	1921-1923	Bertha Gruntman	1895-1945
Edward Kiel	1854-1923	Ida Lede	1861-1945
Dorothy Henschell	1925	Olga Schlender	1898-1946
Ruth Mittelstadt	1926-1926	Mike Trelenberg	1870-1946
Adolph Kropp	1893-1926	Shirley Leight	1942-1947
Karl Busenius	1921-1926	Ernestine Martin	1876-1947
Helena Ginther	1926	Delores Miller	1947-1947
Violet Lechelt	1926-1926	Paulina Madu	1872-1947
Gottlieb Rost	1864-1927	Ervin Radtke	1931-1947
Getrud Lechelt	1927-1927	John Zucht	1867-1947
Anna Bittner	1885-1927	John Mittelstadt	1877-1947
August Lachman	1865-1927	Julius Schultz	1872-1947
Martha Perske	1833-1928	Pauline Rost	1872-1947
Emil Radke	1927-1928	Martha Lechelt	1896-1948
Frederich Lede	1856-1928	Wilfred Knopp	1923-1948
Martin Bittner	1867-1928	Ida Knopp	1903-1949
Otto Schultz	1928-1928	Wilhelm Lede	1890-1949
Paulina Kitzman	1857-1928	Ethyl Schweitzer	1877-1949
August Lerke	1888-1928	Justina Mogdans	1875-1949
Ernest Knopp	1928-1928	Julius Schultz	1947-1949
Alvina Prier	1928-1928	Albert Kopf	1905-1949
Wanda Mielke	1899-1929	Adam Mallas	1882-1949
Emma Steinke	1929	Gottlieb Stelmaker	1868-1950
John Spitzer	1929-1929	Anna Trelenberg	1874-1950
Milly Kallis	1912-1929	Selma Mallas	1915-1950
Hettie Frederich	1908-1929	Elsie Soch	1923-1951
Baby Muller	1929	Lorne Tober	1950-1951
Karl These	1925-1930	Ludwig Soch	1901-1951
Justine Mund	1930-1930	Rudolph Schoenknecht	1888-1952
August Mittelstadt	1870-1930	Emily Heinz	1869-1953
Ethel Steinke	1930	Edward Tober	1886-1955
Martha Lede	1906-1930	Norman Bittner	1928-1956
Helena Knopp	1931-1931	Andrew Schoenknecht	1878-1956
Hulda Walter	1931-1931	Bertha Handke	1877-1956
Frederick Walter	1931-1931	John Bittner	1882-1956
Russi Phienke	1931	Otto Miller	1891-1956
Ruth Steinke	1932	Otto Pawloske	1888-1956
Mike Martin	1869-1932	Rev. R. Krisch	1901-1957
Lydia Schreiber	1905-1932	Mathilda Anklam	1881-1957
Olga Osman	1909-1932	Carl Heinz	1862-1957
Annie Hoganhauer	1932	Herman Wesenberg	1897-1958
Henry Tober	1871-1932	Wilfred Grams	1921-1958
Herman Kiel	1932-1932	Adolph Hintz	1881-1958
Michael Cherbin	1869-1932	Juliana Hintz	1891-1958
Violet Grams	1931-1933	Lydia Lechelt (Lachman)	1872-1959
Johann Hanusch	1845-1933	Leonard Bittner	1929-1959
Alfred Lechelt	1933-1933	Ludwig Kopf	1877-1959
Emilie Gust	1851-1934	Daniel Schweitzer	1888-1959
Gottlieb Mogdans	1873-1934	Gustov Mittelstadt	1897-1959
Arthur Handke	1934-1934	Gustav Kiel	1882-1960
Alfred Knopp	1934-1934	Karl Gruntman	1888-1960
Emilie Pawloske	1849-1934	Martha Heintz	1903-1960
Julius Kitzman	1855-1935	Gordon Knopp	1940-1960
Gottfred Bittner	1858-1935	Samuel Soch	1896-1960
Leonard Erickson	1921-1936	John Handke	1872-1961
Wilhelmina Bittner	1873-1936		

Samuel Berkholtz	1873-1961	Matilda Plitt (These)	1890-1974
Ottilia Tober	1898-1963	Milton Schultz	1950-1974
Mark Hein	1961-1963	Martin Schultz	1906-1974
Adolph Busenius	1888-1963	Leokadia Knopp	1912-1974
Emelia Soch	1889-1963	Rudolph Fisher	1891-1974
Rosalie Berkholtz	1887-1963	Viola Fisher	1914-1975
George Grams	1898-1964	John Leicht	1888-1975
August Bittner	1913-1964	Emily Huebner	1890-1975
John Splett	1976-1964	William Tober	1895-1976
Carl Radtke	1886-1965	Ludwig Bittner	1898-1976
Augusta Rost	1892-1965	Henriette Schoenknecht	1889-1977
Margaret Leicht	1892-1965	Theophile Fiebich	1885-1977
Eva Mittelstadt	1876-1966	Elmer Grams	1931-1977
Bertha Knopp	1898-1967	Frieda Busenius	1893-1977
Marie Blanz	1924-1966	Kevin Yurkoski	1965-1977
Tekla Erickson	1891-1967	Caroline Kiel	1895-1977
Rosalie Schultz	1886-1967	Gottlieb Rost	1903-1977
Amelia Fisher	1895-1968	Karolin Kopf	1885-1977
Ralph Rose	1916-1968	Ernest Soch	1910-1978
Melvin Grams	1949-1968	Emilie Schmidt	1887-1978
William Henschell	1884-1969	Augusta Rost	1891-1978
George Schultz	1902-1970	Manfred Moren	1919-1978
Johann Radtke	1892-1971	Emma Grams	1898-1978
Thomas McLean	1883-1971	Anna Radtke	1894-1979
Albert Arndt	1897-1971	Robert Berkholtz	1918-1979
Juliane Schoenknecht	1893-1971	Paul Bittner	1918-1980
Edward Schlender	1890-1971	Olga Wolter	1902-1980
Karl Meyer	1923-1971	Charles Heintz	1891-1980
Otto Metzker	1904-1972	Frieda Gahr	1917-1980
Wilhelmina Mittelstadt	1888-1972	Danial Erickson	1892-1981
Wilhelmina Hintz	1887-1972	Rudolph Lachman	1897-1981
		Clinton Fiebich	1978-1981
		Frieda Miller	1911-1981
Gustav Ortlieb	1900-1973	August Huebner	1890-1981
Adolph Hartman	1899-1973	Edmund Frederick	1915-1981
Carl Lechelt	1889-1973	Gertrude These	1928-1981
Lydia Lede	1896-1973		

St. Joseph's Church

During the early years prior to 1907 our area was served by travelling ministers from other districts. They had services in the homes. In 1908 a congregation was formed and named it St. Joseph's, a regular minister was hired, but services were still held in the homes whenever the weather and roads permitted.

It wasn't until 1913 when a church was started. It was built jointly by Swedish and Norwegians on a site on NW 15-49-21-W4 donated by Nordin and Lofgren.



Basement all ready for St. Joseph's new site — 1949.



St. Joseph Church ready to be moved.



St. Joseph Church on new site finished and painted — 1949.

After a number of years, negotiations started and the Swedes sold their share to the Norwegians, later on in 1948 it was moved to the original cemetery site on NE 21-49-21-W4, which had been donated by Anton Sware. A basement was made and the church was placed on it, and then remodeled.

In January 1909, our St. Joseph's Ladies' Aid was organized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sollid by eight charter members, Mrs. Ole Sware, Mrs. Anton Sware, Mrs. John Sware, Mrs. Ole Feragen, Mrs. M. Thompson, Mrs. Thomas Alsen, Mrs. M. Bakken and Mrs. John Lund. Other members were added in later years. They held their meetings on the first Wednesday of every month. They were all-day events, for a number of years. Women served dinners and lunches later in the day after their Devotion period.

The men did their visiting, while the women work on their serving or knitting and other things for their fall sale.

After a few years, the men got busy farming, when the ladies made it an afternoon event. In the fall

a sale was held to sell their crafts by auction. Up to this day we have continued the same way and are able to keep our Church budget up from our sales in the fall. All our charter members are gone now.



St. Joseph Ladies quilting party 1929. L. to R.: Petra Sware, Johanna Sware, Avy Grue, Maria Sollid, Hilma Sware, Mrs. E. P. Nordin, Agda Miller and Inga Sware.



St. Joseph L.C.W. July — 1964. Back Row, L. to R.: Helen Welda, Helen Sware, Grace Hanson, Kitty Mullen, Mrs. Sollid, Emily Sware, Chris Webster, Betty Hanson, Edith Holmberg, Mrs. Rude, Sophie Busenius. Front Row: Leila Grue, Jenny Nordin, Nan Grue, Anne Thompson, and Christina Forsen.

St. Joseph Church and Cemetery

Pastors of St. Joseph Church have included: El- ington, N. N. Carlson, Uppedahl, A. H. Solheim, Carlson, S. J. Rude, R. O. Olson, J. H. Rostad, R. N. Nostbakken, H. O. Holte, H. Frostad, O. Pedersen, H. Lovrod, M. Bergman.

Burials recorded at St. Joseph Cemetery:

Ragnhild Botten			
Olaus Christensen	1914	Conrad Hansen	1923
Thomas Olson	1919	Eakema Christensen	1924
Louise Muller	1921	Hans Sandbu	1928
Nellie M. Thompson	1922	Seriana Lund	1930
Andrine Olson	1922	Inge Mjelve	1930
Jacob Watland	1923	Gutorm Carl Arntson	1931
Charles Chattelburg	1923	Johannes A. Sware	1931

Charles Muller	1931	Christian Gerhart Sollid	1957
Kathleen Jane Sware		Hans Dortius Sware	1958
Anton Sware	1934	Lars T. Grue	1958
James Sware	1937	Olava Bakken	1959
Tillie Miller	1939	Karen Margaret Sware	1959
Louise Christine Thompson	1939	Else Brit Grahm	1960
Petra Sware	1940	Amy Grue	1960
Joan Sware	1940	Irna Isobelle Sware	1961
Halvor Hansen	1941	Ricky D. Thompson	1962
Marvin Sware	1941	George E. Miller	1962
Martin Thompson	1942	Johanna C. Sware	1962
Jerome Allan Sware	1942	Ole Sandbu	1965
Malfred Sware	1943	Lennart Nordin	1965
Clara Wall	1945	Ruth Evelyn Sware	1966
Peter Sware	1945	Ole Feragen	1966
Petra Ann Sware	1945	Oscar Sware	1967
Arlene Miller	1948	Haldis L. Kendall	1967
Martin O. Skaret	1948	Gelina Olafson	1967
Gilbert Bakken	1948	Wallace Feragen	1970
Johannes Sware	1950	Nathalie Busenius	1971
Frederick Carl Miller	1950	Mikkel Bakken	1972
Elias Walter Olafson	1950	Marie Sollid	1972
Turner Thompson	1951	Trygve Sware	1973
Jacob Haakon Welda	1951	Terry James Willey	1973
Johanna Marie Hansen	1952	James George Mullan	1973
John Lund	1953	Hans Marius Arntson	1974
Ole Sware	1953	Margaret Flora Busenius	1975
Harold Bernard Welda	1955	Hilda Josephine Arntson	1975
Elise Petrine Sware	1955	Hilbert Forsen	1977
Dennis Halvor Hansen	1955	Wayne H. Thompson	1978
Darryl Theodore Hansen	1955	Lillian Darter	1978
Elizabeth Sofia Feragen	1955	Carrie Mjelve	1980
John Feragen	1956	Allan Sware	1980
Nina Thompson	1957	Loyde Thompson	1982

No dates recorded for the following:
 Baby Miller
 Baby Olafson
 Baby Larplas

Wilhelmina Lutheran Church

The history of the Wilhelmina Evangelical Lutheran Church was compiled and written by Mr. John U. Erickson for the Fiftieth Anniversary book-



Wilhelmina Church as it is today.

let, printed in 1958. With his permission it has been revised and updated to the present time. Many thanks to Mr. Erickson who was commissioned by the congregation in 1958 to compile the history up to that year.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this record, but with the passing of time and the death of most of the men and women who were associated with the settlement of this community and the formation of the congregation it becomes more and more difficult to obtain accurate information.

For a number of years during the turn of the century in 1900 there was a general exodus of the people from the Scandinavian countries to America. They were hardy, ambitious people, filled with a spirit of adventure and unmatched courage. The Canadian Pacific Railway had been completed from Eastern Canada to the Pacific in 1885, thus opening up the west to the settlement of millions of acres of farm land. The railway immediately launched a campaign designed to bring thousands of immigrants to this land and hundreds of thousands of pamphlets, maps and folders, printed in English, German, French, Dutch, Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish, Welsh, and Gaelic were distributed throughout the countries of Western Europe. This literature gave glowing and exaggerated accounts of tremendous opportunities in the Canadian West. And it told of low priced land which could be had for the asking. Enticed by this type of advertising and by letters from friends who had emigrated earlier, many decided to leave the land of their birth, their homes, friends and relatives to try their fortunes in a new and foreign land, the Canadian West.

In the year 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Staboe and a lady friend (Inga Johnson) emigrated from their native Sweden to Minnesota, U.S.A. There, Inga met and married Jacob Lunde, who had previously emigrated. Later on, the Staboes and the Lundes moved to Alberta, Canada and homesteaded in the area which became known as the Lundemo district, located about thirty-five miles northeast of Wetaskiwin, the nearest railway point. Mrs. Lunde who was well acquainted with the Selins in Sweden, wrote them, telling of all the wonderful prospects for the future and of homestead land which was available. Axel Selin decided to move and with his wife and family and a brother, Petter, they set out for the land of opportunity. After becoming settled the Selins wrote back to Sweden to the Victor Erickson family, inviting them to come to Canada, which they did. Within the short years which followed, many other families moved in and before long the entire district had been settled.

These early settlers arrived in this country with a

few meager personal belongings, odd articles of necessary clothing and had little or no money. Many of the men did off-season work in the timber lands of British Columbia or the railroad camps, in order to provide a living and gather a few necessities of life. The privation and hardships suffered in their struggle for existence were many, but they were strong in their faith in God and had untold courage and ambition. They had the spirit and will to work, progress and prosper, which is reflected in the modern farms and fine homes which are in the community today. The first houses and farm buildings were built from hewed logs and home-sawn native lumber. Many of these buildings are still in evidence, a tribute to the craftsmanship and workmanship of our early pioneers, a skill brought with them from the land of their birth. Much of the first sod broken in this area was done with oxen and horses.

During times of illness and childbirth, doctors and nurses were too far distant to be of much help in time of need, but the people of this district were most fortunate to have in their midst a woman who although not a trained nurse as we know them today, spent most of her life caring for the sick and lending a helping hand wherever it was needed. This woman was Mrs. Magnus Lindberg. Like a doctor, she was ready to go when called and many a night she had set out with a team of horses in rain storm or bitter cold in the middle of winter to help a neighbor in distress. She was an experienced midwife, and many of the people living here today were brought into this world by Mrs. Lindberg.

In the year 1902 a congregation had been formed some ten miles to the southeast of the Wilhelmina community which was known as the Fridhem Lutheran Church. In spite of the long distances which had to be covered by oxen and horses, many attended services there occasionally, and a few including the Axel Selin family were members. But these people had a vision of the future for themselves and their children that was responsible for the decision that God's word must be planted in our midst. In the land that they had left behind, the church had played an important part in their daily lives and they felt that here too there was a great need for a church. So on Saturday, the 7th of November, 1908, a meeting was called at the Erik Victor Erickson home for the purpose of organizing a congregation. Pastor Olof Lindgren who had been serving the Fridhem congregation was elected chairman of the meeting, with Axel Selin as secretary. Elected to the board of administration were the following: Deacons — Nils Lindberg, Harold Person and Magnus Johnson; Trustees — Amandus Pearson, Linus Selin and Magnus Lindberg; Treasurer — Linus Selin. It was agreed to

name the church the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Wilhelmina Congregation. Many of the early settlers who homesteaded in this little community had emigrated from Wilhelmina, Västerbotten in the northern part of Sweden, and so in keeping with the memories of home and the place of their birth they decided that it was only fitting to name this new church "Wilhelmina". It was agreed to join the Minnesota Conference of the Augustana Synod, and the constitution of 1887 was formally adopted.

Charter members were as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Axel Selin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Nils Lindberg and family, Linus Selin, Mr. and Mrs. Erik Hanson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Erik Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Person and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gustaf Edvall Carlson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Amandus Pearson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Erik P. Nordin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Per Alfred Forsen and family, Erik Oscar Swanlund, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Pearson and family, Mr. and Mrs.



Altar in Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.

Jonas Sandquist and family, Mr. and Mrs. Erik Victor Erickson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Petter Selin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Magnus Lindberg and family, Mr. and Mrs. Nils Magnus Johnson and family, and Per Olof Victor Erickson. This made a total of thirty-three adults and forty-seven children, truly a remarkable beginning.

Elected as a committee to investigate the possibility of building a church and locating a suitable location were Oscar Swanlund, Anton Pearson and Axel Selin. Services were to be held in Swedish once a month in the various homes throughout the community with Pastor Lindgren in charge.

The question of a suitable location for a church site and cemetery was considered at a special meeting, held at the P. A. Forsen home on March the 4th,

1909, one location being on the Oscar Swanlund farm and the other on the Magnus Lindberg farm. The trustees were given the authority to close a deal with either party if possible. In the meantime, Mr. Swanlund had decided not to part with any of his land for a church building, and instead of attempting to close a deal with Mr. Lindberg, the committee decided that a better location would be on the P. A. Forsen farm, where the church is now located. Considerable opposition to this move was expressed by the members living in the western part of the community as they felt that this would mean a much farther distance for them to attend church.

This matter was finally settled at a meeting held at the Victor Erickson home on September 24, 1909. The choice of a location on Magnus Lindberg's land or on P. A. Forsen's land was carried on a motion to build a church on P. A. Forsen's by a majority of two votes. The sum of \$15.00 was paid to Mr. Forsen for the purchase of four acres of land, with the understanding that the congregation pay for the cost of the transfer of title.

A committee of three was then elected to measure out the land for the church-site, and they were Harold Person, Hans E. Johnson and Erik Petter Kristoffer-son. It was then agreed that work on the church property, such as brushing and fencing, be done in the fall by donated labor, Harold Person in charge.

The first annual meeting was held in the Brandland School, on the 11th of January 1910. Pastor Lindgren stated in his annual report that twelve children had been baptised during the year, eleven of them with parents being members of the congregation. There were four new communicant members, and three couples married. One communicant member and two children passed away during the year. Seven communicant members and fourteen children requested dismissal from the congregation. This left a total of thirty communicant members and forty-three children. The treasurer's report shows a total income for the year of \$44.80 of which \$29.70 was paid to the Conference. Elected as trustee was P. A. Forsen, and J. O. Anderson as deacon. Oscar Swanlund was the elected secretary.

The foundation for the new church was laid in 1912, with each family being asked to haul three loads of stones for the concrete. After the forms were up, an open air service was held within the foundation walls to commemorate the occasion. The construction of the building began in 1913 with a Mr. M. Matson engaged as building supervisor. The committee in charge of the work was Harold Person, Erik Hanson and Oscar Swanlund, with Pastor Lindgren as an advisory member.

All the hauling of stone, sand, gravel, cement and

lumber, as well as the building and construction of the church was done by voluntary labor by members and friends of the congregation. The first meetings in the new building were held late in the fall of 1913, although the church was not yet completed.

The financing of this tremendous project and undertaking is of considerable interest. Pastor Lindgren and Axel Selin were elected as a committee to canvass for pledges and donations. The trustees were authorized to borrow up to \$500 dollars if necessary. The treasurer's report of the building fund for the year 1913 reads as follows:

Receipts

Donation from Ladies Aid	\$ 219.60
Subscriptions from members	262.75
Loan from Pastor Lindgren	250.00
Collected for paint	11.40
Lacking	2.75
	<u>\$ 746.50</u>

Paid Out

Lumber and building material	\$ 624.60
Salary to building supervisor	53.00
Board for building supervisor	7.50
Collected for paint	11.40
Paid to Lindgren on loan	50.00
	<u>\$ 746.50</u>
Donated by free labor at 25¢ per hour.	826.25

A record was kept of all labor donated to the church and figured out at the rate of twenty-five cents per hour. It is also of interest to note the church budget for the same year:

Income

Donations from members	\$ 76.55
Collections	5.45
Income from picnic social	<u>8.55</u>
	\$90.55

Paid Out

Pastors salary for 1913	\$ 44.25
Conference dues	37.70
On Pastor's salary, 1912	6.00
Balance on hand	<u>2.60</u>
	\$90.55

These figures tell a remarkable story, a story of dogged determination, perseverance, sacrifice and faith during the days when there was little or no money; however, the people were still willing to contribute freely of what little they had.

After the church had been erected it was by no means complete. There still remained the matter of furnishings within the church. For the four bare walls were not conducive to an atmosphere for proper worship. Makeshift furnishings were first used and little by little these were replaced as we have them today.



First confirmation class held in Wilhelmina Church — 1910. L. to R.: Mrs. John Person, Oscar Selin, Hilda Nelson, Pastor Lindgren, Gerda Hanson, Edna Lindgren and Florence Skogman.

A young girls society "Smo Flickornas Syförening" had saved enough money for an organ by the end of 1914. Mr. Axel Selin purchased the organ in Winnipeg at a cost of \$114.30. He also served as the church organist until 1923.

During the years 1916, '17 and '18, a very active Young People's Society raised enough money to cover the cost of the Altar and Altarring, the Pulpit and Pews. The pews were purchased in Edmonton at a cost of \$200 dollars. The altar, altarring, lectern and the hymn-board were built and assembled by Mr. John Person. The pulpit and altar painting was done by Mr. Olaf Wallin from Czar, with the assistance of John Person. Two gasoline lamps were also purchased by the Young People.

A decision was made at the annual meeting on January 12th, 1917 to finish the construction of the church. Mr. John Ness of Camrose was hired to plaster the inside walls. A contract was assigned for the construction of the steeple at a cost of \$130 dollars to a Mr. Hornquist and Oscar Selin.

When the church was completed in 1919, the congregation hosted the Alberta District Convention

when a dedication service was held, dedicating the Church to the Service and Glory of God.

A twentieth anniversary celebration was planned for 1928, so a committee comprised of Jonas Anderson, Hans E. Johnson and Axel Selin was elected to be in charge for the building of a dining-hall and to raise the money for this project, the Ladies Aid donating the greater amount for it.

With the completion of the bell-tower and spire in 1919, the Wilhelmina Church became a landmark that could be seen far and wide for it is built on the highest point of land along the Inter-provincial Pipe Line from Edmonton to Lake Superior.

The sound of the church bell over the countryside in the home land had entered deeply into the souls of these early settlers, and they felt that no church was complete without a spire and bell. But to purchase a bell required funds which were sadly lacking, so for the time being the congregation had to do without one. However, at the annual meeting on January 6th, 1930, the Luther League Society was given a free hand to solicit funds for the purchase of a bell, to which they immediately contributed the sum of \$25



Wilhelmina Sunday School class taken about 1918. Back Row: Helge Hanson, Hanny Hanson, (Collin), Martha Louisa Johnson (Olson), Jenny Selin (Grundberg), Margaret Hiener (Knutson), Hannah Erickson (Jaycock), Axel Lindgren, Ruth Lindberg (Fredrickson). Middle Row: Alvin Forsen, Alhard Johnson, Oliver Selin, Sixten Lindberg, Elsie Kruzie (Lindberg), Gullie Hanson. Front Row: Edward Hiener, George Lindberg, Elfert Johnson, Blanche Hanson (Palm), Roy Forsen, Stanley Selin, Herminie Swanlund (Erickson).

dollars. A committee of Adrian Anderson and Einar Lindberg was elected to be in charge of this undertaking. By 1932 enough money was available to purchase the bell and it was ordered from the St. Louis Bell Foundry in St. Louis, U.S.A., at a cost of \$221.47 complete with the necessary mountings. The bell weighed 579 lbs. and carried with it a fifteen-year guarantee. It was hauled out from Hay Lakes on the 17th of August by Gunhard and John Erickson. In the meantime a committee headed by Jonas Anderson and Hans E. Johnson were making preparations for the installation and with the aid of many willing hands the bell was hoisted into place.

Pastor Otto Eklund was instrumental in establishing this undertaking. On the first Sunday of September in 1932, the bell chimed out its jubilant tones for the first time, announcing to one and all that worship was being held in the house of God. Pastor Axel Eriksson served the congregation at this time.

Inscribed on the bell is the following verse of hymn No. 328 in the Swedish hymnal:

Hit, O Jesu, samlas vi, Att ditt helga ord få höra. Vardes sjelf du stå oss bi, Och var had till andakt röra. Att han, ifran jorden tagen, Till dig alltid varder dragen.

Following is the English translation, hymn No. 302 in the old English hymnal:

Blessed Jesus, at Thy word, We are gathered all to hear Thee; Let our hearts and souls be stirred, Now to seek and love and fear Thee; By Thy teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love Thee solely.

The fortieth anniversary was celebrated on August the 13th, 14th, and 15th, 1948, with the following proceedings:

The Friday evening service was conducted by student Donald Johnson. On Saturday a.m., Pastor Eklund of Meeting Creek conducted the service in the Swedish language. On Saturday p.m. the following program was presented: Vocal trio — Alphild Naslund, Joan and Marjorie Webster. Piano rendition by Sylvia Tveit. Vocal duet — Mrs. Arthur Eriksson and Mrs. Chester Grue. Reading by Alver Person. On Saturday evening, Pastor Eklund dedicated the piano, candelabra and the rug, in memory of the pioneer members. Vocal duet — Mrs. Stanley Selin and Mrs. Elfert Johnson. Another duet — Mrs. Seth Johansson and Mrs. Jonas Grundberg.

On Sunday a.m. Pastor Eklund conducted a Baptismal service and Holy Communion. Vocal solo — Verner Johnson and a duet — Mrs. Chester Grue and Mrs. Arthur Eriksson. Sunday p.m. Pastor Eklund presided for the following program: Hymn by the Sunday School. Members present of the first con-



Confirmation Day 1947 Pastor Edquist.

firmation class (1914) and the second class (1918) presented a chorus in song. Taking part were: Mrs. Jonas Grundberg, Mrs. Walter Selin, Mrs. J. A. Liden, Mrs. M. C. Holdsworth, Mrs. George Webster, Mrs. John Olson, Walter Selin, Einar Lindberg and Herman Selin. Members of the 1928 class sang their confirmation hymn. Taking part were: Mrs. Blanche (Hans) Palm, Mrs. Egil Lien, Mrs. Arthur Eriksson, Mrs. Oliver Selin, Mr. Elfert Johnson, Mr. Leonard Swanlund, Mr. Stanley Selin and Mr. Roy Forsen. Accordion selection — Stanley Selin and Rudy Swanlund. The history of the congregation was compiled and read by Mr. J. U. Erickson. Greetings from the Ladies Aid by Mrs. Stanley Selin, Sunday School — Mrs. Chester Grue, Luther League — Mr. Herbert Carlstrom, Women's Missionary Society — Mrs. Hans Palm and greetings from the following Pastors were read by J. U. Erickson: Edquist of Chicago, Swenson of Scandia, Tengbom of Calgary and Vikman of Edmonton. Pastor Eklund concluded with a commentary. The evening program was presented by the Luther League, Mrs. Chester Grue presiding: Vocal duet — Mrs. Verner Johnson and Miss Doreen Johnson. Quartette — Mrs. Arthur Eriksson, Mrs. Chester Grue, Rudy and Leonard Swanlund. Accordion selection Stanley Selin and Rudy Swanlund. Topic of the evening — Pastor Eklund. Vocal solo — Mr. Axel Selin (82 years young). Student Donald Johnson conveyed greetings from the Swea Congregation and concluded the program with the Benediction.

The board of administration on the fortieth anniversary were as follows: Deacon — Axel Selin, John Person and Elfert Johnson. Trustees — Erick Carlstrom, H. E. Johnson, J. U. Erickson, Hans Palm, Stanley Selin and Sixten Lindberg. Financial Secretary - Erick Carlstrom, Treasurer — Stanley Selin and Recording Secretary — John Person.

From the time when the church was built, it was heated by a small wood-burning heater which proved to be rather inadequate. So with a donation from the Luther League a large coal furnace was purchased and installed in 1941. Then in 1975 natural gas was available, so a new gas furnace was installed which was a great improvement. The baptismal font and altar Bible are among the gifts from Mr. Axel Selin. In 1947, a Mr. Hellquist and Alex Matson were assigned the work to repair, reshingle and paint the steeple. In 1948, the Women's Missionary Society purchased and installed a carpet and again in 1980 a new carpet was installed by the Willing Workers. In 1953, funds were canvassed for the installation of electricity. During 1957 and 1958, in preparation for the fiftieth anniversary, the church was painted inside and out, ceiling tile put on the ceiling and the walls

finished with wallplank. Michael Lee donated his talents in redecorating the Altar picture. The outside of the church was again painted in 1976. At the annual meeting in 1980, a decision was made to solicit funds to reshingle the roof with cedar shakes. The work was assigned to Mr. Francis Gartner. Evergreen trees were planted in 1932, 1968 and 1978 which adds much to the appearance of the church grounds. Over the years there have been many improvements voluntarily done by each and every one involved with the church in one way or another, too numerous to mention.

Of the ministry:

During the years past the congregation has been served by many pastors, lay-men and students who faithfully and diligently ministered to the people:

1908-1915	Rev. Olof Lindgren
1915-	Rev. A. Wattman
1915-1918	Rev. Leonard Heiner
1919-	Rev. Otto Eklund
1919-1920	Rev. C. G. Anderson
1921-	Rev. Otto Eklund
1922-	Rev. Leonard Alexander
1923-1927	Rev. C. G. Gronberg
1928-1931	Rev. Otto Eklund
1931-1937	Rev. Axel Eriksson
1937-1938	Rev. N. J. Lundall
1938-1947	Rev. Carl A. Bernhardson
1947-	Rev. Bertil Edquist
1948-1949	Rev. Otto Eklund
1949-1955	Rev. C. Robert Pearson
1955-56	Rev. John Arvidson
1956-1960	Rev. Robert Ek
1960-1965	Rev. Paul M. Swedberg
1967-1972	Rev. Donald Miller
1972-1977	Rev. Robert Jacobson
1977-1982	Rev. Robert Kempainen

To reminisce, Pastor Lindgren served the congregation even when he lived at Czar, coming here once a month to hold services at a salary of \$50 a year. When Pastor Heiner was called in 1915, he was voted the sum of \$100 a year. In the fall of 1915, the Fridhem and Wilhelmina congregations met to consider the building of a parsonage at Fridhem church. This was done, with Wilhelmina supplying part of the lumber, materials and labor. Incidentally, the Thronson brothers operated a sawmill in the early days where much of the lumber for the church was sawed.

For a number of years the congregations at Fridhem and Wilhelmina formed a parish until about 1914 when a Lutheran church was built at Kingman. The three churches were then served by one Pastor until the Kingman congregation disbanded. Transportation was very difficult during the early years; if a horse was not available the Pastor walked. Rumuneration was very meager and no doubt there must have been many moments of dark discouragement and despair when preaching to a congregation

of empty pews. But these men were strong in their faith and through perseverance and determination their work has born fruit.

Pastor Leonard Heiner was also one of these men who faced many difficulties and whose ministry was cut short by his tragic death during the 'flu epidemic of 1918, when he labored among the sick until he too succumbed. The communion vessels were purchased by Pastor Heiner from a congregation near Calmar which had disbanded.

The Canada Conference was organized in May of 1913, but this congregation voted to remain with the Minnesota Conference for a while. They eventually joined the Canada Conference in 1914.

Pastor Axel Eriksson was another pastor who was noted for his faithful attention to the matters of the parish, even under the most adverse conditions. Many stories are told of his great endurance as a walker, for the roads were often impassable. He organized a congregation north of Miquelon Lake, but this never developed into maturity and finally dissolved. It is evident of the impression his ministry made upon his own family, in that three of his sons, Herbert, Harold and Paul entered into the ministry and a daughter, Helen, became a deaconess.

Pastor Carl Bernhardson also served very faithfully and can be remembered with gratitude for his very thorough and profound preaching. While he served this parish and the Miquelon mission, he was also Dean of the Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute.

Pastor Otto Eklund, a strong hard-working minister and farmer, was noted for his powerful dynamic preaching. He was well-known and well-liked as he served the parish so many times over the years. In addition to Meeting Creek, he served the Fridhem and Wilhelmina parish. He also had a very profound interest in the Miquelon mission. Upon his death, as stated in his obituary, was a well-phrased sentiment, "The Oak Has Fallen".

Pastor Robert Pearson served the parish for a period of six years before accepting a call to the Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute as Dean. During his ministry the congregation discontinued receiving mission aid since he was also teaching at the Bible School and his salary there supplemented his salary from the parish. In 1949, Bethel Lutheran Church was organized under his guidance, again becoming three congregations within the parish.

Pastor Robert Ek arrived from the Seminary in Rock Island but hails from Monterey, Minnesota. He and Mrs. Ek were newly married when they arrived in 1956. Under his leadership, the congregation celebrated the fiftieth anniversary in 1958.

Pastor Paul M. Swedberg was called in 1960. He served the parish until 1965 when he made a decision

to serve in the mission fields of Africa. During this period the Wilhelmina and Fridhem congregations were struggling for survival, so on the recommendation from the Synod that active members transfer to neighboring churches of their choice, the Fridhem congregation voted in favor to disband in 1964. At a special congregational meeting at Wilhelmina on September 5th, 1965, the following recommendation by council was passed by a vote of twelve in favour and ten against, that the Wilhelmina congregation disband.

From the time that the church closed, there was a feeling of something amiss and interest was on the increase amongst the people to have it re-opened for services. A meeting was called in the fall of 1966. Dr. J. M. Zimmerman, president of the Western Canada Synod presided. Discussion followed. Pastor Donald Miller, serving the Bethel congregation at Camrose, attended the meeting with concern and offered to lend a hand providing that some arrangement was possible with the Bethel congregation. A suggestion by Dr. Zimmerman that Wilhelmina affiliate with the New Sarepta congregation and Pastor Lyons was agreed upon. The first service was arranged for Christmas Day, 1966. The service was held by Pastor Lyons; however, he departed from Alberta immediately after. Arrangements were then made with Bethel and Pastor Miller to serve Wilhelmina which he continued to do faithfully until he left in November, 1972.

Pastor Robert Jacobson and family accepted a call to the parish and arrived in January, 1973. He will be remembered as being a distinctly extraordinary minister, in the manner of being well-liked. At the annual meeting in January, 1975, upon a recommendation by Pastor Jacobson, it was resolved that the Wilhelmina congregation request to be reinstated into the Western Canada Synod as they had not been since the congregation disbanded. In the beginning of 1977 the question of re-alignment with Our Saviour, Hay Lakes, was under discussion, due to the overloaded responsibility on the Pastor. A motion was carried unanimously that Wilhelmina desired to continue the affiliation with Bethel and Pastor Jacobson. However, due to the dominating perseverance from the Synod president, Pastor Sjoberg and the Bethel congregation, Wilhelmina reluctantly had to eventually come to terms.

At a congregational meeting the 15th of May, 1977, a call was extended to Pastor Robert Kempainen, a Senior Seminarian and young man from Minneapolis, Minnesota. He arrived to begin his duties the first of September. A memorable event of 1979 was the wedding celebrations of Pastor Kemp-

panien and Marilyn Schoenknecht, R.N., a local lass of Hay Lakes.

Church Auxiliaries:

The Ladies Aid, Women's Missionary Society, and Willing Workers

One organization which has done an outstanding service within the church was the Ladies Aid or, as known in Swedish, "Kvinnoförening". When the congregation was organized in 1908 the ladies organized the same year to shoulder their share of endeavour to establish a church. Throughout the years they have contributed thousands of dollars in financial aid to the church to help with the building, furnishing and the maintenance. The spinning party and quilting bee was a great event, when the ladies of the community would gather to card wool for making quilts and to spin the wool into yarn with their home-made spinning wheels. Then during the year the ladies would knit socks and mittens, and embroider all sorts of fancy goods in their spare time. These goods were then sold by auction. By this means they were able to raise enough money to help the congregation and still carry on their own work. Without help from the ladies, the church might often have found itself in serious financial difficulties. One item of interest is that a man, John Person, served as President for a number of years, which indeed no doubt reflects the high esteem in which he was held by the ladies of the church. The Ladies Aid was organized on August 30, 1908. Mrs. Inga Lunde was elected president and treasurer and Mrs. Petter Selin as secretary.

The Women's Missionary Society was organized on June 24th, 1924, with Mrs. Jonas Anderson elected as president and Mrs. Elias Anderson as secretary. A mission festival was held once a year in order to raise money for Aid to Missions at home and abroad. On December 12th, 1952, the Ladies Aid and the Womens Missionary Society formed one unified society known as the Ladies Guild. And in 1961 the name was again changed to Lutheran Church Women. All societies folded in 1965 when the congregation disbanded. After the congregation reorganized, the ladies' society also reorganized and are now known as the Wilhelmina Willing Workers. An acknowledgement of praise to the members of these societies, and the Luther League, who have so faithfully stood by the congregation whenever a need existed since the formation of the Wilhelmina Church.

Små Flickornas Syförening was organized on March 2, 1911 under the leadership of Mrs. Inga Lunde with Hanny Hanson as treasurer. This group was active until shortly after the Luther League was organized in 1915 with Pastor Heiner as president,

Axel Selin as vice-president, Gerda Hanson as secretary and Magnus Johnson as treasurer. Over the years this society was very active. Regular monthly meetings were held which consisted of the business agenda and an excellent program. Several different socials were held each year. Exchange programs with other churches was a highlight of fellowship, and so was the Alberta District Luther League Conventions. Wilhelmina hosted the convention in 1932, 1941 and 1947. This was an all-day affair for all week which required a great deal of expense and long hours of work and preparation to accommodate the guests. The Swedish language was used in the secretarial records until the end of 1933, when it was changed over to English. The Wilhelmina Luther League dissolved in 1965 when the congregation disbanded and has not reorganized since.

Sunday School commenced in 1909, with a class of ten children, under the leadership of Mrs. Inga Lunde. More pupils were attending by 1915, when Harold Person was elected as superintendent with Inga Lunde and Magnus Johnson, assistants. Throughout the years, there are many who have assisted with the classes. Probably the greatest attendance was during 1929 and 1930, with an enrollment of forty to forty-five pupils and five to six teachers, including Pastor Eklund as superintendent and Mrs. Clara Vikner as vice superintendent and who was a qualified teacher of the Swedish language. Summer vacation Bible school was also held at various times. The summer of 1929 and 1930, Miss Edna Johnson, Conference missionary, was invited and taught for three weeks at the Brandland school and two weeks at the Miquelon school.

The Junior Mission Society was also organized by Miss Edna Johnson on July 15, 1930, with the following officers elected: President — Henny Johnson, Vice President — Sylvia Nordin, Secretary — Judith Person, Treasurer — Elias Vikner. Mrs. Knut Nordfeldt and her daughter, Blanche Hanson, served as leaders. Miss Hanson was also the Canada Conference President of the Junior Mission Society.

A Church Choir was organized in 1915, under the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Leonard Heiner, who gave their performances at the Luther League meetings and church festivals. After the untimely death of Pastor Heiner in 1918, the choir continued for a while under the leadership of Mr. Barne Welde. Then in 1931, Mrs. Ole Olson (Annie Erickson) organized a choir, and within a short time had assembled a group that under her training developed into a very fine group of singers. Mrs. Olson had a manner and personality that endeared her to all who knew her, and the young people who worked with her always gave their best at practice sessions and perfor-

mances alike. This choir carried on most successfully until her death on April 6, 1941. The piano was purchased out of funds saved by the choir and was since dedicated to the Glory of God in memory of Mrs. Olson.

As was customary with all country churches, a cemetery was located near the church. A plan for the cemetery layout was drawn up by Harold Person and approved by the congregation. He was also the first cemetery caretaker until the election of Oscar Swanlund in 1928-1933, Hans Johnson in 1934-1938, John Person in 1939-1959, Albin Person in 1960-1978 and Richard Knull in 1979 to the present time. There have been 147 burials to date.

The first confirmation was a class of eighteen, confirmed on May 24, 1914, including Walter Selin, Jenny Selin, Hildur Selin, Hogda Johnson, Nestor Johnson, Lovisa Johnson, Anna Johnson, Emil Helgren, Esther Lindberg, Einar Lindberg, Paulina Lindberg, August Anderson, Hanny Hanson, Ellen Carlson, Carl Carlson, Hildegard Danielson, Olga Grundberg and Nannie Grundberg.

Among the first weddings after the congregation was organized was that of Sara Kristofferson to Oscar Swanlund, Mina Kristofferson to Olof Forsen and Olivia Kristofferson to Hilmer Sikstrom.

The first wedding within the new church was that of Amanda Person to John Person in 1914. Shortly afterward there was a double wedding which united Victoria Kristoferson to Albert Berg and Petra Lunde to Elis Anderson.

The following have served as congregational secretary for some period or another during the years past: Alex Selin, Oscar Swanlund, Erik Hanson, Albert Swanson, John Person, Knut Nordfelt, Richard Pearson, Mary Anderson, Ernest Nordin, Albin Person, Evelyn Pearson, Connie Servold and Joanne Huebner.

And likewise the following as treasurers: Linus Selin, Frank Johnson, Axel Selin, Erick Carlstrom, John Palm, Hans Palm, Stanley Selin, Ivar Lofgren, Reynold Nordin, Verner Johnson, Hampton Anderson, Algot Person and Muriel Holdsworth.

A financial secretary was also elected in the period 1929 to 1965. Only three served during this time and they were: John Person, Erick Carlstrom and Algot Person.

The following have faithfully served as organist at one time or another: Axel Selin, Mrs. Pastor Gronberg, Alhard Johnson, Henny Selin, Judith Person, Anita Johnson, Seena Swanlund, Mrs. Pastor Pearson, Vivian Selin, Marlene Streberg, Mrs. Marilyn Kemppainen and Robert Klappstein.

It would be too numerous to mention all the Sunday School teachers, so it will only be the super-

intendents: Inga Lunde, Harold Person, Magnus Johnson, Axel Lindgren, Hanny Hanson, Jenny Selin, Axel Selin, Paulus Matson, Mrs. Knut Nordfeldt, Mrs. Jonas Anderson, Pastor Eklund, Mrs. Frank Vikner, John Person, Blanche Hanson, Nannie Swanlund, Anita Johnson, Seena Swanlund, Alver Person, Ardis Johnson, Mrs. Ed Nordin, Carol Johnson, Anna Lofgren, Evelyn Pearson and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Matson. Also a note of recognition to all who have served as assistant teachers.

And last but not least, the custodians: Harold Person, Magnus Lindberg, Anders Kristofferson, Erik Kirstofferson, Oscar Swanlund, Jonas Anderson, Hans Johnson, John Person and Algot Person.

The board of administration of the fiftieth anniversary year, 1958, consisted of the following members: Pastor Robert Ek, Deacons — Hampton Anderson, Emil Peterson, Albin Palm, Ernest Nordin, Ed Nordin, and John U. Erikson. Trustees — Stanley Selin, Sidney Matson, Albin Person, Alhard Johnson, Reynold Nordin and Verner Johnson. Congregational secretary — Richard Pearson. Financial Secretary — Algot Person and Treasurer — Reynold Nordin.

The present board of administration for the year 1981 are the following: Pastor Robert Kemppainen, Richard Knull, Algot Person, Richard Pearson, Vivian Selin, Ted Matson, Dan Johnson, Robert Klappstein, Clarence Huebner and Clarence Servold. Congregational secretary — Joanne Huebner, and Treasurer — Muriel Holdsworth.

Thus the history of this congregation is typical of many, for it was conceived in primitive, pioneering conditions and has continued through the years, through storm and sunshine, prosperity and poverty. Numerous people have come and gone and many gave years of outstanding service in various capacities, out of love for the Lord and without any thought of personal glory. They opened the way for the younger generation, so it is appropriate that we pause in this frantic rush of modern day living, to honor these pioneer citizens. The year 1983 marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Wilhelmina Evangelical Lutheran Church, and will celebrate the Diamond Anniversary of seventy-five glorious years of service to God and Mankind.

The Christian Church and Benevolence Society

An organizational meeting was held on October 23, 1910. It was decided to form the Swan Hill Church Society. Anton Pearson was elected president and J. Amandus Pearson secretary. A decision was then made to purchase one and a half acres of land on

SE 10-49-21-W4 from Anton Pearson for the sum of ten dollars. This portion of land was to be used as cemetery and church yard.

A committee of three: E. W. Eriksson, Gustave Edvall and Jonas Sandquist, were elected as trustees and directors in charge of work at the cemetery. Work on the cemetery was started the following spring.

The first members of the Swan Hill Church Society were:

- Anton Pearson
- Mr. and Mrs. John N. Lofgren
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Amandus Pearson
- Mr. and Mrs. Nels Lindberg
- Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Nordin
- Mr. and Mrs. Victor Eriksson
- Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Sandquist
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Matson

In the beginning the meetings were held in homes. Pastor Holberg was their first minister. In 1913, Pastor Sandin was called. He served until 1917. When Pastor Sandin was unable to hold services, Pastor Heiner was called. In 1918, Pastor N. J. Bergen came to hold services and remained on call for many years.

In 1915, plans were made to join the St. Joseph's Church congregation in building a church. Trustees Charles Holmberg, Anton Pearson and Nils Lindberg were in charge. The building site was on one acre of land on NW 15-49-21-W4 which they purchased for the sum of fifteen dollars from E. P. Nordin and J. N. Lofgren.

In 1918, the church organization was incorporated under the name of the Christian Church Society branch in Hay Lakes. In the next number of years the membership increased. The John Grahm family, Charles Holmbergs, Ed Norlanders, Jonas Lofgrens and many more families joined.

The Benevolence Society (Ladies' Aid) was a very active group. They raised money for the church by holding auction sales of their handwork consisting of knitted articles, quilts, crochet and embroidery work, as well as many useful items of clothing. They held annual summer picnics and church suppers in the fall, many lunches were also served. Regular monthly meetings were held by the Ladies' Aid members, each taking their turn. These meetings were attended by husbands and wives, members and non-members as well.

The first members of the Ladies' Aid were:

- Mrs. Ulrika Eriksson
- Mrs. Sigrig Nordin
- Mrs. Selma Pearson
- Mrs. Elin Karlson
- Mrs. Julia Karlson
- Mrs. Eva Lindberg
- Mrs. Sara Sandquist

With road improvements and the widespread use of cars many members left the Christian Church Society. They joined other congregations. According to the records, interest during the "depression" ap-

peared to deteriorate. Very few meetings are recorded.

At the September meeting in 1946 it was decided to sell their half share in the church to the St. Joseph's Church congregation. In charge of the sale's transaction were Charles Holmberg and Anton Pearson.

At a meeting in 1949 Mr. Holmberg reported that their half share in the church had been sold for the sum of five hundred dollars.

In 1975, the cemetery received a grant of five hundred dollars from Alberta Culture for the purpose of restoring the cemetery.

This cemetery is still in use. It is being cared for by the people who have members of their family interred there.

Information is taken from the records of The Christian Church Society.

Christian Church Cemetery
SE 10-49-21-W4

Names of Those Interred	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Selma Kristina Pearson	1879	
Julia Edvall	1879	1910
Thor Carlson		1916
Brita Ericha Forsberg	1852	1915
Mrs. Eva Lindberg		1918
Baby Evan Niel Lindberg		1918
Vivian Sikstorm	1894	1918
Elsa Cox (body disinterred in 1925 and re-interred in Daysland)		1919
Hugo Sikstorm	1889	1919
	February,	Dec.,
Karl Vedeane Hanson	1921	1921
Sven Peter Forsberg	1844	1922
Ole Arrison	1846	1922
	February,	March,
Irvin Allen Carlson	1925	1925
Johanna Josephine Sikstrom	1856	1932
Roy Osgard (Infant)		1927
Lenora Osgard	1922	1927
Peter Olaf Hanson	1879	1931
Marvin Movald	1932	1933
E. P. Nordin	1877	1935
Vendla Grahm	1864	1938
Nils S. Lindberg		1940
Baby Grahm	1947	1947
Daniel Elias Pearson	1884	1948
John Grahm	1849	1948
Sigrig Nordin	1881	1953
Karen Eliason	1916	1965
Hilda Hanson	1884	1967
Anton Pearson	1878	1970
Sven Eliason	1905	1972
Theodora Pearson	1889	1972
Ehart Gronlund	1893	1972
J. Oscar Grahm	1912	1973
Edith Alida Grahm	1910	1973
Oscar W. Grahm	1895	1976
R. William Perrson	1900	1976
Everet Pearson	1901	1976
Willard Webster	1928	1979
Dorothy Grahm	1937	1979

Harvey Sundstrom	1928	1980
Mary Sjölie	1905	1981

There are a number of unmarked graves of infants interred in this cemetery.

Hay Lakes English Mission Service 1921-1925

Prior to the establishment of St. Lukes Church in the Village of Hay Lakes, an English Mission service was started by Reverend William Scheel. Rev. Scheel had been serving in the Moravian Mission field in Bethal, Alaska, for a number of years. He and his family came to Canada in the fall of 1920, to serve the New Sarepta Moravian congregation. The Scheels, with their two children, had hardly settled into their new living quarters when the New Sarepta hamlet lost its only store in a fire. Like most residents of the area, the William Scheels had to make their weekly shopping trips to Hay Lakes in order to buy their necessities.

After visiting a number of families in the hamlet, William Scheel recognized the need for an English worship service for the business people of that area. All the churches in the surrounding area conducted their services in their own ethnic language. The Anglican church that once served that area had been moved from Halley, to Bitter Lake by this time. The Hay Lake village school was made available, and Rev. Scheel conducted his first service there on March 13, 1921. For a period of three and a half months, the facilities in the school house had no organ or pulpit supplies.

While there was no congregation organized, no trustees or elders were elected to work with this project. In order to start a fund-raising drive, Reverend Scheel called a meeting on April 17, 1921 for the purpose of electing a secretary-treasurer to handle these funds. Mr. Paul Werner who was employed in the Larson Store was elected to this position. A meeting was held in Joe Gosnell's home on May 25th for the purpose of arranging a fund-raising drive. Arrangements were made for holding a bazaar on June 25, 1921. At this bazaar, they raised the sum of \$98.00. After deducting \$4.00 for their expenses they invested \$94.00 for a church organ to be placed in the school. A Sunday School program was organized on October 14, 1921. The class instructions were provided by Mrs. Scheel and Mrs. Gosnell.

The William Scheel's maintained the regular Sunday morning service at the Moravian church and travelled by horse to Hay Lakes for the Sunday afternoon service. Frequently, they would invite Adolph Jeck to stay for Sunday dinner and get a lift in his Model T Ford to Hay Lakes. The attendance at Hay

Lakes would average around twenty-five. This would exclude the Sunday School attendance, which usually outnumbered the adults. William Scheel recalled that the women outnumbered the men in service attendance. He attributed this to the Sunday afternoon sports, which conflicted with his service schedule.

However, on special occasions he would have a full-house attendance in the school. One of those events is recorded in his diary, when they held a rally-day program on October 21, 1923. The attendance recorded was over sixty-five people. However, the best attendance recorded in his diary, was the outdoor service and picnic held at Miquelon Lake on August 20, 1924.

During the four years of ministry at Hay Lakes, Rev. Scheel had four baptisms and three funerals. The children he baptized were Leonard Allen, son of Fred and Ida Sikstrom; and Ralph, Beatrice and Eveline Gamon, the children of James Gamon who was the Royal Bank manager at Hay Lakes. The funeral services which he held were for Mrs. Charlie Miller, Mrs. Thomas Olson and Mrs. Blakely.



William and Bertha Scheel 1916.

Rev. Scheel maintained a very busy schedule during his four years of mission work in this area. Besides making regular family visits with the families of both parishes, William Scheel provided the dental care for most of the families in the area. He would also care for the sick by prescribing medicine and doing minor surgery. William Scheel acquired these skills in his training for the foreign mission field. Not all the families could afford to pay for his services. However, no one was neglected in times of need. Many families brought them farm produce whenever they could spare them from their table use, to repay the Scheels for the needed service.

The Scheels also kept a horse and a cow, along with a small flock of chickens to provide them with food necessities. While he had no land to provide the feed for his animals, William Scheel would take time off from his busy schedule to help farmers in the harvest field. This would earn him enough feed to sustain his animals over the winter. The fall of 1921

proved to be an exception, when the families of his congregation lost their crops in a devastating hail storm. There was no feed to spare on their farms. However, the Scheels plight was relieved when Mr. Charlie Miller and his sons, Fred and Joe came to visit them. They offered them all the straw they required for tiding them over the winter. In a recent correspondence with William Scheel, who is now ninety-two years old, he summed up his four years of mission work at Hay Lakes and New Sarepta in these words, "The pay was small, but the Lord blessed us in many ways."

William Scheel concluded his ministry at Hay Lakes on December 31, 1924, at which time the family moved to Dundurn, Saskatchewan. The English Mission services continued at Hay Lakes following the Scheel's departure. As of January 1925, the families at Hay Lakes shared a pastor with the St. Stephens Lutheran congregation. The services were conducted by Pastor Goos.



David Busenius celebrating his 90th birthday at Senior Citizen's Center with other birthday ladies, L to R: Vi Tober, Winnie Hillman, Bertha Sonnenberg, Mona Gordon, 1980.



Hay Lakes Boy Scout Troup 1976-77. L to R: Front row: Richard Schultz, Laurel Kreamer, Carol Hein, Jennifer Munro, Todd Adamson. Second row: David Leicht, Darren Maruschak, Lance Holdsworth, Darren Kreamer, Shelly Reddick, Kevin Tritten, Ralph Lumpe. Back row: Bruce Mallas, Wally Schultz – Asst. Scout Leader, Jean Kreamer – Asst. Scout Leader, Walter Busenius – Scoutmaster, Dave Screen, Ken Metzker.



Hay Lakes Creamery 1938. Jerry Zazulak and Mauritz Aspell.

Businesses

Business and Social Life in Hay Lakes Sixty Years Ago

On May 30, 1981, Mr. G. L. Davies, former teacher here, came to the Public Library to record the following report for us. Present at this meeting were former students, Gwen (Lily) Pithouse Muir whom he had not seen for fifty years, Edmund Fisher, Bertha (Grue) Stavne, as well as Alpha McLean, Raymond Stavne and Pat Rost.

Mr. Davies was born on January 20, 1900 in Strathcona, North West Territories and his wife Hazel was born February 5, 1905 on a farm near Ponoka, North West Territories. They celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary in September, 1980.

Now back in 1921, the village of Hay Lakes had most of the essential services that were needed at that time. Let me list the businesses that I remember. Larsen's big General Store had groceries, dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes and a fairly complete hardware department. Ed Bloom and his father had a General Store west of Larsen's and a third store was operated by Mr. Davis and his family. It was located

southeast of the Post Office. A well-stocked butcher shop was located near the hotel and building supplies were carried by a branch of the Manning Sutherland Lumber Company, managed by Joe Gosnell. A very efficient blacksmith and machine shop was owned by Mr. F. Henschell. He was a real craftsman and possessed an inventive mind. In fact every time I went to his home he pulled out some drawings showing what he was inventing.

The Hay Lakes Cafe was owned by Mah Hong and his partner, Charlie the Cook. Nine men had rented rooms above the Cafe and they all ate their meals there served in the Cafe. The total cost per person for room and board was \$38.00 a month. At Christmas time, Mah Hong gave each of his boarders a present, something unusual from China. I assure you that we were well taken care of by Mah Hong.

Cox's Cafe and boarding house, owned by Bud and Ida Cox, was in operation when I arrived in Hay Lakes. More about this later.

The Canadian National Railroad station had a full-time telegraph operator and station master. His

name was Mr. Pfrimmer, who lived in the station house with his wife and daughter, Grace.

Nearly every small town and village had a barber shop and pool room. This was a meeting place for farmers when they came to town. Mr. Larplass was the barber and proprietor of the pool room. He not only gave you a good hair cut, he also supplied you with the latest news and gossip at no extra charge.

Every town needs a Post Office to distribute mail, issue money orders and send parcels. James Gammon was the postmaster, assisted by Olga Schmidt who also acted as a telephone operator for long distance calls.



Teacher George Davies and bank manager Tommy Buckam out hunting — 1921.

Believe it or not, Hay Lakes had a bank in 1921. It was a branch of the Royal Bank with Tommy Buckham, the manager. James Robinson was the accountant and Allan Leden was the bank clerk. It was a great convenience to have a bank in Hay Lakes. Unfortunately the bank's days were numbered as one Monday morning December, 1921 the bank building caught fire and burned to the ground. The vault, which had fallen into the basement when the floor caved in, could not be opened for several days because it was too hot to handle. After the fire the bank closed out this branch and all the accounts were transferred to the Camrose branch. This was a great loss to the Hay Lakes business men.

Oscar Grahn had a garage business and he sup-

plied fuel for the cars and farm machinery. He also repaired cars and tractors and this was a service needed by the farmers.

Even in 1921 there were a few cars, mostly Fords, to be seen. I remember the Miller brothers who played ball with us on our team; there was Fred, Ed, and Joe, the youngest one. They had two cars at that time, I think one of them was a Buick. They used to transport some of the ball players when we played in neighboring towns.

In the early 1920's a Mr. Anton Pearson, a successful farmer, built a two-storey hotel not far from the station. He became the first proprietor and was assisted by his wife, who was quite a good cook, and his teenage daughter, Mary. The hotel had quite a large dining room and we often held our Community Club meetings there each month.

I must not forget the two or three grain elevators that served Hay Lakes and district. I remember two of the operators being Fred Hustad and Thor Grahn.

This ends my little summary of the businesses as I remember them. Now, the Fire at Cox's Boarding House —

I remember the day in the fall of 1921 when it happened. I had just finished supper in the Café and had gone to Larsen's store. I sometimes worked in the evenings at the store posting accounts from the bill books where all purchased items were recorded. I was sitting and adding the bills and it was just starting to get dark when Ole Nelson came through the front door of the store. He walked past all the people in the store and straight down to me at the back. He said, "Mr. Davies, I was just coming past Cox's boarding house and I looked in the kitchen window, the wall and the chimney is all on fire and there's nobody in there, no sound and nobody there".

So I said, "Run across the street to Mr. Larplass in the pool room and he'll get out the bucket brigade, the men in the pool hall". So away went Ole, and I ran down to Cox's to see how advanced the fire was. I could see it had taken a good hold and we weren't going to do too much with it. But there was the hall next door that had just been built and never been painted as there had not been time. We figured with it being so close that the fire could jump over and it could go also, so we started to carry things out. The fire was already through the roof of the boarding house. We carried out a piano or organ and some other furniture, there wasn't too much. The fire progressed and the bucket brigade did their best work, some of them climbing up on the roof of the Post Office. This roof didn't have too much of a slope and the cinders and flames fell on it. They kept that Post Office roof soaking wet. In fact Mr. Larsen was thinking of soaking the roof of his store but there was

a roadway in between. There was a terrific heat and the fire gave off such a bright glow that farmers from miles around came in to see what was burning. They saved the Post Office because there was a vacant lot between it and the boarding house but the hall and Cox's boarding house burned.

If there had been a wind blowing the fire would have jumped, taking all the buildings to the end of the block, the Post Office, Larsen's, Bloom's, the meat market and the hotel. I don't recall much wind so that's what saved them and together with the fact that Ole Nelson happened to look through the window. The well was right across the street and Mr. Larsen always had hundreds of pails in the store. The men formed a bucket brigade, man to man, passing pails of water. That taught us the need of having a good supply of water. There were several fires in Hay Lakes while I was there.

Drainage:—

Now, did you know that in the period 1921-'22 that nine small lakes or sloughs in the Hay Lakes area vanished? It appears that some farmers wanted to drain the lakes and thus increase the area of their hay meadows because hay was a very good cash crop for them. I remember Joe Kreamer, who was secretary of the school board at the time, telling me that he made \$10,000.00 profit from his hay crops in the preceding three years. That would be much more at today's prices. He had a baler as most of his hay was shipped out and sold to Southern Alberta.

Back to the draining of those nine lakes. This task was done by a Scottish engineer and his helpers under the supervision of the Government. They rented the two front rooms on the second floor of the hotel, one for sleeping and one for his office. The engineer's name was Mr. Forbes and I used to watch him at work in his office, drawing plans for the location of the ditches they'd have to dig and how deep they would have to make them in order to drain the water from the nine sloughs. I talked to him several times as I now boarded in the hotel. He told me that it took him nine years to get his Engineering Degree in Scotland, part of which time had been spent as an apprentice. He had also worked in the Canadian Rocky Mountains where a tunnel was being cut under a mountain. So he had a great deal of experience in engineering before he came here.

I often wondered if it was a good idea to drain these lakes. One thing I learned was that duck hunters who visited Hay Lakes every fall were very disappointed to find that several of their favorite lakes had vanished.

First airplane landing: —

The first airplane that ever landed in Hay Lakes landed on Joe Kreamer's hay meadow. We were in



This plane landed in Kreamer's hay meadow in 1922. Pilot Mr. McCall and teacher George Davies.

school and we heard a noise. The airplane didn't seem to be very high up and we went to the windows and saw it going down. Everyone thought it had crashed. It was just around noon and I went back to the hotel for lunch and wandered out to see what had happened to the plane. It had landed in the meadow and by luck it was a friend of mine, Jack Neilson from Bon Accord, and a pilot.

The school board, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Kreamer and Mr. Henkelman called a hasty meeting out there in the hay meadow, because all the town had flocked to see what this contraption was. They decided right then and there that they might as well call a holiday for the afternoon.

The plane then took up passengers. The first paying passengers were Johnny Holmberg and his dad Charles. The plane being only a two seater, Johnny sat on his dad's knee. You got a short ride for \$5.00 around Hay Lakes and for \$10.00 there was the deluxe tour. Many others followed suit.

Social Life: —

Now a little bit about the Social Life and the Culture, as such, in Hay Lakes. To begin with, in the early 1920's there were no radios, no televisions, no paved roads, no movie theaters, no public libraries, no running water and no sewage system in the Village of Hay Lakes. The plumbing was all outside.

Just what did the people of the Village do with their spare time, especially during the long winter months? I had come from a city home and was used to some of these conveniences. Now I had to get used to using a coal oil lamp in Mah Hong's to do my studying. Strange to say, I soon got used to these changes in my life and can't remember suffering any great inconveniences.

In those days people did a lot of visiting with friends and neighbors. I think people were more friendly and generous than they are today. We

organized a Community Club to meet each Wednesday in the Hotel during the winter to play cards, (whist, rummy) chess and other games. We often danced for an hour or so, all free, the music was supplied by Miss Bergan, the music teacher from Wetaskiwin, who played the piano, and Oscar Stable (who worked in Larsen's store) played the violin. I, the school teacher, played the saxophone in a manner of speaking. I had bought the saxophone from the factory in Indiana and took lessons by correspondence while I was here. I had never played the sax before and I used to practise in the schoolhouse after everyone had got at least a half a mile away. The ladies usually supplied coffee and lunch when the party had ended.

Sometimes students from the school would supply part of the entertainment, on the stage, for these club meetings. They would recite poems or act out plays. Sometimes music was the theme and duets were the popular thing; instrumental music was still in its infancy in Hay Lakes.

Of course there were some barn dances and dances in the Community Hall were well attended. In those days the music consisted mainly of a piano or organ, and a violin, but sometimes a horn, banjo, or an accordion gave a variety to the music.

Christmas parties were staged in most schools and the pupils in each grade put on an act, it could be the Three Little Pigs acted out by Grade two students, or pyramid building, acrobatics or tricks by the senior boys. Christmas songs and stories were always heard. Of course, the star performer was Old Santa Claus with his bag of goodies for "kids" big and small.

Family parties or games were interesting, such as a spelling bee or a geography contest with prizes for the winners, and of course some unusual games such as "post office" provided a lot of fun. Sleigh rides and skating parties on lakes or sloughs always attracted a good crowd. Then in the spring and summer we had the outdoor sports, baseball, soccer, sports meets with races that included such races as the three-legged, sack, potato and obstacle race. Basketball was also played outdoors at the school. When I came to Hay Lakes they didn't have a tennis court, they didn't even know too much about the game. I got help from an interested fan and we built a court on the property south and across the street from the Post Office. One of the most enthusiastic tennis players was Mr. W. T. Roper who lived in the Bittern Lake area.

Summer was a time for picnics and fishing trips and we often went to Joseph Lake for a picnic. The lake was a bird sanctuary and you could see ducks, Canada geese, pelicans and cranes. In those days we

didn't have a gallon vacuum container for our coffee, instead we built a fire and boiled our water in a large kettle or pot and we brewed the very best coffee you have ever tasted. Of course all the lunch was home-made, no junk foods, just delicious tasting home-made bread, pies, cakes, and so on. For drinks, real lemonade was the tops. Those were the days, my friends!

Many towns and villages had an agriculture fair each year. With livestock parades, grain exhibits, handicraft exhibits, preserves and home baking, there was something of interest for everyone. Hay Lakes often featured baseball tournaments with prizes for the winning teams. Of course many side shows followed these country fairs. They would even try to sell you some magic snake oil!

Excitement at the Hay Lake Cafe: —

We had a very good baseball team here in 1922, in fact we even beat the senior baseball team in Edmonton once. We had a good ball diamond out by the school; it was as level as a table. It was dragged with a steel guard rail and cut down so there were no humps or bumps. You could be sure that the ball would bounce true. We played or practised almost every night during good weather. Then we would go to the Cafe for a cup of coffee or a light snack and a chance to join in the many interesting conversations. But one night a couple of men in their early twenties got into a heated argument that could only be settled by a fight. The two hot tempered fellows marched outside followed of course by a big group of onlookers.

The fight began in the center of Main Street just opposite the Cafe. The air was cool and as blows landed on the face of an opponent, large swellings soon appeared, bumps. The fight progressed with both fellows landing some heavy blows. The unwritten rules of fighting were adhered to in those days. If an opponent was tripped or knocked down he could not be touched until he got up ready for action. You could not kick a man or knee him at all and if he fell or you knocked him down you'd have to go and wait. There were no clubs or knives, not even your best friend could punch the other guy in the back of the head when he wasn't looking. If they did any of those things they would be dealt with by the crowd who believed in fair play and got it. Well, suddenly one of the guys landed a haymaker, most of them missed but this one landed right on the nose of the other fellow and of course his nose began to bleed profusely. Blood ran down his face and it wasn't very long until blood appeared on both fighters. Just at this stage of the fight, big Ed Peterson who was over six feet tall and was our local dray man, had been enjoying the fight up until this point. But when this nose bleeding

started, big Ed turned green and made a hasty retreat to the back of the Cafe. About that time the fighters seemed to quit by mutual consent, no one lost or won the fight, and all I learned was that the sight of blood had a very bad effect on big Ed Peterson.

Crows' feet and gopher tails: —

One thing that was in style those days was a campaign sponsored mainly by Mr. Bailey who owned the Bailey Theatre in Camrose. It was a campaign to encourage people to kill crows and gophers. Now, if you killed a gopher you cut the tail off of it

and if you killed a crow you took the two feet. You could bring those to Camrose and collect money for them, so much for a pair of crow's feet or a gopher's tail. Children in the area could go to Camrose and take along feet or tails, I don't remember how many, but that would be their admission to the afternoon theatre shows on Saturdays.

We formed a little Gun Club here at Hay Lakes, as there were gun clubs in all the districts. We started a competition to see who could get the most crow feet and gopher tails. Mr. Larsen let me borrow one of the



The Village of Hay Lakes. The numbers indicate lot locations. In reading the following stories reference is made to these numbers in bold type and this allows you to locate the business sites.

guns from his store as long as I bought my own shells. He had a whole rack of shotguns. Some of us fellows would get together and go out in the evenings to look for crows. We would drive till we found a bluff of poplars where the crows were nesting for the night. Then we would sit on the side of the road and drink coffee or smoke and gabb waiting for it to get dark. Then we would go under the trees with a flashlight beamed up and shoot because we didn't want to waste our shells. The crows wouldn't fly away at night and we got over three thousand points that year. I can't remember how they scored the points.

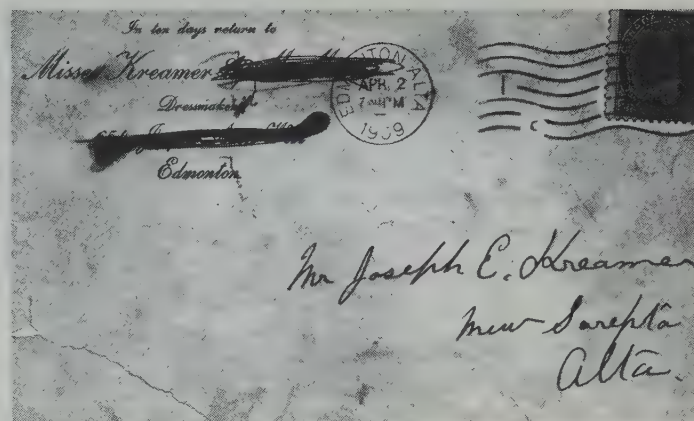
Post Office

The first recorded settler of this area was Mr. Charles Chettelburgh in 1894. He lived on the north edge of the present Village and his nearest Post Office and source of supplies was South Edmonton, some thirty-five miles away. Later, in 1899, the first Bittern Lake Post Office and store was opened by Ernest Roper. It was located on the east side of the lake on SW16-47-21-W4, which was a little more than half the distance to Edmonton.

By 1905 there were several settlers in the area and there was now the beginning of a community which needed a post office. After a petition had been obtained by Mr. Poulett Elliot for a local post office, it



Jennifer Harke in front of the first New Sarepta Post Office building. Now converted to a cow barn.



Letter mailed in 1909 before establishment of Hay Lakes Post Office.



H. G. Pithouse home used for a Post Office from August to December, 1913.

was named New Sarepta, North West Territories. Sarepta was a Biblical name chosen by Rev. Hoyler.

The Post Office was located in the Elliot home on S.E. 18-49-21-W4 with Mrs. Elliot in charge of postal duties. Martin Thompson, of the Sulitjelma district, contracted to pick up mail at Ernest Roper's Bittern Lake Post Office (renamed Halley in 1910) and deliver it to New Sarepta beginning June 1, 1905. Delivery was once a week until 1909, when twice-weekly service began. The distance travelled was fifteen miles. The pay was \$104.00 per year for once-a-week service. Thompson continued until August 15, 1913 and during these eight years he never missed a day of delivery with his faithful buckskin horses. The work was then contracted by Rev. R. Reimer who continued until mail was delivered by the Railway Mail Service.

On August 15, 1913, the Post Office was relocated to SE 6-49-21-W4 into the Pithouse home and thus became known as Hay Lake Post Office. Mrs. Pithouse helped with the postal duties and when the Pithouse-Broen store was completed, the post office

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA

STAFF BRANCH

Ottawa, 16 October 1919

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that, as advised in the circular letter of the 20th February, 1917, your salary and rent allowance for the year ended 31st March, 1919, are being based on the revenue arising from correspondence posted at your office during that year, which amounted to \$ 691.48. That amount of revenue entitles you to \$ 346.

for salary and \$ 38. for rent under the scale of payment as set forth in the circular letter of the 20th July, 1918. The arrears will be included in your next salary warrant. You will continue to be paid at the rates above mentioned until the end of the current fiscal year, when your salary and rent allowance will again be revised on the basis of this year's revenue.

Your other allowances until further revision, are as follows:—

Night allowance, \$

Forward allowance, \$

Your salary warrants will be made out accordingly.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. M. NORTHROP,
Superintendent.

The Postmaster

at

Hay Lakes

Post Office contract 1919.

was moved to this building which at that time was referred to as Lot 4, Block 4, SE 6-49-21-W4.

18 — In August, 1914, the postmasters at Hay Lake and New Sarepta received notice from the Superintendent of Railway Mail Service that arrangements would be made to serve their respective offices by Camrose-Strathcona Canadian National Railroad as soon as the line would be in operation.

9-11 — After the Pithouse-Broen store closed, the Post Office was located in the rear part of Larsen's store from February, 1920 to July, 1920. Mr. James Gammon got the tender as postmaster and moved east across the street to the Edmonton City Dairy building. Mr. Gammon with his wife, the former Annie Buckle, had moved here from the Rosalind area with their children, Mary, Rolf, Beatrice, and Evelyn, and occupied living quarters at the rear of the Post Office building. A telephone switchboard was added at this time with Frona Davidson from Gwynne being the first operator. Later Edith Lovseth worked in the Post Office.

In 1922 and 1923 Olga Schmidt helped with the postal duties and switchboard earning \$22.00 a

month. It was during this time that there was a robbery in the Post Office. Olga, being seventeen years old at the time, recalls being very upset and nervous from all the police investigation. A tender was issued for a new postmaster, but in the interim, Olga, being too young to take over official duties, was bonded by two local businessmen, Mr. J. Gosnell and Mr. L. Pfrimmer. She then carried on the postal duties until December, 1923.

At this time Mr. H. C. Cooke, who had a Drug Store in Millet, received the tender to operate the Post Office. He remodelled the building and added a Drug Store which was another step in the history of our town. James Carberry, a druggist, came to manage the Post Office and Drug Store. Mary Collingwood, now Mrs. Gibb Moen, was the telephone operator and assisted with the postal duties.

1 — In 1925, this building burned and the Post Office was then operated out of Pearson's Hotel for a few months. In May, 1925, the Post Office was relocated in the new Drug Store building.

10 — Jim Carberry was postmaster until February, 1930 when Maude Johnson, who had been working in the Post Office, became the new postmistress. Both Helen and Alpha Welda worked on the switchboard and helped with postal duties.

6 — In 1931, tenders were issued for a new postmaster and Norm Ogilvie said he would erect a new building closer to the Canadian National Railroad station and he became Postmaster on June 29, 1931. The switchboard was also relocated to this new building with Mrs. Lil Ogilvie helping with postal duties and with the operation of the switchboard. The telephone switchboard was operated until 1952 when a new automatic exchange was installed in the Village by Alberta Government Telephones.

Norm would make a twice-daily trip to the Canadian National Railroad station to despatch and receive the mail. During the busy season he often used a two-wheeled cart to carry the mailbags, which sometimes would number as many as fourteen.

In 1954, Norm installed new mailboxes, the key style type which replaced the old dial-operated ones. He retired in 1965 after being the postmaster for thirty-four years.

45 — Carl Nordin became the new postmaster and operated the Post Office from this building until December, 1965, when a new building, erected by Carl, was completed. The equipment was then moved to the new Post Office directly south across Main Street. The old mailboxes were used until the Government replaced them about a year later.

Carl, with the help of his wife, Martha, carried out the postal duties until November, 1980, when he retired. During these fifteen years the price of a first

class letter had more than tripled, from five cents to seventeen. New Money Order imprinters were introduced as well as new scales for the metric system.

The postal duties were then assumed by Faye Leicht.



Hay Lakes Post Office built in 1966.

Larsen & Maland Store

The first lot of the proposed village site NE 6-49-21-W4 of Little Hay Lake was bought by Lauritz Larsen and Lars Maland in 1911. They had operated a store on NW 6-49-21-W4 west of the proposed site. With the prospect of the building of a railroad they decided to build a new and larger store near the railway. In April 1911 a sleigh load of doors and windows were hauled to the site and a load of oats was hauled in May.



Larsen's General Store, taken before the addition of the hardware in the early 1920's.

The building site was prepared and the basement dug by William Grahn. Local farmers were hired to haul the lumber for the first store. The lumber was bought from a mill west of New Sarepta and all was delivered before any building commenced. Two local men tell stories of their involvement as youths. Henry Zucht recalls helping his father unload the lumber and also shooting muskrats near the proposed

building site. Chris Lachman recalls travelling to the mill, loading his sleigh, six feet high with lumber, and being invited by the Scotch mill owner to have a little "warmer-upper" before the long trip back. This drink consisted of one egg, two kinds of liquor, some sugar, and water mixed in a small bucket. This drink kept him warm all the way home. Reports state that the lumber was hauled for the price of a keg of beer. The door and window frames were made by Karl Sikstrom and Mr. Larsen and Mr. Maland did the rest of the building. It was a large frame building with a partial basement and large living quarters situated over the store.

The first merchandise to stock the store was brought from Camrose. It is said that it took fourteen hours to transport the goods as the wagon got stuck in deep mud holes five times. Each time, the men had to unload the wagon of all the supplies, and reload it again, once the oxen had cleared the wagon from the mire.

The store opened in September 1911 and the following add appeared in the Camrose Canadian:

The main source of trade was the barter system. The farmer would bring produce such as eggs, butter and furs to the store to receive supplies in return. The eggs were usually brought in pails of grain so they wouldn't get broken in the wagon box during delivery or freeze in the winter.

One young clerk had an unhappy experience. After unpacking the pails of eggs into large thirty dozen crates she proceeded to lift the case when the bottom went out with eggs spattering all over the floor and onto the pails of grain. What a mess it was!

The store goods were mostly bought in bulk coming in large wooden barrels or burlap sacks. The clerks were required to weigh and bag certain commodities in advance but most were bagged when purchased. There was a large barrel of hard candy and these were of prime interest to any child privileged to visit the store. More often than not the store-keeper would send home a bag of candies for the children along with the groceries.

Each customer had his own charge book to record business transactions but with the event of the first World War business was put on a strictly cash basis. The charge books reappeared later and are still used on a small basis.

In the spring of 1915 Mr. Maland left the store and moved to Camrose. He later farmed in the Lundamo area and was also active in school affairs. It was said that Mr. Larsen shipped two box cars of potatoes to Calgary and with the proceeds purchased Mr. Maland's share of the partnership.

Mr. Larsen was very industrious and kept the store open from early morning until midnight. In



Larsen's General Store with addition. L. to R.: Dave Cohen, Reg Berry, Hymie Cohen, Rudolph Nordin, Ed Fisher, Walt Smith. Leo Thompson at corner.



Interior of Larsen's Store showing hardware section. Taken in 1932 with Walter Scramstead and Jim Tomlinson.



Interior of Larsen's Store showing grocery section — 1932. Walter Scramstead, Alpha Welda and Jim Tomlinson.

April 1915 the interior of the store was remodelled and a number of new showcases with plate glass fronts were installed. In 1917 an addition was built to the store by Charles Holmberg and a hardware section added. Another improvement was made in August 1918 when a pipeless furnace was installed to serve the store and living quarters.

The store was managed by Mr. Larsen until 1929 when he moved to Edmonton and was the Co-founder and Managing Director of Merco Wholesale Ltd. Mr. Larsen also branched out and started a chain of Nu Way stores in such places as Camrose, Irma, Rimbey, Viking, New Norway, Castor, Holden, and Westlock. Several employees of the Hay Lakes store were sent to manage these stores and later some became owners.

Some of the employees of these years were: Bookkeepers: Geo Davis, Ethel Nelson, and Florence Talbot. Clerks: Edith Lovseth, Olga Schmidt, Reidar Vold, Selvig Lund, T. A. Liden, Reidun Feragen, Harry Bradbury, Albin Lindahl, Marie Miller, Jim Mercer, Alpha Welda, Alma Riske, Ed Pawloske, Paul Werner, L. Lund, Ed Fisher, Albert

and Art Schmidt, Ed Nelson, Ted Lorraine, Vince Carberry, Emil Mittelstadt, Gus Henkelman, Herbert and Vernon Erickson, Petra Kringen, Harold Hayworth, Dick Olson, R. Diewert, Martha Walbaum. Hardware clerks: Lars Maland, Oscar Stabo, Lawrence Dumont, Walter Scramstead, Siguard Johnson, Selmer Likness, Asbjarn Lee, Jim Tomlinson, J. W. Morrison, and Nick Miller.

A few incidents recalled from the 1920's were: Big stalks of bananas were hung from the ceiling and cut off with a curved banana knife. One winter day a clerk left her work shoes in the back of the store. In the morning she discovered a huge banana spider inside her shoe which had fallen from the stalk and wandered into the shoe. After the noise and excitement subsided the spider was put on display in a big jar. It soon passed on.

Coffee beans were received in heavy gunny sacks. In one particular case, clerks were asked to grind and weigh up a quantity for the day's business. Two different size bags were provided, one for twenty-five cents and the other for thirty-five cents. However, the customers complained that the twenty-

five cent bags didn't go with their water. Strange, since the coffee all came from the same sack.

In the early 1930's the store was sold to Mr. Dave Cohen whose son Hyman helped run the business. The Cohen family occupied the living quarters above the store. They had two more sons: Dr. Elliot Cohen Corday who became a renowned heart specialist in New York and Ted who was a lawyer and also very active in the performing arts in Edmonton. It was during the time that Cohens owned the store that the hardware section addition was torn off and the lot sold to Beaver Lumber.

In 1938 the Cohen family opened another store in Camrose known as "Elliot's Clothing and Dry Goods". Mr. and Mrs. Cohen are now deceased and Hymie lives in Vancouver under the name of Hyman Corday.

Some of their employees, besides members of the family were: Walt Schmidt, Rudolph Nordin, Ed Fisher, Reg Berry, Selmar Likness.

The store was sold to Mr. D. F. Hughes in the early 1940's who moved onto it from the smaller store he owned just west down the street. It was during this time that the remaining hardware stock was sold to Reins Mittelstadt who had started a hardware store. Mr. Hughes had the store for only a couple of years when he suffered a heart attack and retired to Edmonton. Some of his employees had been: Vern Nordin, Olga Schultz, Ann Brandt, Alpha Welda, and Ed Fisher.

In 1944 Adolph Mittelstadt bought the store and operated it for a couple of years. He had previously been operating a grocery store in the former Pithouse Broen building. Adolph maintained the store as a grocery, dry goods, clothing, veterinary supply and also a small amount of drug supplies.

Some of his employees were: Henry Schaffrick, Ed Fisher, Irene Sych, Ella Lechelt, Fred Wesenberg, Annie Tober, Gertie Grams, Polly Busenius.

In 1946 he sold the store to Joe Tober and Art Mittelstadt but Art, after only two years, sold his share to Ed Fisher. Joe and Ed managed the store and in 1950 bought Joe's share and became sole owner. This was a proud accomplishment for Ed as he had begun his career in the store business at an early age of fifteen when he began filling shelves in the Chris Hein store and later became a clerk. At nineteen years of age he started working for L. Larsen and had worked in the same store for thirty-five years, when he was forced to sell the store in 1968 after suffering a heart attack.

Some of the clerks at this time were: Olga Tober, Viola Fisher, Alice Gruntman, Faith Sware, Sandy Wegner, Pauline Vereschagin, Nelda Molden, Emily Rost.

The store was bought by Elmer Grams who operated it for a year. His clerks were Sherry Leicht, Gertie These and Patsy Rost.

In 1969 William Yoner bought the store and operated it for one year. During this time he was busy in building a new store on the former Locker Plant site, and in 1970 all merchandise was transferred to the new store.

So in 1970 a page in the history of Little Hay Lake closed when the doors were locked and the windows boarded over, on this, the first building erected. In 1980 the building was torn down.

The new store was a large building with living quarters above the back. A meat cutting and cooler system were installed with groceries and a small selection of notions. The store was operated as a family project with the help of Marilyn Lechelt, Gertie These, Sherry Leicht and Lil Grams.

In 1972 the store was sold to the Ron Hnatiu family who operated it for a few short months. In January, 1973 the store was bought by Otto (Jake) Mittelstadt. He continues to operate it as a grocery with cold meats and does some cooling and meat cutting. Employees of the store include: Gertie These, Lil Grams, Marge Metzker and Emily Anderson.



Hay Lakes Big M with Otto Mittelstadt owner.

The History of the Local Railway Service by Otto Drebert

The railway service was a vital link in developing the early settlements on the Western Prairies. This was evident when the Canadian Pacific Railway built

The New Store

of

LARSEN & MALAND, at

Little Hay Lake

is now opened for business.

A complete line of Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots and Shoes and Hardware will be carried. The goods are all new, first-class, and prices right.

For more bread and better bread get a sack of our Purity Flour

Our Stock of HARVEST TOOLS is complete.

Bring your Produce to us; we pay the highest market prices.

LARSEN & MALAND, Little Hay Lake

41-42

the first transcontinental line before the turn of the century. Immigrants came westward by the train loads in search of free homestead land. Only a small percentage of these new settlers enjoyed the convenience of being served by the railroad. The majority of those settlers had to trek far into the wilderness to open up their new settlements. The old Indian trails and the fur trade routes were the only travel routes they had to rely on. Most of those settlers endured the hardships of carrying their supplies on foot or by ox cart for distances of sixty miles before the railway relieved those burdens for the settlers.

The development of the railway system began around 1905 when Alberta became a province by statute. In fact Premier Rutherford gave the development of the province's railway system top priority

when he formed his government. Three railway companies became involved in the development of the railways. These were namely the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern Railways. Their first priorities were to link the western provinces with a rail system to Winnipeg. However, this railway system left many outlying settlements remote from the railway service. In order to provide rail service to these settlements the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern Railway had developed a North and Southbound railway system between Calgary and Edmonton by 1910.

The prospects for a railway through the Hay Lakes area looked promising since both railways entered the town of Camrose. A preliminary survey was carried out by both railway companies in this area since it appeared to be the direct route to Strathcona from this point. Meanwhile the Canadian Pacific Railway made a preliminary survey in the same area around 1909. This was to be a cut-off line from Sedgewick to Ellerslie which was to pass through Beaumont and follow along the south shore of Miquelon Lake. This railway line was to enter the hamlet of Round Hill making it the dream city of the future with its rich coal deposits. Primarily this proposed railway was to shorten the distance between Winnipeg and Edmonton and was to become the second transcontinental line to the Pacific over the Pine Pass.

A multi-rail service for the Hay Lakes area was anticipated by many of the early settlers at that time.



Building of the Canadian National Railway in 1912. Taken between Hay Lakes and New Sarepta. Horses and mules were used for grading the right of way.

However, those prospects were soon to diminish when the Grand Trunk Pacific decided on building a shorter route from Camrose to Tofield where the line was connected to their transcontinental line running from Edmonton to Winnipeg. Meanwhile the Canadian Northern also ignored the direct route via Hay Lakes when they extended their line from Camrose to Vegreville. This railway was to serve the rich coal fields at Round Hill and Dodds and connect with their transcontinental railway at Vegreville. Nothing developed on the Canadian Pacific Railroad cut-off line that was to become the second transcontinental line to the Pacific coast.

This turn of events delayed the railway service for the Hay Lakes and New Sarepta area for almost five years. However the Canadian Northern was soon to recognize that their bypass route to Vegreville was not competitive in providing railway service from Camrose to Edmonton. This resulted in building a cut-off route from Camrose to Strathcona by 1912. The completion of this railroad was delayed for another two years when the track laying crew was assigned to another project before they had finished the track laying from Camrose to Hay Lakes. However, the line was completed by the fall of 1914 and the line was extended from Camrose to Alliance.

Freight was being hauled over this line when it was completed but the passenger and express service did not commence until June of 1915. For a period of about fifteen years all the passenger service had its terminal point at the Strathcona Railway Station where Mr. Wallace served as the agent. A spurline was built to connect the Strathcona station to the Northside freight yards. This line followed the Mill Creek ravine and crossed over the Low Level Bridge. The spurline was mainly used for assembling freight cars and for running their steam locomotives to the Calder yards for maintenance.

During World War I the competition between the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern Railways was terminated. This resulted when both companies faced bankruptcy. Since the railway system was so vital to the nations economy the Dominion Government stepped in to take over the two railway systems. By amalgamating the two railway systems the Canadian National Railway became incorporated as a crown corporation. This development eventually resulted in some changes in the railway system that effected the local area. Canadian National Railroad was now able to use the trestle bridge at Beverly which was originally built by the Grand Trunk Pacific. In order to utilize this bridge for the Saskatchewan River crossing, the railway line from Camrose to Strathcona was rerouted. A new track was built from Bretona to the Beverly Bridge junction during the

summer of 1929. This change resulted in terminating the Strathcona railway depot and the tracks from Bretona to the depot were disassembled in the fall of 1929. The Canadian National property on the south side was later sold to the Prudham Building Supplies and the original station house is still being used as a warehouse.

During the early stages of this railway service there was a daily passenger and express train running from Calgary to Strathcona. This train had an inconvenient time-schedule for those who wanted to make a business trip to Edmonton. The train would arrive at Strathcona around 6:00 p.m. and depart early the following morning. A two-night stop-over was required for those who had some business to attend to in the city. All of the freight that was transported over this line was hauled by a mixed train that came from Alliance. This train consisted of a passenger coach and an express car besides handling all the freight that was transported over this line. The train had a semi-weekly schedule but their time schedules were usually uncertain. Their time of arrival depended on how many switch stops had to be made along the way. Often the conductor would spend an hour chatting with business people at the station while the brakeman was assembling and spotting freight cars on the track sidings. Meanwhile the passengers had to endure the patience of waiting in their seats.

Train schedules were speeded up after the Canadian National Railroad switched their train route to the Beverly crossing. Train arrival had to be on schedule when passengers were dispersed at the Northside depot. The tracks from Camrose to Edmonton also became the main line for distant freight hauls. Therefore the local trains were required to maintain a prompt schedule in order to handle the traffic.

For almost forty-five years the Canadian National Railroad maintained a vital service for the community of Hay Lakes by providing the service of a station agent. In fact Hay Lakes was the only station on the Camrose-Edmonton line that provided telegraph service and handled express consignments for the area. This service resulted from a petition that was sponsored by the businessmen in 1921. The Canadian National maintained the service of a stationmaster until 1964 when the railway Express service was replaced by the Highway Transport. The old station house still remains at the site and serves as a reminder of the bygone years.

When The Rail Service Came Through Hay Lakes

With the influx of settlers to the West the need for a railway became more pressing. The Honorable A.



C.N.R. Station in the 1930's.

L. Sifton, Premier of Alberta, made a tour to Eastern Canada to discuss with various railway concerns the urgent need to lay as much steel as quickly as possible. On his return, the Premier stated that six hundred miles of track would be laid. The difficulty was in procuring enough steel from Canadian mills, but a request was being made to the Federal Government to lower the duty on foreign steel.

The Government guaranteed railway securities from \$13,000 to \$20,000 per mile to the Railway companies. The line through Hay Lakes on the Edmonton-Camrose-Lethbridge route was contracted at \$13,000 per mile, and guaranteed for three hundred and fifty miles.

The village of Little Hay Lake, as it was called in

the first years, saw, as early as in March, 1910, a Canadian Northern Railway survey party pass through the village heading for Strathcona. They left a lot of stakes and markers in their path. The surveyors had been through four years earlier, but now this tangible evidence dispelled any doubts of the rumors that abounded regarding the coming of the steel.

The great meadows and rolling terrain of this great Battle River Drainage Basin gave rise to great optimism. The dream envisioned Hay Lake merging into the greatly expanding boundaries of Camrose and Edmonton.

The Canadian Northern Company had been corresponding with Mr. Pithouse about getting a town-site on his land.

When at last the grade was being laid for the steel, Hay Lake was booming. Spirits were rebounding. It seemed that this would be the most direct rail route between Calgary and Edmonton. The expectation was that it would be completed by the early fall. The village name was changed to Hay Lakes.

The importance the Canadian Northern attached to the completion of this route was shown by the preparations made to rush the steel on the grade. A large outfit was sent from Edmonton to establish headquarters at Hay Lakes. This was F. C. Swan's outfit which consisted of forty teams and sixty men.



C.N.R. train at Hay Lakes station. March 1930.

The day long to be remembered was November 16, 1913. The first passenger coach passed over the Edmonton cut-off. Only a year later The Postmaster at Hay Lakes received a notice from the Superintendent of Railways that mail service to the village was being implemented.

The Canadian National Railroad surveyed several additional blocks for the townsite and appointed a station master, who never appeared until later, just like the passenger service.

By November, 1914 the line was completed, but was used only for freight trains or for inspectional trips. No passenger service was available. Later a news item reported: "Oh joy! Another freight train went through to give the track a monthly cleaning."

By January 14, was the patience for the arrival of regular passenger service wearing thin? The following notice indicates that the public was resorting to facetiousness:

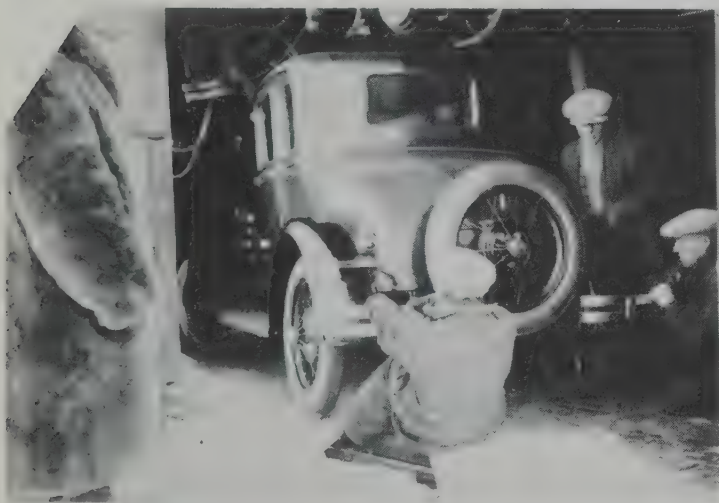
"Lost — strayed — or stolen!"

Services on the C.N.R.

Finder please report to

Mr. Larsen of Hay Lakes

for REWARD!



Unloading Model A Ford at Hay Lakes station. L. to R.: Mr. McTaggart, Mr. Forth pulling, Chris Lachman and Charlie Lechelt.

On February 10, their hopes seemed fruitful. A regularly equipped passenger train — the first on the Canadian National Railroad Strathcona extension passed through Hay Lakes.

In June a petition was circulated requesting a bi-weekly passenger service. The Canadian National Railroad announced a special one-day excursion to Edmonton — "using the first Pullman coaches this district has ever seen." Eighty people from the area made the trip on Wednesday, August 11, 1915.

It is probable that the townsmen playing at horse-shoes the following June, remarked that things were

picking up — for the Canadian National Railroad. Townsite inspector, Mr. C. B. Burd had done a half-day's business in the town and rumor had it that a daily passenger service was to be implemented.

While the townsmen and people of the district felt chafed at the slow progress of the passenger service, the problems of the Directors of the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific were incomparable. These two vying companies could not compromise in their problems and in spite of government support they collapsed under financial strain and were nationalized — the Canadian Northern in 1918 and the Grand Trunk Pacific in 1920.

By 1914 the station house was built. It was some time before efforts to secure a station agent were fruitful. In the meantime the section foreman and his family lived there until Mr. L. Pfrimmer arrived in the spring of 1921. Then a house built from boxcars was erected north of the station for the section foreman.

Stories are told about the happenings before an agent was appointed. One such incident is about a teacher from the district school who spent the weekend in the city and caught a train early on Monday morning, expecting to be at school just a little late. As the story goes, two young, good-looking girls also boarded the train in the city — their destination being Looma. The train stopped at Looma, pulled over on the side track, and the engineer and the fireman proceeded to escort the girls home, much to the dismay of the teacher! He arrived in Hay Lakes at 4 p.m. There are stories told of the many times trains sat on the side track in Hay Lakes while the crew visited in the hotel. After the fire of February 1924, the store is told that someone had a jug of "moonshine" in the safe but was not discovered until the safe was moved to Winnipeg and opened.

Excavation for the foundation the basement of the new Hay Lakes Station was begun in April, and by June, 1925, the new station building was nearing completion.

The third class structure, similar to many stations in smaller towns along the rail lines, holds fond memories for many — the postmaster bringing up the cart for the mail, and the horse-drawn dray wagon that picked up the express for the business places. Perhaps the warmest memory of all is of the huge pot-bellied heater placed in the center of the waiting room, and on a cold day, the door creaks open and feet stiff with frost squeak over to the heater. Hands stretch out to its generous warmth, noses drip, and the heart is grateful for the miracle of heat!

Station agents during the years were:

Mr. L. C. Pfrimmer 1921 — February 1924

Mr. Buster Comer . March 1924 — November 1924

Mr. Angus	December 1924-1928
Mr. W. D. McTaggart	1928-1935
Mr. F. D. Gibson	1935-1941
Mr. Paul Eberly	1942-1944
Mr. F. Cody	1944-1945
Mr. W. Donaldson	1945-1947
Mr. T. P. Sutherland	1948-1954
Mr. Byron Moore	1954-1958
Mr. N. E. Henderson	1958-1961
Mr. J. H. Pyper	1961-1964

Note: The Canadian Northern, before it was nationalized was the term applied to a group of lines closely related. The line through Hay Lakes was formerly called The Alberta Midland Railway.

The Camrose Canadian in its February 28, 1929 edition reported the details of the fate of the long awaited station house:

Hay Lakes Station Burned to Ground on Sunday Evening

The Canadian National Railway station, built in the spring of 1914, at Hay Lakes on the Edmonton-Camrose branch, about twenty-three miles north of Camrose, was completely destroyed by fire on Sunday night about eight o'clock. The station agent, L. G. Pfrimmer, was absent at that time, and Mrs. Pfrimmer and child were spending the week-end in Edmonton.

The fire is thought to have originated through an explosion of coal dust. The cellar contained about twenty-five tons of coal, which is still burning. Directly the alarm was given, people began rushing to the scene but without fire equipment, other than extinguishers, little could be done to check the flames. Mr. Pfrimmer managed to save a small quantity of household goods, but lost a new piano and a cabinet of table silver among other valuables. Records and documents of the station office are thought to be intact in the safe, which has not yet been opened. Very little goods in freight or express was in the building at the time so that loss on this score will not be material.

For a time the U.G.G. elevator containing about 20,000 bushels of grain was in grave danger. A number of freight cars were used to protect the elevator, but these had to be removed as they caught fire.

It is understood that for the present some empty freight cars will be used in place of a station, although it is hoped that a new structure will be put up as soon as possible. The Hay Lakes people have become so used to a good station that they will find it difficult to adjust themselves to the idea of a makeshift."

Time rolling along brought inevitable changes. The clicking of the telegraph is heard no more. Five-gallon and eight-gallon cans of cream, thirty-dozen

egg crates, and the daily newspaper no longer are items of express. Long lines of boxcars of grain, oil, or sulphur pass through the town day and night. The station windows are boarded over to prevent vandalism.

The station was closed on February 17, 1964, and business was then serviced through the Edmonton Master Agency. The rail liner service through Hay Lakes commenced on November 14, 1955, and was discontinued on November 1, 1981.

The station still stands; the central structure at the end of Main Street transmits memories of the fellowship and community service rendered by the station agents and their families to our town through the years.

We must also mention the section crew that maintained the rail line for several miles north and south of Hay Lakes. The work was very hard and was almost a test of endurance especially during the winter months when they travelled daily, regardless of the weather, on a manually operated open speeder to inspect the rails.

After the first section house burned, the next foreman and his family lived in the station until an agent was procured in 1921. A boxcar was then spotted north of the station for living quarters to which another boxcar was added a few years later to improve the accommodation. There was also boxcar situated north of the section house for use by the extra crew men when necessary.

The section foreman was often called upon in time of emergency to transport the very sick to Edmonton or Camrose on the speeder as the roads were often impassable. Emergency trips to the dentist in New Sarepta are also recalled.

The men were often called upon to help with the loading and unloading of freight from the daily trains.

During the early 1950's a new section foreman's house was erected south of the station. This was used until the duties of maintaining the rail line was carried out from the Camrose office.

The only sign of a section crew we have here today is a small building just south of the old station which is used to store the speeder and equipment of the men who maintain the line in this area.

Section foremen and approximate years in Hay Lakes were:

Gavin May	1917-1920
Rudolph Fisher	1920-1926
J. Dawson	1926-1931
Fred Davingnon	1931-1934
T. Brisson	1934-1937
George Masekevich	1937-1943
Ivor Nore	1943-1945
Wally Britton	1945-1954

Mike Kuznicki	1954-1960
Joseph Chrbet	1960-1968

Some permanent employees who may also have acted as relief foremen and approximate years were:

Rudolph Lachman	1918-1920
Steve Soltisz	
Yngve Sikstrom	1921-1952
George Schultz	1928-1929
Steve Ewaniuk	1933-1936
George Schultz	1943-1945
Mr. Labonte Sr.	1947-1948
Ray Labonte	1948-1951
Jim Shermatta	1950-1951
Paul Karpysbyn	1951-1959
Walter Heinz	-1966
Reinhold Anklam	1951-1976
Adolf Hartman	1955-1966
Einar Nomeland	1952-1970

History of Grain Marketing at Hay Lakes Otto Drebert

Prior to the building of the Canadian Northern Railroad, the marketing of grain and hay was limited to the local demand that prevailed at the time. However, the construction of the Canadian National road bed provides a limited market for horse feed that was required around 1912. Reports indicated that a small number of local farmers were able to market their grain by use of the railway service. At that time grain and hay was bought by an Edmonton Feed Company and was loaded into rail cars by hand. Wheat could not be marketed through this agency; therefore, the need for a grain elevator soon emerged (United Grain Growers Limited).



Hay Lakes Grain Elevators. George Mack, Searle Grain agent in front.

In the early days local farmers were required to show faith by raising a portion of the capital that was needed for building an elevator for that local area. Records indicated that around \$8,000.00 in shares had to be raised to warrant the building of an elevator.

Farmers in the Hay Lakes district conflicted their cause for a time when share investments were made in two different Grain Companies. These shares were sold by the Alberta Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company for \$60.00 par value. Meanwhile, some of the local farmers invested in shares of the Grain Growers Company which sold for \$25.00 par value.

This conflict was resolved in the spring of 1917 when the two Companies amalgamated to form the United Grain Growers Limited. By amalgamating the share investments of the two companies, the United Grain Growers were able to raise the required quota that warranted the building of the first grain elevator at Hay Lakes.

The building project commenced in May of 1917, and was ready for grain deliveries by that fall. Over the fifty-seven years while this elevator was operated by the United Grain Growers there were fourteen agents who operated the elevator. These are listed as follows:

J. B. Erickson	Sept. 7, 1917-Sept. 1, 1919
A. V. Cousins	Sept. 1, 1919-Sept. 1, 1920
G. E. Hendrickson	Sept. 1, 1920-Aug. 22, 1923
Fred Husted	Aug. 22, 1923-June 1, 1926
Odd Genness	June 1, 1926-June 15, 1927
P. A. Howden	Aug. 2, 1927-Aug. 16, 1927
J. T. Ford	Aug. 16, 1927-Aug. 30, 1929
W. Andrews	Aug. 30, 1929-Dec. 30, 1929-closed for 7 months
A. R. Thompson	Aug. 4, 1930-Aug. 20, 1931
R. W. Smalley	Aug. 20, 1931-June 8, 1936
A. Henning	June 8, 1936-May 3, 1937
Chas McLean	May 3, 1937-June 27, 1945
W. Tulles	June 27, 1945-Nov. 28, 1949
Wm. Molden	Nov. 28, 1949-July 12, 1974

When the Searle and the Alberta Pacific amalgamated to become the Federal Grain Company, they sold their two elevators at Hay Lakes to the United Grain Growers in 1961. Wm. Molden operated the three elevators for thirteen years. The inflation and increasing costs of operating the elevators forced rationalization of the grain elevator system. Therefore, in June of 1974, the United Grain Growers and the Alberta Wheat Pool negotiated a trade of elevators by which the Alberta Wheat Pool vacated seven markets while the United Grain Growers did the same. These negotiations resulted in the three Hay Lakes elevators being taken over by the Alberta Wheat Pool.

United Grain Growers Shareholders

When the Alberta Farmers Co-operative and Grain Growers amalgamated to form the United Grain Growers Limited, a shareholder local was formed from among the shareholders of the two companies which were amalgamated. This local held their first meeting in fall of 1917. This became an annual meeting where five directors were chosen to

form a board consisting of a chairman and a secretary. One delegate and an alternate would be elected for attending the shareholders convention that was held annually. The delegates would be reimbursed for a sum of \$15.00, for attending the conventions that were normally held in Winnipeg. However, during the depression of the thirties, the delegate fees were reduced to \$10.00 for attending these conventions.

At the first annual meeting there were four delegates chosen. Two of these attended the last shareholders convention for the Alberta Farmers Co-operative. These delegates were Chas. Holmberg and C. C. Lechelt. There were two delegates chose for attending the first shareholders' convention for the United Grain Growers. These delegates were Anton Sware and C. S. Eretel as alternate. Over the forty-one years of the local's existence a representative delegate attended the annual convention each year except for 1941 when no delegate attended. At a meeting held in the winter of 1958, the Hay Lakes local was dissolved and the shareholders were attached to the Camrose local No. 142.

The Federal Grain Company

In 1926, the Federal Grain Company built an elevator at Hay Lakes which is presently demolished. This elevator was built almost a decade after the United Grain Growers had entered the market. At present there are no available records of its operation that existed for about seventeen years. In 1943, the Alberta Pacific Grain Company took over all the Federal Grain elevators in Alberta. This company operated for about eighteen years and then sold it to the United Grain Growers in 1961.

Grain buyers who operated the elevator for Alberta Pacific Grain Company were as follows:

Pete Moen	1944-1946
A. Rachue	1946-1948
D. H. Mencke	1948-1951
Harry Repp	1951-1953
A. Proudlove	1953-1956
Leo Schnell	1956-1957
S. Martz	1957-1960
H. Paulson	1960-till the elevator was sold in 1961

Home Grain Company

Hay Lakes began to look like a prosperous grain farming district by the spring of 1928. There were three grain Companies who informed the Canadian National Railroad of their intentions to build an elevator at Hay Lakes that summer. However, only two of them fulfilled their promise. The construction of the first grain elevator that summer was undertaken by Mr. Cecil Uilson who was the Manager of the Edmonton Hay and Grain Company. This company had a property lease along the Canadian National Railroad track siding for the purpose of building a

warehouse. Mr. Wilson has become a well-known hay buyer around the Hay Lakes area. He was also a part owner and Manager of the well-known Bittern Lake Ranch as the result of his marriage to Elsie Ochsner.

The construction of this elevator commenced in May of 1928, and was completed by September. The operation of the elevator was taken over by the Home Grain Company who purchased the property. This company was later taken over by the Searle Grain Company who purchased the property. This Company was later taken over by the Searle Grain Company who operated the business at Hay Lakes until 1961. At that time the Searle and Federal Grain Companies amalgamated as the Federal Grain Company and the two elevators at Hay Lakes were sold to the United Grain Growers. This elevator has been operated by the Alberta Wheat Pool since 1974.

Grain buyers who operated this elevator since 1928 were as follows: Mr. Meyers, Tom Hudson, Henry Landsman, George Mack, M. Brock, Emanuel Paul, E. Dreger, U. Nordstrom, E. Verschagin, John Redcliffe, Wm. Holms, Wm. Fraser, Allen Stang, Ronald Baird, Fred Szott, Wm. Molden and Ted Peters.

Hay Lakes Creamery

By August, 1914, there were approximately fifty farmers selling cream in the Hay Lakes area which was collected by Larsen and Maland for the Edmonton City Dairy. Income, in some weeks, averaged \$600.00.

In 1916 Mr. Pithouse became the buying agent for Camrose Central Dairy and by 1917 there were five companies operating cream buying stations which showed that our area had a territory worth fighting for.

Edmonton City Dairy built a testing station in the village and others were operated out of business places and private homes. Joe Gosnell, Nick Miller, Jack Diewert, Louis Huard, Eric Nelson, Thor Grahn and Fred Sikstrom are a few of the buyers remembered from the years 1917 to 1923.



Hay Lakes creamery — 1923.



Butter churn at Hay Lakes Creamery. Mauritz Aspell and Jerry Zazulak — 1938.

In 1918 the Swift Canadian Company secured an agent and a building which now boosted the number of buying stations to six. These were: Edmonton City Dairy, Camrose Central Dairy, Swift Canadian Company, Woodland Dairy, Burns Dairy and Dairy Pool.

More than 15,000 pounds of cream were shipped during one week in August of 1919. This would make a total of 200 gallon cans. With so much cream being shipped out of the area the need for a creamery was evident and a group of local farmers attempted to have a creamery situated here in 1922. In February, 1923, the United Farmers of Alberta held a meeting with representatives of Edmonton City Dairy regarding the feasibility of building a creamery and cheese factory.

The new creamery was in operation by September and before long the facilities were operating to capacity with farmers patronizing it from outlying areas. The first manager and butter maker was Alfred Slater.

Ice for the creamery was stored in a building on main street owned by Mr. Larsen who also used part of the building as his warehouse. The ice was cut and hauled from Joseph Lake during the winter. In later years two rooms were added to the back of the creamery for ice storage.

In 1924 the creamery was taken over by Burns and Company; Mr. J. McHardy was manager at that time. A total of one hundred and ninety thousand pounds of butter was made that year.

In 1925 an addition was built to the creamery to accommodate a cheese making plant, which operated successfully for several years.

In 1932 a new cream churn was installed. In later years an egg grading station was also added and at times required three employees to handle all the grading, packing and shipping.

For approximately eighteen years dressed poultry



Staff of the N.A.D.P. creamery. L. to R.: Reva Isman, Bill Sawula, Mauritz Aspell, Nelvin Schmidt, Irene Sych. District cream producing activities reached such proportions so that annual butter productions often exceeded 400,000 pounds per year. The facility also served as an egg and poultry depot.

was bought during the month of December, prior to the Christmas season, and shipped to the Edmonton plant.

The Hay Lakes Creamery had a well known reputation for the excellent quality of butter made here and numerous awards were won over the years attesting to this fact.

In 1944 the creamery was sold to Northern Alberta Dairy Pool. In September, 1946 the Hay Lakes Creamery was also picketed when the Alberta Farmers' Union called a Provincial strike in protest of the Dominion Government's failure in establishing a fact-finding board on parity prices.

In 1969 the Creamery was closed and the building was sold in 1970.

The closing of the Creamery was a big blow to the business sector of the Village and an inconvenience to the farmers as it was now necessary for them to haul their cream either to Camrose or New Sarepta.

Among those who served as managers over the forty-five years of operation were: Alfred Slater, J. McHardy, James Carle, Norm Ogilvie, Jerry Zazulak, Al Payne, Bernie Anderson, Mauritz As-

pell, William Kennedy, George Rosychuk, L. Wilson, James (Scotty) Jack, William Synes, Mr. Calvert, Gus Hein.

Some of the butter and cheese makers: J. Watson, Louis Huard, P. Braglin, Mr. Perle, A. Kopak, Herb Sharp, Carl Boychuk, W. Donahue, Walter and Nelvin Schmidt, Jack Green, Doug Britton, William Harke and Reinhold Ertman.

Secretaries were: Haldis Bakken, Murial Donald, Reva Schaffrick, Eva and Alice Kosovich and Ann Aspell.

Stockyards and Cattle Buyers

In 1915 stockyards were erected near the C.N.R. tracks and loads of cattle and a few sheep were collected for shipment. Some buyers before and during the 1920's were: Nick Miller, J. Diewert, W. McKay and Louie Huard. The United Grain Growers also shipped cattle, receiving good prices for the farmers. In the mid 1920's hogs were also shipped from the area.

Ed Schlender opened a large feed lot on NE 31-48-21-W4 in the early 1920's. He bought, fed and sold cattle, sometimes having up to 200 head in his lot.

Tuesdays became known as "hog days" as the farmers would deliver hogs to be shipped to Edmonton. Often the tie-racks could not accommodate all the teams that would ascend on the village. Farmers would take this opportunity to visit with friends and neighbors while the wives would do their shopping.

New stockyards were built across the tracks west of the C.N.R. station. Ed installed a cattle scale and became a buyer for the Swift Canadian Company. An abattoir was also built and "Little" Bob Schmidt slaughtered cattle and hogs on a regular basis. Jack McLeod also started as a cattle buyer for Ed Schlender until Ed retired in the 1940's.

Charlie McLean, assisted by Don Miller, also bought cattle for Alberta Livestock in the 1940's. Another buyer was Walley Tullis, a local elevator agent.

For many years now Art Schaffrick has been trucking cattle and hogs to Edmonton for local farmers.

Poolrooms and Barber Shops

40 — In 1914, the first poolroom was started by August Rost. This was in a small building south of Larsen's store. He bought two pool tables in Edmonton and had Ferdinand and Renata Busenius move them for him with horse and wagon. It had been a very bad fall season and the roads were frozen mud which made the trip very rough.

This was the beginning of a "vice" in the community which would upset some wives. The men would go to town, play pool all day, and the wives would have to milk the cows alone as well as care for the children.



Barbershop owned by Fred Henkelman — 1937.

The story is told of a young lad who ended up in the poolroom after telling his mother he was going out to shoot coyotes. His mother, upon discovering where he had been, asked: "Did the coyote lead you all the way to the poolroom?"

August Rost kept the poolroom for only a few months before selling it in the spring of 1915 to Jack Diewert who operated it until 1917.

A young fellow was on his way to work at the local lumber yard. Upon passing the poolroom he noticed a coin on the ground. Upon further investigation he found another one and another and thus followed the trail all the way to the railway station. The late night pool player had lost them on his way home.

44 — In 1919, a new poolroom was built for William Clasper by Eric Nelson; it also contained a barber shop. This shop was quite an event in the district as the men lined up for shaves and haircuts when it opened. Dances were also held in the poolroom.

In 1921, the poolroom and barber shop were sold to H. Larplas. It was reported that Mr. Larplas not only gave you a good haircut but also filled you in on all the local news. He operated this business until about 1927. Then it was sold to Emil Priebe who operated the business with the help of his father-in-

law, Carl Kartz. The building was destroyed by fire in 1931, along with the Red and White Store.

10 — After the Priebe building burned, the local male population was at a loss so a pool table was installed in the back of the drug store. A second table was added when the drug section closed in 1934. Jack McCoy, brother of Mrs. Carberry, ran the poolroom for a couple of years. She maintained a small confectionery also. In 1936, a barber chair was added with Rudy Liske as the barber.

In 1938, Ernie Belore, rented the poolroom and barber shop and moved his wife, Min, and children Wayne and Elaine into the attached living quarters. Another pool table was added during the time he rented the building. The Belores moved to Edmonton in 1950 and the business was sold to Ted Lucius whose son, Willy, also was a barber and operated the business until it was sold to Joe Tober in 1956. Willy moved to Edmonton where he continued to barber.

Joe rented the pool hall and barber shop to the Fundytis family for about two years and also to Bill Tober who ran the poolroom.

The poolroom was sold to Carl Stelmaker in 1961. A short while later he rented the barber shop to Norman Moser. Norman had moved to the village in 1961 when he heard there was a need for a barber and had set up a shop in Jim Jim's Confectionery which was located in the front of Hein's garage.

In 1964, the building was sold to Art Holtz who ran the poolroom while Norman continued to barber. In 1965, Norman and his wife, Lydia, bought the building and ran the barber shop, poolroom and also added a small confectionery. Due to health reasons, Norman closed the building in 1970 and the barber shop was moved to the front of Moser's garage. The pool tables were all sold. Norman retired in 1976, and he and his wife moved to Caroline. The building was dismantled in 1975 and the property sold to the Recreation Association for an addition to the Community Center.

Some of the barber shops were not located in the poolrooms and these are the ones we have recollections of:

54 — Dan Schweitzer gave shaves and cut hair in their home. The barber chair was later sold and moved to the poolroom.

40 — Fred Henkelman operated a very successful barber shop in the front of his living quarters in the late 1930's and early 1940's. He offered haircuts, shaves, and hair treatment complete with all the "smelly trimmings".

5 — Another shop was located in the front corner of Mah Hong's Café. This shop also contained a small housekeeping room. Some barbers in this shop during the thirties were: Ed Kartz, Mr. Janke, and George Sware.

Bill Molden, local elevator agent, did barbering in his spare time by operating in several locations in town until he retired and moved to Sherwood Park in 1980.

We have now modernized. Instead of barber shops we have "beauty parlors" or "houses of style". Operators in the area have included Sherry Leicht, Elaine Dittmer and, at present, Gayle Werkman who operates "Gayle's House of Beauty".

Hughes, David Frank

4 — Everyone called him D.F. He came to Hay Lakes in the late 1930's from Onoway with his wife, Ann, and daughter, Rita.



Mr. D. F. Hughes. Proprietor of Hughes General Store.

He had operated a general store in Onoway and immediately entered into the same type of business in Hay Lakes in the former Bloom store. He carried both groceries and hardware. In the early 1940's he expanded his business by buying the larger Cohen store and changed the name to Hughes General Store. He ran the store until 1942 when he sold it to

Adolph Mittelstadt. Then he and his wife retired to live in Edmonton.

Mr. Hughes passed away in August, 1943, from a heart attack. He had been an active member of the "Shriners" for many years.

Rita married Neil Campbell, and their son, Rick, has now purchased NW35-49-22-W4 where he and his wife, Ellen, and family enjoy spending the weekends.

Hay Lakes Meats and Locker Plant

5 — In 1947, Mauritz Aspell and Carl Nordin purchased the Hay Lake Café from Rudolph Stelmaker with plans to convert it into a locker plant. Anne Aspell, with the help of Riek Paquette, operated the café for approximately eight months before renovations began. In the meantime Carl sold his share to William Sware.



Hay Lakes Meats and Lockers and Post Office.



Hay Lakes Meats and Lockers. Floyd Baier behind counter.

Mauritz and Bill remodelled and insulated the building and equipped it to operate a meat market and a locker plant as Calgary Power was now available in the village. They opened the business in 1949 with

three hundred and seventy-five lockers, a quick-freeze room, meat coolers, along with facilities for cutting, wrapping, and selling commercial meats. This was a much needed service for the people in the area. They built an abattoir on SE 5-49-21-W4 and later added a smokehouse and a sausage making building behind the locker plant. Reinhold Walter was employed as sausage maker and later Leo Eichman. They were both immigrants from Germany.

The locker plant was sold in 1953 to Mr. and Mrs. Herman Deelman who were immigrants from Amsterdam, Holland. They were assisted by Bruno Beckman who had also come from Holland together with his family and resided in Hay Lakes for a while. In 1955, Mr. Deelman became ill and returned to his homeland where he passed away. During their absence the business was operated by Bruno and Jerry Koopman. Rita Deelman returned to Hay Lakes and continued in the business until 1956. She married Edward Mittelstadt and they moved to Vancouver.

Mauritz Aspell again took over the operation of the locker plant for one year until it was sold to Floyd Baier in April, 1957. He gradually added a grocery section and operated as a family business with the help of Mrs. Baier's brother Ralph Risling, and also Cliff Rost. The rooms upstairs were remodelled to provide living quarters for the Baier family.

The meat market and store was closed in 1968 when Floyd moved to Ponoka to open a similar business. The property was sold to William Yoner and the building was demolished in 1970.

Lawyers

There have been several lawyers who have served the needs of this community at different times and for short periods. Previous to this long trips to Edmonton, Wetaskiwin or Camrose were necessary.

39-12-1 — Before 1930, Mr. H. Wilson from Edmonton set up a small office and came several times a month. After a short time he was replaced by Mr. H. Hawe. Mr. Young was also here for a while. The last one we have recollections of was Mr. T. A. McLean, who had an office in the front of Hein's garage and would come twice a month.

These services are now available in larger centers.

Banks

7 — There was a great need for a bank in the village as businessmen and farmers alike found the trip to a larger center very inconvenient. So in 1920 a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada was opened here with Tommy Buckham as manager. James Robinson was the accountant, and Allan Leden the bank clerk. This convenience was to be short lived however, as in December, 1921 the building succumbed to flames.



Hay Lakes Main street buildings. L. to R.: Zelts Meat Market, Bloom's Store, Charlie's Cafe with addition being built, Royal Bank, Larsens General Store, Post Office, Cox Cafe and Hall, Pithouse Store. Taken before Bank burned in 1921.

31 — The village was without banking services until the early 1940's when Magnus Sware opened a branch of the Alberta Treasury Branch along with his Hardware Store. In 1950, this business was sold to Alfred Arnston who continued to manage the Treasury Branch, eventually going out of the hardware line. The town also conducted all its business from this office until a new town office was built next door in 1981.

Alfred continues to operate the Treasury Branch along with his Insurance business.



Alf Arnston Insurance Agency and Treasury Branch, new Village office on right.

Hay Lakes Hotel

In the October issue of the *Camrose Canadian*, 1921, it states that: "Anton Pearson is doing something for Hay Lakes as well as himself. He has the foundation completed for a twenty-room hotel and is now starting the frame work." The basement was dug by Erling Nordin and Dick Peterson and the foundation rocks were hauled from the Nordin farm. Sand and gravel for the foundation was hauled from Joseph Lake by Carl Carlson. Dick Peterson was the carpenter.



The first Hay Lakes Hotel built by Anton Pearson in 1921. L. to R.: Martha, Emil and Jenny Kiel — 1935.

The hotel was a popular place for meetings, dances, club banquets, bake sales, travelling shows, Christmas Concerts and New Year's parties. The Welda orchestra played for regular dances held in the dining area which also had a stage for programs.

Clara Nelson was one of the first cooks in the café. Ed Carlson also worked in the hotel as well as the Pearson family.

The hotel was rented to Mr. and Mrs. T. Brosseau for about a year. It was during this time that Queenie Jackson would come from Edmonton to entertain, together with Mrs. Brosseau on the piano. The account in the *Camrose Canadian*, August, 1924, regarding their departure read: "Mr. and Mrs. Brosseau who have been managing the Hay Lakes Hotel for the past year left on Saturday. In the time they were with us they have worked their way into the hearts of this community and their loss to this neighborhood is keenly felt. The dances and other entertainment held by them were the chief source of amusement for the young folks".

Anton Pearson again was the proprietor and was planning on installing an electric light plant in November, 1924, but this did not materialize.

Prohibition ended in the fall of 1924. A plebiscite could now be held and if the residents voted in favour of it, then the local hotel would be granted a license to sell beer within restricted business hours to adults over the age of twenty-one years. Also, before the license was granted, the hotel was required to provide meal service as well as have a minimum of eight guest rooms. One interesting fact is that in the cities of Edmonton and Calgary separate beverage rooms had to be provided for men and women as it was against the law for them to drink together. This was eventually changed in the 1950's. The July, 1925 issue of the *Canadian* states: "A. Pearson of our



First bar room located in Hay Lakes Hotel in 1936. L. to R.: Martha Kiel, Bob Schmidt, "Little" Bob Schmidt, Jenny Kiel, "Barber" Janke and bartender John Werner.



Remodelled bar room in 1941 with Emil Kiel.

hamlet has secured a beer license and the first shipment of beer arrived last Saturday."

Albert Gibson also rented the hotel for awhile. Some of the well-known employees were: Louie Huard, Almina and Alice Jeanette.

In 1927, the building and business were sold to Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel.

The hotel, at that time, had a very small beverage room, a lobby, and a large room which was used for dances, banquets, meetings, etcetera. This could be divided in half by folding doors and one half then became the dining room. There was also a projection room so picture shows could be held. The building was heated with a coal furnace, with only one heat register directly above (what a comfortable place to stand on cold winter days). For many years coal had to be shovelled by hand but eventually a stoker was purchased which certainly was a big improvement. The upstairs consisted of fifteen bedrooms; for washing facilities each room had its own water pitcher and basin; water had to be carried every day to fill the pitchers. There was also a small wood heater to heat the upstairs.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
25	MEAL TICKET KIEL'S HOTEL Hay Lakes, Alta. NAME..... Date.....								10
24									11
23									12
22									13
21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14		

Meal tickets used in the 1920 and 30's.

In 1928 the beverage room was enlarged, the dining room remodelled and the projection room dismantled as shows and dances were now held in the new hall. Many more renovations and improvements were made during the next seventeen years, some of the most significant being the installation of a water and sewage system and an addition to the beverage room.

The hotel lobby was a great gathering place. Travellers whiled away the time between trains and you could always find a lively game of cribbage or whist in progress. And there was always Dick Peterson who challenged anyone to his favorite game of "Fem Kort".

After the sudden death of Mr. Kiel in 1944, his daughter Martha was appointed manager and together with Mrs. Kiel operated the hotel until 1945 when Carl Ordin became manager.



Hotel with addition for increased licensed premises in the 1940's.

The next few years saw many more improvements: steam heating system, Lister light plant, a modern coffee shop, another addition to the hotel for beer storage, just to mention a few. Also, running water was installed in all upstairs rooms and this presented a problem. The disposal field could not handle all the sewage so Carl and Eric Lofgren jointly bought a "honey wagon" so the septic tanks could be emptied periodically.

After the Kiel and Nordin families had operated the dining room and coffee shop for over twenty-four years, it was leased to Helen Berkholtz in September, 1951. Mrs. Millie Melin became the next renter and together with her children, Donna Mary and Dale, also lived in the hotel and it was at this time that Carl built a small house adjacent to the hotel for their living quarters. After Millie left in 1955, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor took over the coffee shop (They had one daughter, Gloria).



New hotel built in 1956.

On May 26, 1956 the hotel and all contents were completely destroyed by fire. A new hotel was built and opened for business on December 15, 1956 by Carl and Martha Nordin. Martha operated the coffee shop and Carl the beverage room until they sold the hotel to Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Roer and their daughter and son-in-law, Bob Stepanik, on April 1, 1961. Since that time the hotel has had numerous owners:

- 1922-26 — Anton and Thea Pearson
- January, 1927-1956 — Emil and Jenny Kiel (Martha)
- May, 1956-1961 — Carl and Martha Nordin (Dale and Conny)
- April, 1961-1962 — Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Roer (Judy)
- 1962-1964 — George and Lorraine Weber (Donna, Marilyn, Lina, Randy)
- July, 1964-1967 — Camille and Rita L'Heureux (Lillian and Lorraine)
- January, 1967-1968 — Mr. and Mrs. Frank Heidt (Blayne, Brice and Randy)
- January, 1968-1977 — Frank and Lucy Herring and Steve Kueffler (Mr. Kueffler's share was later bought by Charlie Herring) (Susan, Barbara, Sandra)
- June, 1977-1979 — Jack and Ann Sheridan (Ann and Martin)
- December, 1979- — Kaz and Gloria Sheppy (Tysha and Adam)

Shoemakers

The first recollection we have of a shoemaker (Shuster) was in the early 1920's when John South ran a small shoe repair shop for about four years.

14 — In the early 1930's George Krall operated a shoe repair shop in a small log building just off Main Street on the north end of the hitching racks. In the late 1930's the business was sold to Emanuel Paul. The building was on town property and had to be removed so Emanuel moved the equipment and operated a shop in his home until 1942.

52 — In the mid-thirties Mr. Dargatz also had a shoe repair shop. He also made gloves, mitts, and remodeled shoes.



John Radtke's home and Shoe Repair on right side. Looking west down main street.

21 — A new repair shop was built by Carl Radtke in 1935. Like all the shoemakers before him he also worked on harness and tack for the farmers in the district. He was very talented and made horse harness and halters which he sold. The children of the village loved to visit his shop and sit in the warm sun



Carl Radke shortly before his shop burned down.

of the south window listening to him whistle and hum as he worked. He operated the business until the building was destroyed by fire in 1962.

We have not had a shoemaker in town since Mr. Radtke's shop burned.

Tero Welding

49 — In 1974 Terry Olson opened an oilfield welding and machine shop in town. The shop was located in the former Maple Leaf Garage and in 1978 a large addition was built on to the shop. This business employed several men working double shifts. In 1981, the shop was closed and the business moved to Camrose.

Tyron Backhoe Service

55 — A new business started in Hay Lakes in 1976 when Terrance Huebner and his wife, Donna, began a backhoe service. They own their own equipment and are very busy in the area. At present they are installing all the connecting lines for the new water system to be in operation in the Village in 1982.

Pithouse — Broen Store

17,18 — In 1913, Harry Pithouse and John Broen, two enterprising businessmen, decided to build a second grocery store in the village. They erected a large two-story building to accommodate living quarters above. The Post Office, that had been located in the Pithouse home, was moved into the new building.

Mrs. Pithouse looked after the postal duties and clerked in the store along with clerks, Gerda Hanson and Pauline Pelz. This store flourished for several years until 1920 when, due to other commitments, the store was rented to Mr. D. Davis. After about two years the store was closed but the living quarters above were rented.

In February, 1928, the need for an extra room for the Junior school class was met by renting the store. The School Board rented this building until September, 1930 when an addition to the school was completed.



Hay Lakes Hardware owned by Reins Mittelstadt — 1948.

From 1930 until 1935 Harry Pithouse used the building to store the many fleeces he had from the sheep on his farm.



Main Street Hay Lakes — 1924. L. to R., North Side: Hotel, Zelts Butcher Shop, Bloom Store, Charlie's Cafe, Larsen Hardware and General Store, Post Office, and Drug Store, Werners Livery Barn and Pithouse Store. South Side: Boarding House, Grahn Garage, Pool Room and Barber Shop, Red & White Store, Diewerts Implements, storage shed for flour and ice also had office space, Selins Garage, unknown.

In 1935, Thor Grahn and his family moved back to town and rented the building and again it was used as a grocery store. They ran the store for about two years before it was again vacant.

Several businessmen expressed their fear that, without a butcher shop in town, business would suffer so in 1937 John Leicht and his family came to Hay Lakes and opened a butcher shop in the Pithouse store. He rented the building for two years until his new shop would be built.

The store was sold to Adolph Mittelstadt in 1939 and he again opened a grocery store. In 1940, he rented a small portion of the building to his cousin, Reins Mittelstadt, who had a counter in the rear part where he began selling small hardware. Reins purchased the hardware supplies from D. F. Hughes when he closed this department of his general store.

In 1943, Adolph sold the store to Reins and the grocery department was closed. Reins went into a complete line of hardware supplies and then expanded to carry a full line of appliances. In 1950, he sold the first television sets to his customers in the district.

When Calgary Power came to the district, Reins hired men to do wiring and install electrical appliances. When the sewer system was installed in the village most of the plumbing requirements were met by his business. Reins ran a most efficient business until his passing in 1978. He was in the process of selling the business at this time and planning retirement.

Some of the employees at the hardware store when Reins operated it were: Dan Schweitzer, Robert Tober, Bill Yoner, George Roper and Harold Leicht, Ed Schacht, Lorne Harke and Paul Bittner did wiring and plumbing along with Reins.

The business is now owned and operated by Larry Piersdorff.

Westad Store

With the influx of settlers to the area the need of a supply center was realized, and Mr. Martin Westad, who had immigrated from North Dakota in the early 1900's, opened a store on his farm NW 6-49-21-W4 in 1906. He carried a small supply of merchandise and also bought furs.

The store business was sold to Lauritz Larsen and Lars Maland about 1910 or 1911.

Mr. Westad continued to farm his land until 1916 when he sold and moved back to North Dakota. By this time the store was no longer in operation as the business had been relocated in the new town site of Hay Lakes.

Bloom's General Store

4 — In 1919, with the increasing growth in the

area, some enterprising businessmen from Leduc saw the need for another General Store and rented a building on Main Street. These gentlemen were J. W. Bloom along with his sons, Ed and Marcus. The sons were also very active in sports and community affairs.

They had a very good business, and rumours in 1920 were that they were thinking of increasing their stock and building on to the store.

The Blooms roomed and boarded at Mah Hongs and operated the store until about 1931. Chris Hein then rented the building after his store burned down.

The Blooms moved to Edmonton and Ed Bloom (later referred to as the "Senator" by Art Evans of the Edmonton Journal) became a traveller for a grocery chain out of Edmonton and travelled through this district.

Hein's Red and White Store

45 — In 1920, Chris Hein built a store on the south side of Main Street. This store carried a complete line of hardware, horse harness and riding tack. He also carried a line of dry goods and groceries.

The story is told of a young lad hired by Mr. Hein to protect the store from possible robbers. The lad slept in the store with a shotgun by his side. One night upon hearing a noise, he grabbed his gun, yelled at the intruders to stop but getting no response, he fired. To his dismay he had blown a hole through a whole rack of coats.



Hein's General Store. Chris Hein on right — 1930.

The store was enlarged in 1924 and living quarters were added to the rear part.

This store burned to the ground in April, 1931. People recall Mrs. Chris Hein sitting on Main Street in her rocking chair watching the fire. This was probably the only personal effect she had saved.

4 — After the fire Chris moved across the street to the former Bloom store which he operated until the late 1930's when he moved to Edmonton.

RED & WHITE

The Best of Foods at
LOWEST PRICES

Special Offerings
Friday and Saturday
February 3rd and 4th 1933

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

B. C. Apples

For Cooking or Baking

Per crate \$1.17

Delicious Apples

3 lbs. 23c

Sunkist Oranges

Family size, per doz. 32c

Fresh Tomatoes

Per lb. 25c

Head Lettuce

Large, Firm Heads

each 12c

B. C. Apples

For Cooking or Baking

Per crate \$1.17

Palmolive Soap - 4 bars 25c

Orange Marmalade 4-lb. tin 48c

Favorite Unsweetened Corn Flakes, 2 pkts 15c

Shredded Walnuts 1-lb. 29c

Prunes 3 lbs. 12c

Acid Flavors 2 tins 25c

Cocoa Biscuits and Crackers each 23c

Apples 3 lbs. 25c

Custard Powder 1-lb. tin 27c

TEA Caribou Broken Pekoe 5. 25c

Hot Fries 2 lbs. 25c

Herring 2 lbs. 25c

Longanberry Jam 4-lb. tin 39c

Daisy Brooms

each 31c

Cream Soda

each 27c

Golden Tuna

2 23c

MADE IN

CHRIS NEIN

MADE IN

MADE IN

MADE IN

MADE IN

For a short while he operated a five, ten and fifteen-cent store before starting the Sunland Biscuit Company in which he was a partner for several years.

Mac's General Store

37 — Mac's General store was built by Charles McLean in 1945 and he operated it until 1951. The store contained a complete grocery and dry goods department. It had a large warehouse attached for the handling of North West Livestock Feeds.

Some of the employees who worked at this time were Eileen Hein, Sylvia Naslund, Edna Moen, Hertha Henschell, Anna Nore, Carol Ledin, Georgia Webster and Evelyn Sickstrom.

The store was sold in 1951 to Vern and Carl Nordin.



Charles McLean and Rudolph Schmidt (contractor) putting the finishing touches on Mac's General Store. On left: Bachor's Meat Market — 1945.



Left: Vern Nordin home (former Mike Sich Meat Market). Right: Vern's General Store. Both destroyed by fire in 1963.

Vern took over the management of the store in September, 1951 which now became known as Vern's General Store. They had also bought Mike's Meat Market so the cooler and all equipment as well as the stock was transferred to the store. Vern carried a full line of groceries, dry goods as well as meats. A few

years later a truck was bought from Eddy Kreamer on which Walter Siepert was contracted to build a van. The truck was used to haul both groceries for the store and beer for the hotel.

During a break-in at the store a small amount of cash was taken together with a bunch of gloves. The culprit was soon apprehended as he had lost his cap. When caught, it was discovered he had unknowingly taken all right-handed gloves.

On February 16, 1963 the building and all contents was destroyed by fire along with the original Meat Market that had been converted into living quarters. Another building lost in the same blaze was the Cozy Café.

Some of the employees at Vern's were Anna Sware, Irene Famulak, Mary Karpysbyn, Ruth Wahl, Elsie Moser, Edie Herzog.

Halls in the Village

30 — The first hall built in 1915 was a United Farmers of Alberta and Knight Templars hall that was used mainly for meetings as well as a few social functions and dances.

Some of the community dances were also held in the local billiard hall which witnessed the fact that a public hall was needed.



L. to R.: Sash and Door, Arnston's Agency, Hay Lakes Hall, Esso Garage.

An interesting little jingle appeared in the July 9, 1921 edition of the Camrose Canadian which read:

There's no reason why dancers should mope
In improvements, no end to our scope
For a man named Cox
Is building a box

Which will make a fine dance hall we hope.

16 — P. L. (Bud) Cox had built a dance hall next door to his boarding house. This building was not meant to be for shortly after the school Christmas concert in December, 1921 the building burned to the ground along with the boardinghouse next door.

1 — In the spring of 1922 Anton Pearson decided to erect a large building which served as a hall and boardinghouse with foresight of later conversion to a

licensed hotel. Charles Holmberg was the contractor for the two-story building. A stage was erected, benches were built, a fire proof projection room was built, and a dance floor was finished that fall. The building also had a basement which contained kitchen facilities and all food was lifted to the main floor via a dumbwaiter.

Pearson's hall was the hub of community activities featuring dances, Rutherford Road Shows from Camrose, talent shows, individual performers, political meetings, and various local functions.

In 1923, the hall was rented to the Brosseau family for about a year. Then Mr. Pearson ran it for two years during which time a liquor license was obtained and a small area cordoned off for this purpose. The building was next rented to Mr. Gibson in 1926 and he operated it until 1927 when it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel.

One special event worth mentioning at this time was the great debate in 1926: "Resolve that Religions have done more harm than good to humanity".

31 — In 1927, a group of local businessmen organized and became shareholders of a new hall project. Some of these men were: L. Larsen, Norm Ogilvie, Chris Hein, Emil Kiel, and Dick Peterson.

Building of the new hall was contracted to Charles Holmberg with help from Dick Peterson and other local residents. The hall was completed in the spring of 1928 and painted by Evert and Bill Pearson with hand brushes.

The benches which had been built for use in the hotel (hall) were donated to the new hall by Mr. Kiel. A projection room was built upstairs and lined with tin as the films were a great fire hazard.

In 1930, the hall was taken over by the village for tax arrears and they operated it for several years with Dan Schweitzer a custodian. It was rented out for all social events in the community such as the Legion Carnival, wedding dances, Search for Talent, chautauqua, sports events, school fairs, Christmas concerts, athletic club, wrestling matches, Talent nights, bazaars and many others. In the 1950's the Hay Lakes Legion took over the operation of the hall for several years.

During the 1940's it was leased to Art Middlestead who operated a motion picture circuit. Shows were held regularly on Friday and Saturday evenings.

In 1952, Jim Paquette bought the movie circuit and operated it until his death in 1953. Mrs. Paquette sold the movie circuit to Harvey Henkel who redecorated the hall and called it the "Rio Theatre." With the advent of television, attendance dropped at the weekly shows. Mr. Henkel decided to discontinue the shows and in 1954 he and his family left Hay Lakes.

12,13 — The hall was again under the management of the village until 1971 when a new hall was built. After providing the needs of the community for forty-three years, the old building was sold to David Holsworth and dismantled.



Legion Hall.

Another hall that served the community for many years was the Legion Hall. It was built in 1946-1947 and operated by the Hay Lakes Legion #201 until that Club disbanded in 1974. It also served a very useful purpose for many social functions, meetings, and a variety of local events held here, as well as serving as the headquarters for the local Boy Scouts. It was also used as a classroom for a couple of years when the school became overcrowded.

The hall was given to the village for a token price of \$1.00 with the understanding that the Legion could again obtain ownership if the need arose.

For the past few years the building has been used for kindergarten and playschool classes as well as Guide and Brownie meetings. It is now known as the Youth Center.

Cox's Café

15 — In the spring of 1918 P. L. (Bud) Cox built a restaurant and ice-cream parlour. This business was very popular and an ice-cream maid by the name of Ida Gaska worked there for about a year. Mrs. Cox had several boarders to whom she served delicious meals. Bud helped in the café but also had several other jobs.

The Cox's café burned along with the Cox's hall in December, 1922. Cox then moved back to Daysland.

The bodies of two sons who had died while living here were exhumed from the Swedish cemetery by Pete Nelson and moved to a cemetery in Daysland.

Cozy Café

39 — In the early 1920's Mr. Larsen had erected a building in which to store flour. Part of the front was

used as a lawyer's office and the back part was used to store ice for the creamery. This was sold to Stig Lustison in 1934. The old building was torn down and a café and boardinghouse were built. It was named the "Cozy Café", a name which it kept through the years.



Cozy Cafe. Built about 1934.

An interesting incident happened while Lustisons had the café; a fire broke out in the building to which the local volunteer fire fighters responded. Hymie Cohen was wearing a new leather jacket which accidentally got soaked thoroughly with sodium chloride solution. The next day he found the jacket was much too small to wear.

In 1937, the Henry Rennichs moved to town and bought the café which they operated as a family business until 1940.

The café was then sold to Ferdinand and Renata Busenius who operated it for several years before it was closed for a short while and then reopened by their daughter, Alma Doucette, in 1956. After a couple of years it was rented to a Chinese couple. In 1961, the café was rented by the Henry Simmons Johnson family who also ran a very efficient bakery. After about a year the building was vacated. It was destroyed by fire along with Vern's General store and residence in February, 1963.

Jim Jim's Confectionery

12 — A small confectionery was operated by Jim Jim in the front of Gus Hein's garage for a short while in the early 1960's. Jim then moved to Edson where he operated a café.

McLeod's Café

34 — Elsie McLeod opened a restaurant and bakery following the death of her husband, Neil, in 1927.

She sent to England for her sister, Nellie Campbell, to come and help her. Elsie kept three cows on

her lot by tethering them out in the summertime. Elsie and Neil had two children: Jean and Duncan.

Hay Lakes Café

4 — In 1947, Mrs. John Pawloske bought the warehouse (the former Hughes store) from Adolph Mittelstadt and remodeled it for a café.

It was rented to the Chris Roth family who also had living quarters at the rear of the café. After the Roth family left in 1950 the Café was rented to several different families for short periods of time. These included: Ed and Loha Knopp, Doug and Cathy Britton, Paul and Aurlie Fournier. The last tenants were the Jim Pon family who changed the name to the Star Café. This building, a landmark in the history of Hay Lakes, having been built in 1918 to house the first butcher shop and confectionery, was completely destroyed by fire in February, 1955.

Hay Lakes Café

5 — This café was built in 1915 and was owned and operated by J. Mah "Charlie" Hong with the help of Sam, a Chinese cook.

There were several rooms above which were rented out to boarders. An addition was built to the café in 1921.

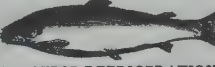


Alfred Sieber, drug store clerk and Charlie Mah Hong, owner of Charlie's Cafe.

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these
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GENERAL MERCHANTS

PHONE 5

Hay Lakes, Alta., *March 6* 19*52*

		ACCT. FWD.
1	50 B Hood	345
2	✓ lettuce	19
3	✓ oranges	40
4	✓ 2 peas	44
5		4.48
6		
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37

Sept 22, 1923
Martin Heikelman
Hay Lake
In account with



H. C. LECHOLT

IMPLEMENTS RADIOS DELCO LIGHTS FANNING MILLS
HAY LAKES, ALBERTA

WORK ORDER

TerO WELDING & MACHINE No 721

Box 93, Hay Lakes, Alberta T0B 1W0
Phone: Bus. 878-3331 - Res. 878-3380



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GENERAL MERCHANTS

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Hay Lakes, Alta., *Oct 20* 19*51*

Mrs. H. H. Halderson

		Account Forwarded
✓	2 c. flakes	19 33
✓	1 can	18
✓	1 can	75
✓	1 can	56
✓	1 can	19
✓	2 bread	31
✓	1 can	17
✓	1 can	35
✓	1 can	38
✓	1 can	19
✓	2 bread	29
✓	1 can	35
✓	1 can	30
✓	248 ples	398
14		2753

Ind

BEAVER LUMBER
COMPANY LIMITED
HAY LAKES, ALBERTA
PHONE 322

PROGRESS LUMBER CO. LIMITED
HAY LAKES, ALBERTA
DATE *May 8 1934*

HAY LAKES MEATS & LOCKERS

W. SWEAR AND M. ASPELL, Props.
FRESH AND HOME CURED MEATS
FRESH FROZEN FOODS

A. S. Schaffner
Hay Lakes
DATE *Dec 12 1954*



HAY LAKES HARDWARE

R. MITTELSTADT
Electric Wiring



DICK'S REPAIR SHOP

D. W. GELLERT, Prop.
General Mechanical Work
GAS, OILS and GREASING

HAY LAKES GARAGE

CAR SALES & SERVICE
GAS - OILS - TIRES - RADIOS

HAY LAKES U.F.A.

Bob & Martha Early, Agent
HAY LAKES, ALBERTA

PHONE 348

R. HICKEY

HAY LAKES
Welding & Blacksmithing

Dr. *Self* *1955*
D. H. Smith

	ACCT. FWD.
1 <i>welding jump</i>	
2 <i>bucket</i>	<i>46.00</i>
3	
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Paid

32

McCauley System - Galt



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Hay Lakes, Alta. *1955*

Form 3 (Rev.) 20M-1-50.

Telephone 22566

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Hay Lakes
Alta. *20.19.51*

SERVICE

BILL YONER

BOX 162 HAY LAKES
ALBERTA PH. 878-3414

HAY LAKES BIG B FOODS

Otto Mittelstadt

DATE *April 2 1982*

	ACCT. FWD.
1 <i>Block Salt</i>	<i>4.49</i>
2	
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7 <i>pd.</i>	
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15 <i>1</i>	

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CROWN ZELLERBACH PAPER COMPANY LIMITED

LARSEN & MALAND

GENERAL MERCHANTS

New Sarepta, Alta. April 27 1924

M. C. Carlson

10 per cent interest per annum on all accounts

Get by

Past Account

2 1/2 C. 40 Pint 1.00
3 1/2 C. 40 Pint 2.00
1.25

Paul

S 203
Ed 60M
7-20-HRP

No 30755

IMPERIAL OIL, Limited

HAY LAKE

STATION

DATE April 19 1924

RECEIVED FROM

NAME

ADDRESS

90 DOLLARS

IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

Per

DATE	INVOICE No.	AMOUNT
Apr 19	5234	12.75
Jan 2	5264	14.40

J & C GARAGE

Phone 11

Hay Lakes, Alta.

DATE Aug 13 1924

M. C. Hollenworth

ACCT FWD

1 and 1 H.C. Hay Lake 15.00
2 C. Spark Plug 5.10
20.10
1 By Cash 5.10
15.00

43.50
15.00

28.50

29

PHONE 312

HAY LAKES, ALTA.



HAY LAKES
MEATS & LOCKER
FLOYD BAIER
FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES



DATE Aug 13 1924

M

ACCT FWD

1	2 Hops	4.00
2	1/2 Beef	9.00
3	2 1/2 Beef	20.00
4	2 Beef	5.00
5	2 Beef	8.00
6	2 Beef	6.50
7	1 Beef	3.00
8	1 Beef	2.00
9	1 Beef	4.00
10	1 Beef	5.00
11	1 Beef	2.50
12		56.00
13		
14	2	

In January, 1923 Charlie returned to China for a visit. He found very many changes during his eleven years of absence. He also got married while in China and became a proud father.

Upon returning in the spring of 1924 he continued to run the café, being joined later by “young Sam” who helped Charlie wait on customers and “old Sam” who did the cooking.

Charlie was a friend to everyone and always donated to any sport’s activities.

About 1946, the café was sold to Rudolph Stelmaker who ran it for a short while. Charlie and “young Sam” moved to Leduc where they operated a café for several years until Charlie moved to Edmonton and “young Sam” to Edson. “Old Sam” had retired.

Charlie’s café was always a popular spot and even after moving he always greeted former acquaintances with his big smile and a handshake.

The café was sold to Mauritz Aspell and Carl Nordin. Anne Aspell operated it until it was renovated and became a locker and meat market.

Metzker’s Shop

19 — In 1932, a building was moved into the village to house a workshop for Adolph Metzker. This building was the former New Sarepta Rural school. Adolph was an inventor best known in the area for the wooden windmills he built, some of which can still be seen in the countryside.



Henry Schaffrick with homemade windmill built by Adolph Metzker — 1937.

One of his inventions is on display in the Camrose Museum. It is a bicycle wheelchair with hand controls built especially for Albert Arndt who had had both his legs amputated.

He also built kitchen cabinets and other pieces of furniture. Together with one of his employees, Chris Hein, an attempt was made to manufacture wallboard

from straw and other ingredients. Adolph also invented a hay stacking machine which was not perfected until after he left Hay Lakes in 1940 and moved to Edmonton.

The shop was rented to Ewald Erickson who later bought it. Ewald ran a woodwork and mechanical repair shop here until 1944 when he sold the building to Reins Mittelstadt who used it as a warehouse for his hardware business.

Hay Lakes Sash and Door

30 — The shop was built by E. J. Mittelstadt in 1954 and it also contained living quarters.

Ed did repair work and also some carpentry in his shop. In 1955, he built curbs and gutters for the village.

In 1956, Ed rented the building to Calgary Power Company. It was sold to Bill Francis in 1965. After Calgary Power moved their office to Camrose in 1968, Bill sold the building to Herb Leicht who converted it into a garage.

Sware Well Equipment and Hardware Store

10-31 — In the late 1930’s, Magnus Sware opened a store in the front of the pool room. This store carried a few small hardware supplies, some large appliances and a complete line of well-drilling material. Magnus also drilled some of the wells in the area.

In 1940, he decided more space was needed so he built a shop to house his hardware and well supplies. He continued to operate this shop until he also obtained a franchise of the Treasury Branch. He built a shed on the north edge of town from which propane was sold.

In 1950, he sold the business to Alfred Arnston.

Hay Lakes Garage

46-47 — The first garage in Hay Lakes was completed in September, 1919. It was built and operated by Oscar W. Grahn who also operated a car agency.

When it became apparent that the garage was not facing the right direction Oscar moved it in 1921 so that it should face the Main Street of the hamlet. A gas pump was also added.

In 1926, Oscar saw a need for a larger garage so he built a new, more modern brick building over the existing garage. There he was able to continue to serve the hamlet and the surrounding community during the period of construction. He also added living quarters attached to the west side of the garage.

In 1928, the business was sold to Charles Lechelt who operated it for two years and then sold it back to Oscar. In the early 1930’s Oscar built larger attached



Hay Lakes Garage, owned by the J. O. Grahn family — 1974.

living quarters for his growing family, on the east side of the garage. The west side residence was rented to different people for a number of years until it became the home for Oscar's father, John Grahn, with members of his family caring for him until his death in 1948.

About 1935, Rudolph Nordin and Ted Lorraine operated a small grocery store in the front northeast part of the garage. When it became vacant the area was used as the garage office.

Oscar continued to operate the garage and deliver bulk gas in barrels to farmers. There were also a few years, the late 1930's to 1941, when he rented the workshop to his nephew, J. Oscar Grahn, and in 1944 to 1945 to Dick Gellert.

When J. Oscar returned from overseas in 1946 he again rented the workshop until October, 1948, when he and his brother Theodore bought the garage, all the contents and also the attached residences, from their uncle Oscar who then moved to Edmonton with his family.

Ted, Gladys, and their daughter, Ann, made their home in the east side residence and the west side dwelling was converted into a storage area.

In the following years many improvements were made, new front windows and larger underground storage tanks with new gas pumps were installed, more modern equipment and a large line of stock was carried to meet the requirements of the prospering community. Oscar and Ted serviced everything from small motors to some heavy farming equipment. They also serviced school buses until the County Maintenance Bus Garage was built in Camrose.

The garage was open for business six days a week from eight o'clock in the morning (and earlier during the busy season for farmers) until nine o'clock at night, and often later. The Service Stations in the village agreed to take turns to provide gas service on Sundays.

In 1955, the Grahn Brothers bought the J and C

Garage situated on the west corner lot, from Jim Culbertson and Gerold Johnson and used the building for storage.

In 1959, Ted sold his share of the garage to his brother, Oscar. With the help of mechanics like Bob Webster, Reuben Pasula, Reg Kreamer and others, Oscar continued to run a thriving business until 1970 when, due to his ill health, his son, Randy, assumed some of the operational duties. Upon Oscar's death in 1973 other members of the family helped run the garage until 1976 when it was sold, fully equipped, to Wes Tetz.

Wes's brother, Larry, ran the garage less than a year when it was closed in 1977. In the spring of 1978, Wes Tetz sold it to Phillip Racine who operated it for a few short months and the doors were closed again in June.

The buildings remained vacant until 1980 when they were bought by the present owner, Randy Berfelo.

Drug Store

10 — The need of a Drug Store was expressed for several years before the Post Office was remodelled in 1923 to accommodate a Drug Store also. Jim Carberry was the druggist until the building was destroyed by fire in 1925.



Cooke Drug Store with team in front. Larsen's Store across the street — 1927.

The construction of a new building began immediately and, in the meantime, the drugs were dispensed from the Hotel. In May, 1925 the new building, called Cooke Drug Company, was opened. It housed the Post Office, telephone switchboard, along with a complete line of drugs, stationery, magazines, newspapers, and school supplies.

Hay Lakes lost its Drug Store with the death of Jim Carberry in the fall on 1934.

Maple Leaf Service

49 — The Maple Leaf Service Station was built by John and Herb Leicht and opened in 1948. They also started a bulk dealership for the United Farmers of Alberta Co-op to serve farmers in the area. A Case



Maple Leaf Service Station. Proprietor Herb Leicht.

Farm Implement dealership was also operated by the Leichts. This was run as a family business until John retired.

30 — In 1968, Herb expanded his business and moved into a larger building on Main Street that had been occupied by Calgary Power. He installed larger bulk tanks and together with his son, Dennis, operated the business until 1975 when he retired and Dennis took over. The business was in the Leicht family for some forty years.

In 1978, the garage was closed and after a few months it was bought by Al Brown, and the United Farmers of Alberta Co-op bulk business was taken over by Robert Early.

Al Brown operated the garage for a short time, closed it and then re-opened it, but at present it is again closed.

Bulk Oil and Gas Dealers

The first bulk gas sold for farm use was by Oscar Grahn Senior. It was continued in a large storage tank across the railroad tracks. Grahn later received permission to install an underground tank at the rear of the Hay Lakes Garage.

The bulk gas was sold in forty-five gallon drums which were picked up by the farmers with horse and wagon. Later, when J. Oscar and Ted operated the garage, a farm delivery service was provided.

The Government later changed the regulation of

bulk fuel sales and all new tanks were then located above ground. In 1934, John and Eric Lofgren began selling Esso bulk fuel from a tank which had been purchased from Herman Lechelt and was located on the west side of the railroad tracks.

The bulk sales business improved with the use of more gas-operated machinery which necessitated the use of tank trucks to haul gas and diesel fuel to the farm-owned bulk tanks.

Dealers during the years were:

British American: Oscar Grahn, Charles Lechelt.

Purity "99" to Royalite eventually Gulf: Oscar Grahn, Dick Gellert, J. Oscar and Ted Grahn.

Esso: Herman Lechelt, John and Eric Lofgren, George Mack, Jack McEacheran and Reg Samis, Lyle Harke, Gerry Trepner.

This business was now run from the Leduc office under Seedhouse and MacIntyre with Eric Knopp as driver.

United Farmers of Alberta Co-op: Herb and John Leicht, Dennis Leicht, Robert Early.

Hein's Garage

12 — When Gus Hein bought the livery barn he slowly converted it into a garage to house his draying truck. The building was used to repair his own trucks



Gus Hein's Garage (former livery stable). Maureen and Gus Hein with hired man Jim Ewasiuk — 1938.

but he later added a gas pump and sold some gas for the White Rose Company. In 1952, the garage was closed after Gus went to work in the Creamery.

In the 1950's part of it was rented out as a Café and previously it had also served as a lawyer's office.

Selin's Garage

33 — In 1925, a second garage was built in Hay Lakes with Herman Selin as the owner operator. This was a modern building with living quarters above. A gas pump was installed shortly after the garage was built.

Herman ran the garage for several years and in the early thirties it was rented to Knut Carlson who had been an employee in the garage. It was then rented to a Mr. Hartman for a short while before Henry Holte rented the business. Mr. Holte did repair work and sold gas until 1939, when it was sold to John and Eric Lofgren. They used it to house their trucks and also did some repair work as well as selling bulk and commercial gas.

In 1944, the garage was sold to Ewald Erickson who moved over from his small repair shop. Ewald did a lot of heavy duty mechanics, working on caterpillars and other large diesel machines.



Dick and Margaret Gellert in front of Dick's Repair Shop.

In 1948, the garage was sold to Dick Gellert who had been doing mechanical work in various shops and garages in the vicinity. New gas pumps were installed during this time. Dick was a good mechanic and ran a very efficient business.

In 1953, the garage was sold to Jack McEacheran and Reg Samis who were kept very busy as this was during the "oil boom" in the area. They hired a full time mechanic, Lloyd Campion.

The garage was sold to Camille and Elsie Moser in 1956 and they ran the business for several years. In 1975, the doors were closed and the gas pumps and contents disposed of. The property was sold to Terry Olson, and the building was demolished in preparation for his new welding shop. Those plans, however, did not materialize and the lot remains empty.

Meat Markets

3 — The first meat market shop was opened in 1917 with K. Furness and Mr. Hornbrook as proprietors. This business was sold to the Adolph Zelt family in 1918. They opened a confectionery store in con-

junction with the meat market and in 1923 they also added a bakery section. The business was run by Adolph and Emily until 1928 when it was sold to Bill Tober and Emil Mittelstadt. They hired John Lovas as the butcher and sausage maker. They operated this business for about a year.



Mrs. Ed Schlender behind the counter of their Butcher Shop — 1932.

48 — A second meat market appeared in the village in 1922 when the Ed Schlender family purchased the former Grahn boarding house and converted it into a butcher shop. They moved into the living quarters above the shop. Ed had a cattle buying station and from this a fresh supply of meat was kept in the shop. They operated this business until it was destroyed by fire in 1936.

40 — A meat market was then opened by Fred Laskosky and Max Gerald which they ran for a few months.



Leicht's Meat Market in former Pithouse Broen store. John, Margaret and John Leicht Jr. — 1937.

18 — In 1937, John Leicht, who had just moved to the village, rented the former Pithouse-Broen store and opened a meat market. In 1939, John built a new shop across the street and ran this for only a short time before he sold it to Gus Bachor in 1940.

36 — Most of the meat was bought from the farmers as it was not necessary to have it government inspected. All butcher shops had a thick layer of sawdust on the floor for sanitary purposes and this was replaced daily.

In 1946, Gus sold his shop to Mike Sich who, with his wife Bertha, ran the shop and added a small line of canned goods. The shop was closed in 1951 and all the equipment sold to Vern's General store.

Feed Grinding Mills

Most of the feed grinding mills were operated from a small building containing the grinder and engine or else in conjunction with a blacksmith shop.

The first grinding mill we have record of was in November, 1913, when William Grahm, owner and operator was so busy he crushed grain day and night for six days a week.



Feed grinding mill located next to Manning Sutherland Lumber Yard.

This business was sold to Jack Diewert in the summer of 1914. Business was very good as often fifteen teams would be lined up in front of the Larsen-Maland Store waiting for their grain to be crushed.

50 — Harry Bradbury set up a feed grinding mill beside Henschell's Blacksmith Shop for a while in the 1920's.

53 — In 1921 when Rudolph Fisher opened up his blacksmith shop, his son, Ed, recalls that they also operated a feed grinding mill and that he used to come home after school and work late into the evenings helping in the mill.

50 — In 1924, when Herman Lechelt moved to town he operated a feed grinding mill for a short while. This mill was later sold to Chris Lachman who did custom grinding on his farm for about six years.

14 — Another feed grinding mill was located at the back of the horse tying racks and during the years had several owners. Some of these were: Stanley Famulak, Gus Milletstadt, Eric and John Lofgren, Sam Berkholtz.

In the late 1930's Otto Grahm also operated a portable feed grinding plant that he moved to farmyards. This had a gas motor and the grinder was mounted on a wagon or sleigh. Several of the farmers had their own grinders by now and gradually the custom grinding business disappeared with the farmers owning modern tractors and grinders.

Livery Stables

In the early 1900's livery stables were a necessity for every farming community, a place to board your horses while doing business, a place to hire a horse or a liveryman to pick up or deliver people or produce.

There were also tying racks or hitching posts located on Main Street in front of business places and a large horse watering trough near the pump which was centrally located on the street corner.

The first record we have of a livery stable was in 1913 when John Grahm and his son, Otto, began this service.



Village Dray. L. to R.: Asbjorn Lee, Vince Carberry, Dick Peterson drayman. In front of Drug Store.



Teamster Bill Werner, Dairy manager Norm Ogilvie and butter-maker Bill Movold.

In 1916, Jack Diewert was also in the business making regular trips to the Swan Hill area. In 1918, he purchased a new dray (a stout low cart with removable sides used for heavy loads) at an auction and was soon busy draying in Hay Lakes.

In 1917, the first car livery was started by Jack Diewert, and Oscar Grahn also ran one in the 1920's.

During the 1920's Martin Henkelman contracted hauling merchandise from Edmonton for the Larsen store. He made this two-day trip by team for which he received \$8.00. This was competitive for rates charged by the Canadian National Railroad and considered to be good wages.

31 — In the fall of 1921 another livery barn was built by Charles Holmberg for Broen and Movold. This building burned down and a horse also died in the fire. It was rumoured that someone had fallen asleep in the loft while smoking.

12 — Dick Peterson and Charles Holmberg built a livery stable in 1927. Dick set up his own electric light system for the barn. In 1928, Bill Werner bought the livery stable. Horses were kept overnight for fifty cents a night and hay and water was provided.

Bill sold the business to Gus Hein, and in the fall of 1932 Gus remodelled the building and went strictly into the draying business.

With the disappearance of the livery barn in 1932 a large hitching rack was erected on the north side of Main Street where the present community hall is now located. In April, 1960 the hitching rack was dismantled and the pipe sold to Sam Berkholtz.

Other dray men and truckers have been: Simon Grue, Bud Blakely, Dick Peterson, Bill Werner, Edward Mittelstadt, Herb Grams, Gus Hein, John Leicht, Otto Grahn, Inar Broen, Art Movold, Gus Wiesner, Bill Sware, Hilbert Lechelt, Paul Schweitzer, Art and Dwayne Schaffrick.

Blacksmiths

In 1913, the need for a local blacksmith was expressed by farmers who had to take their plowshares to Leduc to be sharpened.

47 — Later that year, William Grahn opened up the first blacksmith shop and feed grinding mill.

51 — In the spring of 1915, another shop was opened by Ferdinand Henschell. He was also an inventor and manufactured or repaired anything mechanical from a singing top to a diesel engine. He sold lamps, patent medicine, and "Dr. Chase's products for beast and man". Another of his sidelines was the construction of coffins which his wife lined. He operated this shop until 1926.

31 — During the 1920's there were more blacksmiths in the village. Hans Brekke operated a shop



Ferdinand Henschell's living quarters and Implement and Blacksmith Shop.

out of John Broen's livery stable before it burned in 1921 or '22.

35 — In 1927, Paul Hiebner bought a small garage from Emil Kiel. He moved it to a new location on Main Street and opened a blacksmith shop which he operated for a couple of years.

53 — In 1921, Rudolph Fisher built a blacksmith shop beside his home. He bought tools from William Grahn who had had a shop behind Oscar's Garage. The work of a blacksmith was very hard and the hours very long but Rudolph ran his shop until 1947



Rudolph Hickey in front of old Blacksmith Shop.

when he sold it to Ralph Hickey. He continued to work for Ralph for a while after that.

In 1952, Ralph built a new larger modern shop. Both Eric Huebner and Mike Sych worked for Ralph over the following years.

In 1970-'71, Ralph closed the shop for the summer months and opened it again for the winter. The shop was closed permanently in 1972.

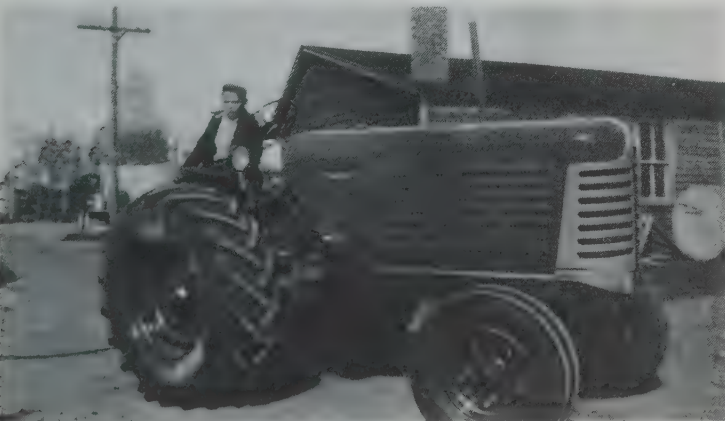


Rudolph Hickey's new Shop — 1952.

As our story develops we see that we have completed a circle. The farmers are again taking their plow shares to Leduc to be sharpened.

Power Plant - Calgary Power - Trans Alta.

41 — When Herman Lechelt moved to Hay Lakes in 1924 he saw the need for electricity for the village so in the fall of 1925 he installed an electric light plant in conjunction with his Implement agency. This plant gave very good results and the Hay Lakes nights were now illuminated brilliantly. This was a Direct Current Delco gas operated plant and the power was gathered into several large batteries and stored. The light supply was drawn from these batteries at night after the plant shut down.



Richard Lofgren on Oliver tractor with power house in background — 1945.

In 1934, the business and plant was sold to Eric and John Lofgren. They later purchased a small diesel engine and generator to replace the Delco plant which had burned out. The Delco plant was eventually given to the Sulitjelma District where it was rewired for use at their community skating rink.

The Lofgren Brothers purchased a larger Marshall Diesel engine and generator which was rebuilt and improved by their mechanic, Dick Gellert. As the batteries became older they would not hold their charge and soon, after the last puff of the diesel engine was heard, everyone rushed to find lamps and candles. The huge smoke stack was often quite a spectacle when it caught on fire.

Lofgrens operated the light plant until 1949 at which time power cost twenty cents a kilowatt. As they no longer had a need for the Marshall engine they sold it to the Village of Plamondon.

10-30 — Calgary Power built a line into the Village of Hay Lakes and service became available on February 23, 1949 at a cost of two cents per kilowatt. The village was serviced from Leduc until 1952 when Camrose became the service center. In January, 1953, a sub-station was set up in Hay Lakes with Don Gillespie as manager. In January, 1954, it became a district of its own and an office was set up in the back of a private garage. In the summer of 1956 a move to a larger office was necessitated because of the oilfield activity and Rural Electrification in the district.

A manager and an assistant were employed to serve the area which also included part of New Sarepta and Armena. In June, 1968 the office was closed and transferred to Camrose.

District managers have included:

Don Gillespie January, 1953-August, 1953

George Grieve August, 1953-June, 1958

Lorne Drynan June, 1958-November, 1965

Charles Twissell November, 1965-June, 1968

Assistant District Managers have included:

Ewald Leonhard January, 1953-October, 1955

Don Fjeseth November, 1955-March, 1956

Gordon Petersen April, 1956-July, 1956

Jim Walker July, 1956-September, 1956

Grant Skippen September, 1956-December, 1959

Frank Dyck January, 1960-March, 1963

Bill Francis March, 1963-July, 1966

Mervin Pasula July, 1966-September, 1967

Gordon Barker September, 1967-June, 1968

Lumber Yards

30 — The Manning-Sutherland Lumber Company of Camrose opened a branch business in the Hay Lakes townsite on Pithouse's land in April, 1915,



Manning-Sutherland Lumber Co. Joe Gosnell, manager beside the lumber. Joe Kreamer with team and wagon load of lumber in 1920's.



John Grahn's new home in foreground Manning-Sutherland Lumberyard in back — 1921.

with Mr. Cubbin as manager. The Company had already disposed of several car lots of lumber through their Camrose office. The lumber was shipped to Hay Lakes by rail. During the first three days of locating here their agent claims to have sold twelve wagon loads. The lumber business appeared to be the best paying investment in Hay Lakes.

50 — In September, 1915 Mr. Joe Gosnell became manager. In May, 1916 he and Mr. Larsen built two bridges to make a road passable around the yard. Mr. Cubbin returned for a short while to help. The operation of the lumber business in that location became almost impossible so in the summer of 1916 the lumber yard was moved from the mud hole to a new dry location which was just north of the present Lutheran Church.

Business continued to be brisk and a large quantity of willow posts and firewood were also shipped from here to the prairie region.

Carl Berg, who had been assistant manager, took over the managerial duties in 1926.

In 1930, Justin Nordmoe became the new manager and in April, 1933 the Progress Lumber Company took over the yard. Mr. Nordmoe remained as manager until 1937 when he returned to Norway and Pete Kowal became the manager.



Progress Lumber Co. 1937.

7-8 — In 1940, the Beaver Lumber Company bought out Progress and built a new yard and office on Main Street beside Larsen's Store. Hardware was added with Reg Berry in charge. Pete Kowal remained as manager until 1944 when he left. Then Ralph Heald took over. After Ralph left, Tim Smith became the manager until February, 1957 when he was transferred to Meeting Creek. Reg Berry then became the manager. Hardware was gradually phased out except for building supplies, and the staff was reduced to one man.



Beaver Lumber on main street — 1940-1967.

Reg Berry was manager until September, 1965 when the lumber yard closed. The Company then built pre-fabricated homes here for two years before the complete operation closed down in 1967 and moved to Winterburn.

The building was sold to Eric Lofgren and Sons who used it for their implement business.

Boardinghouse

48 — In 1913, the John Grahn family constructed the second building in Hay Lake, a boardinghouse and café.

In March, 1915 the town residents were shocked to see the building consumed by flames. There were several boarders as well as the Grahn family in the



Main Street Hay Lakes — 1926. L. to R., South Side: Boarding House, Grahn Garage, Pool Room and Barber Shop, Red & White Store, Diewert Implement, Residence, Larsens flour storage and ice house, Selin's Garage, unknown.

building preparing for breakfast when the fire was discovered. Practically nothing was saved but a \$1000.00 Insurance Policy covered part of the loss.

Mr. Grahn decided to rebuild and began construction immediately on the same site. This time he erected a larger boardinghouse, looking to the future and anticipating the growth of the village. The building was completed the following spring and was operated by the Grahn family until April, 1918 when it was sold to the Gus Edvald family. They operated it until the spring of 1921 when they sold the building and moved to Grande Prairie.

Mrs. Gia Movold, a pioneer of the Armena area who had lost her husband, Ole, then operated it for a year. It was during this time she met and married one of the boarders, Mr. Hustad, Senior.

The building was sold to the Ed Schlender family in 1922 and converted into a butcher shop. They used the rooms above for their living quarters.

This building, also, was lost by fire in 1936.

Hay Lakes Times

5 — Yes, Hay Lakes had its own newspaper in 1924, with office located in the front of "Charlie's Cafe". The editor for the first two years was Mr. Earle Samis, a local teacher. The paper was published by W. Worton of Tofield.

When Mr. Samis left the village the editor's duties were assumed by J. W. Morrison, a teacher at the Sulitjelma school.

The paper's aims were as stated below:

It Works Both Ways

The Hay Lakes Times is strictly a community newspaper circulating in the village and surrounding country around Hay Lakes. Its duties combine the gathering, compiling, printing and distributing news of local interest, which without such a medium would go unrecorded. It also provides an efficient and economical medium for merchants to advertise their wares, thus assisting in building up a sound local trade, which is the back-bone of every community. Newspaper advertising to-day is one of the soundest investments an up-to-date merchant can make, and coupled with the news matter, a newspaper containing advertisements, one of the best investments a buyer of life's commodities can make. To sum it all up in one short sentence, it can truthfully be said, "to be informed is to be profited." The cost of the Times is small. \$2.00 per year. Subscribe now.

The Times has just passed its fourth birthday and while not real ancient at least it can be said it is safely out of the experimental stage. Each week it records the important events of the times, and records those little social happenings without which life would be drab indeed. It also carries merchandise news of real importance and value to the readers, and one does not have to be exceptionally wise to more than save the cost of the paper by taking advantage of the special prices frequently quoted. There are few papers in Alberta that serve their district better and certainly none published from a place the size of Hay Lakes.

The winter is passed. Spring's at hand. Start the new season right by subscribing to the Times.

Hay Lakes Times

This publication ceased in 1929 when J. W. Morrison left and the "flyer" trend was adopted by local merchants, thus making the financing of a small town paper impossible.

Implement Dealers

Jack Diewert, who had been selling farm implements as well as crushing grain, decided there was a need for an implement shop. So in the winter of 1914 he built a large shop on Main Street with living quarters above. He handled a McCormick agency.

51 — The second dealer was Ferdinand Henschell who sold John Deere implements shortly after opening his shop in 1915 until it closed in 1926. At this time the dealership was taken over by Harry Bradbury and later acquired by Chris Hein who already carried a line of Cockshutt machinery. Chris then enlarged his store, adding a lean-to which housed the machinery.

In 1917, a Mr. McKay was doing a prosperous business selling implements for all farm purposes but this enterprise did not last long.

In 1918, the United Grain Growers was also selling farm machinery. At this time Louis Huard was the McCormick agent.

For a short while in the early 1920's Charles Lechelt sold International machinery for Adolph Adams who was a block man travelling to all dealers in the country.

John Broen also sold machinery about this time, in the 1920's.

41-42 — In 1924, Herman and Adolph Lechelt took on the International Harvester Implement business and also sold Delco Electric Light Plants. In 1934, the business was sold to Eric and John Lofgren. The Lofgren Brothers formed a partnership and sold

for both International Harvester and Oliver Machine Companies. They carried a full line of implement parts, and for several years also repaired machinery.

Art Mittelstadt was bookkeeper for a time with Everald Lyseng in charge of machinery sales for several years. Dick Gellert and also Art Stavne were employed as mechanics for several years.

The partnership dissolved in 1943 when John left the business to go farming. In 1958 Eric's son, Richard, joined his father's business and remained until 1972 when he, with his family, left to reside in Hythe, Alberta.

In 1971, Eric's younger son, Allen, became a partner and carried on for a few years following the death of his father in 1977. The business is now closed.

18 — Reins Mittelstadt also sold Rockall tractors during the 1930's and 1940's. Other dealers during this time were Rudolph Fisher who had the Cockshutt agency, Ed Schmidt who had Massey Harris, and Herb Leicht who had the J. I. Case agency.

Medical

During the Spanish 'flu of 1918-1919 Dr. Nordbye of Camrose worked in the area delivering medicine.

The story is told of a young lad from our area accompanying him on his route so he wouldn't get lost. This young man said the only thing that prevented them contacting the 'flu was a constant supply of "moonshine".



Hay Lakes parade, in late 30's or early 40's, showing south side of main street. Far left: Imperial Garage, Bachor's Meat Market and Lofgren's Implement.

During the 1920's there were also optometrists and dentists who made occasional visits to the area to attend to the needs of the pioneers.

In 1923-'24 we had a resident doctor, Doctor Stoner, who, together with his family, lived at the hotel and served the community. In 1925 a dentist, Dr. Massicotte opened an office in the hamlet. Even though, as it was rumored, he used a match to heat his pliers before pulling a tooth, he did a very efficient job. Mr. Massicotte was an avid hunter, seldom being seen on the street without a gun. A comical incident was related of him pulling a tooth one day and suddenly exclaiming: "Oh my gosh, I forgot to wash my hands after I was out shooting rabbits".

In the early 1930's medical services were available from Camrose by Doctor W. H. Craig who was on call at all times. During this time and into the 1940's a room in the hotel was used by the nurses who came to vaccinate the children and look after the public health of the district.

In 1938, the Divisional Board planned to have a medical Doctor visit each school in the Division at least once in every four years to give each pupil a physical examination, vaccinations against small-pox and inoculations against diphtheria. This service was to be free to pupils and to children of pre-school age.

All the above services have now been taken over by the East Central Health Unit Number 10 with its office in Camrose. They are doing a tremendous job in preventative medicine.

In the late 'thirties and early 'forties, Doctor Mac. Smith made many house calls to Hay Lakes and district to attend his sick patients.

With the coming of the paved road, Highway 21, the medical needs of the community are now adequately looked after by medical facilities in larger centers.

Music Teachers

As early as 1919 music lessons were given to local children. Miss Abigail Bergen of Wetaskiwin gave piano lessons in the United Farmers of Alberta hall and later in Pearson's hall. Anna McCoy also gave piano lessons in the hotel and at the school during the year 1928.

During the early 1930's violin lessons were given by John Lovas for a short while.

In 1930, Mrs. D. C. Braun of Edmonton came to the village once a week to give piano lessons in the hotel. She continued teaching for about seven years and during this time several music recitals were given by her pupils.

Herman Schulze also taught piano in the school during the 1940's.

About 1950, Gola Berry, who had been one of Mrs. Braun's pupils for a short while, started teaching piano in her home and still teaches at the present time.

Other teachers during the 1950's and 1960's were: Carol Johnson, Gladys Olson and Ruby Yoner.

For the past several years Earl George from Camrose has been giving piano, guitar and accordion lessons in the school.

For a number of years Reins Mittlestadt, voluntarily and without any remuneration, taught several young people to play various instruments. These young people were soon proficient musicians and became members of the Hay Lakes Band.

Law Enforcement

Otto Grahn was the first Bailiff in the Village. His duties continued from 1922 to 1924.

In 1928, he became the first Village Constable, a position that was terminated after a trial period of about a year. During this time a small building was used to house the offenders. This place held two individuals on one particular evening.

Mr. J. W. Morrison recalls his first day in Hay Lakes. He arrived in the hamlet on January 1, 1920. The next morning he dressed in khaki cavalry breeches with knee-high shoepacks, navy melton saddle coat, muskrat cap, moosehide gauntlet mitts and went out on the snow-covered streets of Hay Lakes to see if he could find someone from the Sulitjelma district who would take him to Sulitjelma school where he was to commence his teaching duties on January 4, 1920. While walking the streets he felt that he was being watched very closely. He noticed that he was being watched from the distance, from beyond sleigh teams, and even from behind window curtains. This made him very uneasy as he couldn't think of any wrong which he had committed. Finally the party who was to pick him up arrived and in a short time he was in his new home.

Three or four years later the mystery unfolded. That cold January day as he walked the streets he had been mistaken for a Mountie. Some fellows had come to the hamlet with a load of "moonshine" liquor, fourteen jugs to be exact. It was hidden in a sleigh about one hundred yards back in the bush. Through contacts and channels it was to be transported on the evening train to Edmonton. When these fellows looked Mr. Morrison over they had decided he was a Mountie sent out to spoil their lucrative business. The "shine" could not go by train so the only alternative they could think of was a fifty-mile sleigh ride over hidden back trails to the outskirts of the city. At that, one of the group was caught with a jug and "served a stretch" in Fort Saskatchewan.

Travelling circuit judges presided over local criminal infractions in the area. These proceedings were held in the community hall.

Justice of the Peace positions over the years from 1913 to 1965 were held by Harry Pithouse, Robert McLeod and Norman Ogilvie.

All elevator agents are Commissioners of Oaths, also Alfred Arnston who at the present time performs most of these duties.

Armena Rural Electrification Association

It was in 1949 that a group of thirty energetic farmers met to form a Power Co-op, which was later named the Armena Rural Electrification Association. The aim was to extend the facilities of Calgary Power into the Armena Farming Community from Hay Lakes where it had been previously channeled.

Much study of the ground work and feasibility, organizing procedure, cost estimates, the route, etcetera had to be made. The first Board of Directors consisting of Herman Atema as President, Albert Stollery as Secretary-Treasurer, and Tom Pelz, Lester Lomnes, Ewald Soderstrom, Victor Pelz, Robert Young, Vern Lyseng, were given the task of getting answers to these questions and problems. The assistance of Fred Gale of Farm Electric Service and F. J. Fitzpatrick of Co-op Activities Branch was sought.

The first Annual Meeting was held in the Armena School on June 17, 1949 with Mr. Stue Anderson of Farm Electric Service as guest speaker. A number of problems were cleared up. It was learned the Association would have to collect at least one half of the cost of the Electrical System in cash and the other half could be borrowed from a bank under a Government Guaranteed Loan at three and one-half per cent interest. An accurate cost estimate per member could not be made till all contracts were signed. To get a clearer picture as to how many could be depended upon to sign a contract and get a closer cost estimate, it was decided to canvass a prospect area and collect a \$25.00 deposit from each farmer interested. After this canvass was made, it was thought the cost would be between \$1,000.00 to \$1,050.00 per member, but after conversing with Mr. Stue Anderson, the estimate jumped to \$1,179.00 each, for thirty-one members. This was quite a blow to their hopes. The possibility of joining with Ervick and Dinant Power Co-ops was then investigated to see if this would lower the cost. However, after receiving estimates of moves in this direction, it was found to be just as costly, if not more so, and they decided to proceed on their own.

After more discussions with Farm Electric Service, an estimate of \$1,025.00 per member was

agreed upon. Any non-farm connection in the Hamlet of Armena would donate \$125.00 towards the Association. Calgary Power would also pay \$125.00 for any other hook-up except churches.

A Master Contract was then signed between the Armena Rural Electrification Association and Farm Electric Service and Calgary Power.

Thirty-six members had made a token down-payment and construction fever had now taken hold. The time was set for midsummer, 1950, and all cash must be on hand before starting. Arrangements were made at the Bank of Montreal, Camrose, to obtain the Government backed loan. Agreement was reached to have Lede Bros. of Leduc dig the holes for the poles. A private contractor was hired to string the wire and the members would do the necessary brushing, while George Currie from Farm Electric Service would supervise line construction. However, with delays taking place, work didn't get started until late fall, thus running into inclement weather — cold, snow and frozen ground. Many stories and experiences were told as this original line was being built. However all this was soon forgotten, except for the memories, when that winter the power lines were finally finished and the power turned on.

In the spring of 1951 neighbouring farm groups were interested in joining the Armena Rural Electrification Association, so meetings with all interested groups were held and Farm Electric Service agreed to have a two-year open contract, after which time applications for power would be closed and an actual cost per member arrived at.

Mr. Don Gillespie was the first Calgary Power trouble man stationed at Hay Lakes, while Stan Smythe was construction supervisor for the additions on behalf of Farm Electric Service.

People in the New Sarepta-Rollyview area also wished to have electrical power. The Clearwater Association to the west and the Ministik Association to the north left them with the choice of forming their own small Association or joining one of the three Associations surrounding them. They chose the Armena Rural Electrification Association. The area served now reached from what is called the Airport Road on the north to Camrose in the south-east and encompassed much of Ranges 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 in its east-west span. Something indicating the dedication which many of the people who organized this Association put into force is demonstrated by a cheque M. Drebert received after nearly two years of canvassing, planning, and collecting down payments. This was an expense cheque paid by the Armena Association. It was for three dollars and sixty-five cents! To add to other problems, M. Drebert was responsible for collecting and delivering \$12,000 at

one time to the board of the Rural Electrification Association. Help of this nature assured the success of this Association.

The first Annual Meeting of the enlarged area was held in the Hay Lakes Hall, June 11, 1952 with 265 member signatures. As the area now was quite large a committee of five, Arthur Heinz, Robert Young, Ivor Lofgren, George Roper and Elmer Olson was set up, to recommend to the next annual meeting the districts for electoral purpose.

At the annual meeting of June 10, 1953 the Board of Directors of the Armena Association was revamped upon the recommendation of the Zoning Committee. The area was divided into three zones, with three directors to be elected in each zone.

In 1954 the final cost statement and refunds were presented by Farm Electric Service. It showed 265 members in the group to be averaged. The estimated cost was \$1,025.00. The actual cost was \$743.50. \$3.50 per member was kept in the local treasury, while \$278.00 was refunded to each member.

The minimum cost then was set for future hook-ups at \$850.00, the extra amount to take care of the increased cost of material, construction, enlarging sub-stations and brushing.

By 1970 the Armena Rural Electrification Association had shown steady increase in its membership to slightly over four hundred. The amount of power used had grown proportionately, or in most cases had far outstripped the normal demands.

Farming, without continuous power involves many problems, such as keeping the brush from growing up into the lines, thus shorting them; keeping birds and cats off the transformer poles since nests and animals do not help keep the "juice" flowing; preventing animals from rubbing on guy wires — such rubbing causing swaying wires that twist and short-out all power; and vandalism by rifle fire and the like. Many farmers who depend entirely on having electrical power available at all times have purchased standby units operated either by their own motors or driven by power take-offs from tractors. Dusk to dawn yard-lights have also made the farm labor much easier and profitable.

The amalgamation of Farm Electric Service and Calgary Power crews for better and faster service has helped over-all. Lines are being constantly upgraded with heavier lines and transformers to provide more efficient service. The servicemen stationed at Hay Lakes have been moved to Camrose, where, working from a central office, they can give quicker and better service to all customers.

In 1968 the deposit account of this Rural Electrification Association was surveyed and found to be at a point where \$25.00 could be refunded to every

member. The members decided at the annual meeting not to apply for it at this time.

On November 11, 1970 a banquet to commemorate the twenty years of life and growth of the Association was held in the gymnasium of the Hay Lakes School. The tables were lit by some three dozen coal oil lamps to remind everyone of the days not so long gone by. Seated at the head table were the original board members, plus others who were part and parcel in bringing this Rural Electrification Association into existence. After a delicious buffet-style dinner served by the ladies of the Hay Lakes community, the assembly was regaled by the past-president Herman Atema and secretary-treasurer Albert Stollery with stories of the problems encountered by all those who set out to form this Association. Other guests also regaled the part their organizations had played in the birth and growth of the Armena Rural Electrification Association. Musical entertainment by members of this association complemented the evening's festivities.

In 1971 the board decided that our deposit account was large enough to enable us to pay each member a refund. On July 19, 1971 the board decided to pay each member an equal share of the total surplus account which amounted to \$37,580. Today our deposit account totals over a quarter of a million dollars but with the frightening costs of repairs and improvements to our lines the board had decided that no pay-outs will be made at the present time.

Due to the ever-increasing power demands by the modern farmer, our lines are constantly being revamped to bring them up to the standards necessary to maintain efficient service to all our members. Construction and maintenance costs have risen so dramatically that the board decided to maintain a strong deposit account, thus protecting the members from any excessive demand should there be a major break-down like that which a violent storm could cause. Individual service costs now range well over \$2,000 on the average, and repair and replacement costs are on an ever-rising scale. So much for progress.

What is in store for this Rural Electrification Association? So much depends on the attitude of the Government towards this type of venture and their cooperation in the scheme of things that are under study at present by the Alberta Union of Rural Electrification Associations and Government and power officials. Power companies would love to buy us out — at their price — for a fraction of what our lines are worth to them as a money-making source. Luckily we have had directors with the foresight to build up and maintain a fund sufficient to carry us through any crisis except for a really catastrophic breakdown

Our lines are in good physical shape and are being constantly checked. We have come a long way since our beginning. And with the continued guidance of a board of directors with the same intense interest in the welfare of the Rural Electrification Association and its members as we have had in the past, we will persevere to be a valued part of this community for years to come.

We all owe a special vote of thanks to our immediate past secretary-treasurer, Oscar Mallas, for the thorough coverage of his position while with the board. Likewise, to every director past and present, "thank-you" for a difficult job well done. These individuals have made and will continue to maintain the Armena Rural Electrification Association as a viable operation.

The Armena R.E.A. board of directors today are:

Pres. M. R. Drebert with twenty-nine years service with the board.
 Vice-Pres. Lloyd Grahn with six years service.
 Sec.-Treas. George Roper with seven years service.
 Directors Richard Pearson with ten years service.
 Alvin Forsen with twelve years service.
 Bruno These with eight years service.
 Hamp Anderson with sixteen years service.
 Martin Severson with six years service.
 Frances Spruyt with three years service.
 Esmond Warren with one year service.

Directors previous to 1981 were as follows:

Albert Stollery seven years
 Robert Young thirteen years
 Victor Pelz two years
 Ewald Soderstrom two years
 Gus Wahl two years
 Algot Eliason two years
 Gerald Bradford six years
 Oliver Grue three years
 John Holmberg eleven years
 Carl Naslund eighteen years
 Chester Thronson nine years
 Herman Atema nine years
 Tom Pelz five years
 Lester Lomnes nine years
 Vernon Lyseng three years
 George Hendrickson two years
 Oscar Mallas twenty years
 Ivor Lofgren eighteen years
 J. U. Erickson eleven years
 Anton Olson fifteen years
 Albert Hirsch twelve years
 Erwin Lachman twelve years

The board of directors at this time thanks all those who had a part in framing the structure of this Association, including Government personnel, power company employees and executive members of the Alberta Union of Rural Electrification Associations. You too have had a hand in shaping the History of Hay Lakes and District.

Hay Lakes Municipal Library

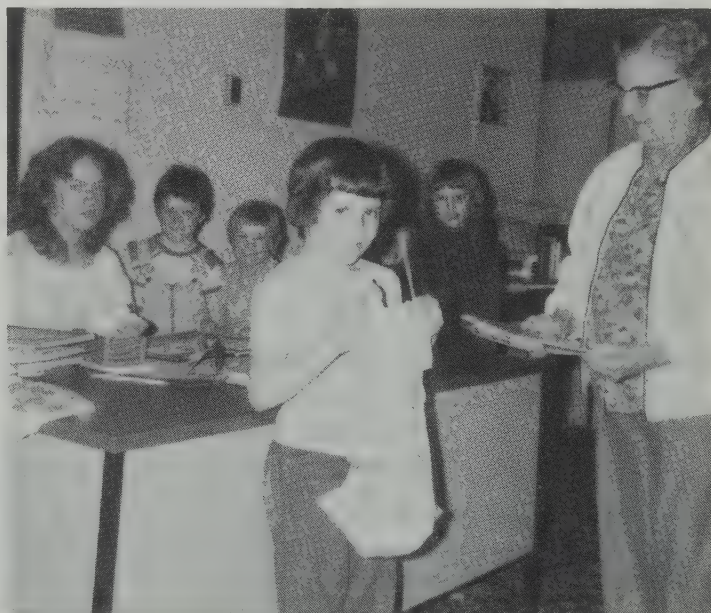
The first Public Library in Hay Lakes officially

opened on February 1, 1957. Prior to that date each school had a "book cupboard" with a few dozen books that were available to the students. Adults interested in reading material would often send their requests to the University of Alberta Extension Department which sent them the desired books on loan.

In the olden days a gift of a book was something to be treasured, and the book was well read as it passed amongst family members and friends. Next to the Bible, the Eaton's catalogue was the most popular "book" of all. Besides being entertaining for young and old alike, it was a necessary shopping medium as well as a useful item in the out-door "biffy".

Concerned about the lack of suitable reading material for the young people of the community, the Hay Lakes Home and School Association at their regular meeting held on October 1, 1956, elected Mrs. Carl Nordin, Mrs. Edward Galenza and Mrs. Rudolph Nordin to investigate the possibility of establishing a community library. Mrs. Carl Nordin and Mrs. Rudolph Nordin met with Harry Newsom, Supervisor of Public Libraries for the Province of Alberta, and secured permission for the Hay Lakes Village to establish a Municipal Library, provided all requirements of the Alberta Libraries Act were met. Final government approval was granted in November, 1956. Members of the first Hay Lakes Municipal Library Board were: Carl Nordin, mayor and chairman; Mrs. William Sware, secretary; Mrs. Ted Grahn, Norman Ogilvie and Henry Zucht.

The first funds to support the newly formed organization were received from the Hay Lakes Home and School Association and the Hay Lakes Ladies' Circle "S" Club. The latter donated the entire proceeds of their first annual tea and bazaar held in



Wanda Grahn presenting an award to Jodi Piersdorff for most books read. May 1979.

November, 1956. Annual donations from these two groups, plus the annual matching government grant, provided funds for library growth.

Housed in one classroom of the old vacated four-room schoolhouse, the library was opened on February 1, 1957, with a collection of two hundred and seventy books. The library was open each Friday, with volunteer workers, until September, 1961. At that time the books were moved to the newly opened Hay Lakes School Library. Mrs. Louise Nordin, the school librarian, maintained and operated the joint collection until her departure in June, 1964. Assistance in the library was given by ladies of the village and district who helped prepare new books and mended old ones one evening a week.

Special thanks go to Mrs. Louise Nordin who spent endless hours after school and in the evenings to build up a fine collection of books for the school and community.

Following the departure of Mrs. Nordin an attempt was made to turn the library into a classroom. However, members of the community along with the local Home and School Association fought the issue and managed to save the library. Although there was no school librarian the joint library was able to function through the efforts of the principal at that time, Kenneth Dahl, the Municipal Library Board, and volunteer help from the village and district. The main responsibilities of operating the Municipal Library fell upon Mrs. John Lofgren and Mrs. Carl Nordin who were assisted by other volunteers who helped each Tuesday evening.

Mrs. John Lofgren, Mrs. Carl Nordin, Mrs. William Yoner and Mrs. Gordon Lindseth have taken the Library Custodian Correspondence Course offered by the Recreation and Cultural Development Branch of the Alberta Government, which has made it possible for the Municipal Library to carry on its operations. Mrs. Margaret Sware, teacher-librarian, also was of great assistance and thus the Municipal and School libraries operated harmoniously as one.

As a fund raising event, the Library Board sponsored a tea and bake sale on June 8, 1963. This was most successful and became an annual event. During the past few years shrubs and bedding plants have become a major addition to the sale. These funds, along with donations, and County, Village and Alberta Government grants, make it possible to purchase new books and to carry on with the operation of the library.

At a meeting of the Hay Lakes Municipal Library Board on January 20, 1964, a motion was made by Norman Ogilvie that library funds now handled by the village, be transferred to the Library Board and operated in accordance with the Library Act, with



Book presentation at Hay Lakes Library. L. to R.: Mrs. Bohi, Charles Bohi (author), Neil Johnson, Marg Arnston, Lue Lindseth. February 14, 1981.

Margaret Arnston as secretary-treasurer. This motion was carried, and on January 27, 1964 a cheque of \$125.85 was received from the Village to close off their library account.

During Canada's Centennial Year, the Hay Lakes Municipal Library sponsored a booklet entitled "A Glimpse Into the Past", which contains much valuable information about Hay Lakes and surrounding areas. The booklet was started at school by Mrs. Pauline Maruschak and her Grade three class of that year. "Our Community" was a Social Studies Unit that was taught in that grade at the time. Once the project was started, many residents of the community became interested and willingly supplied information. As the material came in, it was taken home by Mrs. Maruschak and typed by her daughter, Elaine.

Mr. Fred Hamilton, who was the principal of the Hay Lakes School at the time, took much interest in the project and greatly assisted with the book's completion. Mrs. Doreen Watt, a Grade seven teacher, designed the cover during one of her lunch hours. The booklet was complete in about two and a half months. This was all made possible by the excellent co-operation of the community and the school.

In addition to the booklet a Community Photo Album was compiled. It is now highly treasured and is the property of the Hay Lakes Municipal Library.

Over the years the school and municipal libraries increased their book collections and the school library became too crowded. It was felt that the Municipal Library would be more beneficial to the village and district residents if it were located on Main Street. An opportunity arose to make the move when a multi-use complex was built onto the Hay Lakes Community Hall in 1976, and space was allotted for a library.

As the new structure neared its completion, the interior of the library was quickly readied when several volunteer carpenters, Carl Nordin, John Luger, Ole Sandbu and Vincent Berg built and installed the bookshelves. Mr. Nordin also built a large magazine rack, cupboards and a typing desk for the workroom. The Municipal books, which had been stored at the John Groeller home and Arnston's Insurance office for some months, were then placed on the new shelves.

On October 30, 1976, at the time of the official opening of the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Center, the spacious new Municipal Library was officially opened by Mr. E. J. Wiltshire, director of Alberta Library Services.

In their new location the Municipal Library was able to extend services to the public and the library was now open on Saturday as well as on Tuesday evenings. Also the library was opened during the week by appointment to accommodate visiting classes from the kindergarten and the Hay Lakes School.

Travelling showcase displays from the Alberta Provincial Museum were received on loan on a regular basis until this service was discontinued by the government. These displays drew great interest and some that were particularly remembered are the ones on birds, mammals, house plants, old time toys and the "Country Store".

Puppet shows have been held, as well as story hours, and special activities for Hallowe'en, Christmas, Young Canada Book Week, etcetera.

In December, 1978, a sixteen-millimetre film projector was received, free of charge, from the Northern Alberta Library Development Services. Great use has been made of this projector and film nights are held for special occasions as well as for class visits. Films are procured from the National Film Board free of charge, or rented from the University of Alberta Educational Media. Until recently the projector was also used to show films when the District Health Nurse visited the Senior Citizens' Center. The Seniors now have a projector of their own.

Dozens of free books were received from Northern Alberta Library Development Services during their short existence. Besides, book donations have been received from local residents and a number of books have been placed in the library as memorials. To date there are nearly four thousand books in stock and sixteen magazines are subscribed to annually. Books have been borrowed from Alberta Culture Multilingual Bibloservice where twenty-nine languages are available. Also books are borrowed through inter-library loans.

As the library grew, further furniture items were added. A moveable book cart on wheels was built by Carl Nordin and a book display table built by John Luger. A large glass display case was placed in the library by the Circle "S" ladies as an Alberta Seventy-fifth Anniversary project, with a portion paid by a grant from the village . . . The six-foot-tall display case was built by Don Scabar.

During the year of Alberta's Seventy-fifth Anniversary, a birthday party was held in the library with approximately one hundred children and adults in attendance. The library was open to the public during the Hay Lakes Homecoming on August 31, 1980 and an antique display was set up. Also during 1980 a two-hundred-dollar grant was received from the Alberta Seventy-fifth Anniversary Committee and this grant was used to purchase Alberta history books.

A highlight of 1981 was a visit to the library by the author, Charles Bohi, on Valentine's Day. An autographed copy of his book, "Canadian National's Western Depots" was presented to the library by Neil Johnson. Mr. Bohi gave a slide presentation on trains and stations in Western Canada during the afternoon. Art Evans of the Edmonton Journal was also a special guest for the occasion.

In 1981, Librarian Lue Lindseth attended the annual Regional Library Conference held at Jasper. This is the first time a delegate of the Hay Lakes Library Board has attended the conference.

The library is located adjacent to the Senior Citizens' Centre and close harmony prevails between the library staff and the senior citizens. During the past year the library has been used extensively by researchers for the Hay Lakes History Book.

The library continues to operate with mainly volunteer labor. At a library board meeting on February 26, 1977, a motion was passed that an honorarium of one dollar per hour be given to the person on duty during the hours the library is open to the public. To date this same rate applies.

Present board members are: Wanda Grahn, Elsie Luger, Alpha McLean, with John Groeller as chairman; Margaret Arnston as secretary-treasurer; and Lue Lindseth as library custodian.

The library board honored Mrs. Carl Nordin in 1981 for her dedicated service to the library ever since its inception in 1956. The board is indebted to Mrs. Nordin and the many local residents who gave freely of their time and talent over the years to enable the library to operate. The library board is also grateful to the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association who have paid the utilities for the library since 1976, the Village of Hay Lakes, County of Camrose and Alberta Culture who have provided annual grants, and the Circle "S" Club for their yearly donation.

Hay Lakes Playschool

Due to the large enrollment of children in the Preschool Project it was decided to divide the four and five-year-old children for the fall of 1977. At a general meeting an organization was set up by some concerned mothers, to establish a play school.

Since Kindergarten is held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, it was decided to hold Playschool classes on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, starting the first week in October, 1977. Eleven children enrolled for the first year.

Playschool is held in the Youth Center and the cost of utilities is shared between the groups that use the building. The teacher receives a salary and each week one volunteer mother helps with the children.



The Hay Lakes Kindergarten class rode the train to Edmonton on the last run of the rail liner through Hay Lakes, November 12, 1981.



Children at play in the sandbox at the Youth Center.

Volunteer help is a vital part of the program. The executives are made up of the mothers of the children enrolled.

The Hay Lakes Circle "S" Club and the Camrose Thrift Shop gave generous donations to support the project. Discussions were held with Bonnie Hutchinson, director of Preventive Social Services, who would apply for funding. Theresa Busenius and Marg Nordin presented the program details to the Preventive Social Services Board. The project was accepted and funding was received in April, 1978.

Serving on the executive have been Theresa Busenius, Ruth Anderson, Terry Scabar, Jean Renton, Holly Berg, Faye Yachemetz, Rhonda Paul, Carol Huebner, and Anna Peters. Presently on the executive for the 1981-'82 term are Annabelle Heinz — President, and Donna Currie — Secretary-Treasurer.

Carol Skaret has remained as the teacher since 1977. The average number of children attending has been approximately twelve each term.

Hay Lakes Pre-School Project

Discussions on beginning an Early Childhood Service Project began in the winter of 1974 and the organizational meeting was held in July, 1975. Due to the amount of time consumed in becoming organized and forming a society, the first class did not begin until October, 1975. It was decided to include the three and a half year olds (or two years before school age), as it was not known exactly how many students would be enrolled. Twenty-nine children attended classes that fall.

For the first year, classes were held in the basement of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes. The next year the classes moved to the Youth Center. In order to meet specific Government fire and safety regulations, the Youth Center had to be remodelled before it could be used for classes.

It took many hours of volunteer work headed by Elaine Dittmer to complete the task. Other mothers involved initially in the project included Marg Nordin, Carol Kupka, Edna Merriman, Ria MacIntyre, Lucy Broen, and Bonnie Fuernkranz.

Carol Skaret was the teacher with Tillie Sych acting as an assistant and substitute teacher.

The project served a very great need for children to interact with others their own age. However the class grew too large and so for the fall of 1977 it was divided into Kindergarten and Playschool.

Jean Resch was the kindergarten teacher from 1977 to June, 1981. The present teacher is Mrs. Heather Book of Edmonton.

Since 1976 the Kindergarten executive has included Gayle Werkman, Barbara Reddick, Lorraine Donohue, Lynn Lyseng, Dena Grue, Tillie Sych, Pat Truman, Jean Renton, Pia Awram, Bonnie Fuernkranz, Jean Piersdorff, Marian Winder, Rhonda Paul and Cheryl Stewart.

The executive for 1981-82 is Carol Huebner — President, Marian Winder — Secretary; Connie Henderson — Treasurer; Bonnie Fuernkranz — Co-ordinator.

Further Education for Adults

The Hay Lakes area first gained representation on the Camrose and Area Further Education Council in the spring of 1976 when Carol Tomazewski became the representative. This came about after the Camrose and Area Further Education Council co-ordinator Wendy Barry, talked to the Hay Lakes Recreation Board about the Camrose and area Further Education Council which is funded in part by grant monies from Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower to help provide more equal opportunity for all adults to participate in programs as determined by public needs and demands. The purpose of the council is to help promote and provide these programs. And so the launching of further education in Hay Lakes resulted in two ceramics classes organized by Carol and held from October to December of 1976.

In June, 1977 Mrs. Maxine Sych became the new representative and established a variety of courses which were offered to adults. Those that ran successfully included ceramics, knit and stretch sewing, macrame, weaving, meat cutting, “keep fit” and re-upholster.

The following year saw another new representative on the council when Lue Lindseth replaced Maxine Sych in the spring of 1978. Since that time the council as a whole has seen many changes and expansions. When Wendy Berry resigned her position in 1979, Barb Olsen assumed the position effective in June, 1979. As the local hosting authority for Camrose and Area Further Education Council, Camrose County Board of Education provides office space in the county building for the Camrose and Area further Education Council co-ordinator, which continues to be occupied by Barb Olsen at present in 1982.

Courses co-ordinated for Hay Lakes from 1978 to the present (1982) by Lue Lindseth include: cross-country skiing, “keep fit”, macrame, leather-craft, copper tooling, motor tune-up and maintenance, re-upholstery, drapery, ballroom dancing, Chinese cooking, Ukrainian cooking, ceramics, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, aerobic dance, square dancing, blue jeans sewing, hydroponic gardening, greenhouse construction, passive solar energy, textiles workshop, welding, assertiveness training, pant fitting and design, rug hooking, speed sewing, interior design, and Ukrainian Easter egg decorating.

Village of Hay Lakes History

by Alf Arnston

The Village of Hay Lakes was not incorporated as a Village until 1928, but the hamlet was formed after the railway came through about fifteen years before that time, and was administered by the Rural Municipal District of Cornhill from its office in Tofield. After incorporation in 1928, an election was held. Chris Hein received the most votes and was appointed the first mayor. Emil Kiel and Lauritz Larsen were also elected which meant that the Council started the Municipal administration in Hay Lakes. James Carberry was appointed the first secretary-treasurer with a salary of \$75.00 per year. Council met in an office of the Hay Lakes Hotel, as it was not considered necessary to have a permanent office.

On the 29th of December, 1928, Otto Grahn was appointed Constable and Justice of the Peace for the Village. At first his salary was \$20.00 per month, which was reduced to \$10.00 per month on April 13, 1929, but he was given half of the “fine money” imposed. Herman Lechelt, who had an implement business, provided the facilities for a jail.

In order to accommodate the local population, the Village purchased three lots on Main Street for horse stalls, so that horses could be tied while residents shopped in the local stores — this is the present site of the Fire Hall and part of the location occupied by the Recreation Centre. A livery stable was also built for the horses of local residents who had to take the train to Camrose or Edmonton, which often involved overnight stays. In the barn the horses were fed and taken care of until the owner returned from his trip. Often the area set aside for tying the horses became overflowing so fence posts and telephone posts were used as well. A trip to Hay Lakes for local residents, often travelling about seven miles, was an event to be remembered. Every street corner had a group of people carrying on a conversation, often in Swedish, Norwegian, Ukrainian, German or Polish, since the old-timers enjoyed meeting in the village. Shopping trips often involved the whole family for the day's outing.

When the townsite was first surveyed, located in the Municipality of Cornhill, there was no provision made for sidewalks or gravelled roads for the benefit of residents. All roadways were dirt or clay and there were no other services, such as street lights. Lots were sold for about \$50.00 each and owners could erect their own types of buildings, according to what they could afford.

The Village could not afford all services immediately after incorporation in 1928, since at that time the Assessment total was only \$68,000.00 and the mill rate was set at ten mills. Some residents built

their own sidewalks at first. In 1931, wooden sidewalks were built and some residents contributed part of labor in return for reducing the arrears on taxes.

In 1932 Herman Lechelt, who had the Implement Shop, agreed to provide two Street Lights during the winter months for \$1.00 per month. In addition, Mr. Lechelt set up a light plant to service the residents of the Village who wished to take advantage of this service. However, not everyone could afford to hook up.

It was not until the late 1930's and early 1940's that concrete sidewalks were built on Main Street. Sand was hauled from Joseph Lake and rocks were used in order to save as much as possible on cement. A cement mixer was bought and much of the labor was on a voluntary basis.

In 1954, Ted Reiten of Camrose was given a contract to replace wooden sidewalks with concrete at forty-five cents per square foot. Local labor was hired, so that the cost could be kept as low as possible.

When Provincial Grants for street improvements became available at a later date, sidewalks as well curbs and gutters were made possible.

During the 1930's and 1940's it was not too difficult to provide an estimate of Revenue and Expenditure, or a Budget. Until the late 1940's the School District dealt with their own budgets and collected their own taxes. Here are three samples of early budgets:

1934 Estimates:			
Office Expenses and Secretary-Treasurer's			
Salary	\$125.00		
Relief	200.00		
Public Works	259.00	\$584.00	
1940 Estimates:			
Administration	\$148.60		
Fire Department	589.55		
Grants and Hospital	102.96		
Public Works and Miscellaneous	650.00	\$1,491.11	
1949 Estimates:			
Administration	\$485.00		
Street Lights	520.00		
School Requisition	5072.00		
Health Services	250.00		
Hall Repair	300.00		
Miscellaneous Expenses	200.00		
Sidewalk and Streets	773.00	\$7,600.00	

Property values were very low and therefore the amounts collected from ratepayers were low in relation to present-day values. For instance in 1930, the Village purchased one acre of land from Joseph Kreamer for Nuisance Grounds for the sum of \$40.00. The Village sold one lot to be used for a Garage for \$50.00.

Provision for relief was a fact of life since until recently the Provincial Government did not have a system of paying welfare for people in dire need.

Hence it was necessary to pay a small sum to help citizens who were destitute.

Until 1938, the Village did not have a Fire Department, and consequently had to depend on the ability of people with buckets, serviced by a water supply from outside pumps to fight fires. However, in 1938 Norman Ogilvie was appointed Fire Chief with a salary of \$1.00 per year, and arrangements were made to purchase a chemical push-type machine for fighting fires within the Village. The cost of this unit was \$1000.00 and with funds from the Village and proceeds from dances held for the purpose, the money was raised.

A "fire shed" was also built at the rear of the Community Hall, but during the winter months the unit was stored in the Hay Lakes Garage.

Later a Fire Truck was purchased from the City of Camrose.

It was not until 1965 that a modern Fire Hall was contemplated. A vote was held on a plan to build a modern two-stall Fire Hall designed by an engineer, for the price of \$20,000.00. This plan was rejected by the ratepayers. Hence, in 1966 the Village undertook to build the present Fire Hall without the aid of engineering services. Morris Aspell and William Wentland agreed to erect the building and the water reservoir at a cost of \$5,000.00. This is now located next to the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Centre, and serves the purpose for which it was intended with two Fire Engines on duty at all times.

Oscar Grahn succeeded Norman Ogilvie as Fire Chief. Harold Leicht was next and he was succeeded by Dennis Leicht and now the fire Chief is Larry Peirsdorff. As always, there are Volunteer Firemen who respond to calls very quickly.

Until 1954 the Ball Park was located on the Public Works Reserve, which was owned by the Provincial Government, and was used without charge. (This area is now used for residential purposes and the Youth Centre.) In May 1952, the Village of Hay Lakes agreed to purchase approximately five acres from Gola Berry for the sum of \$500.00, which was an open field directly east of the school playgrounds, to be developed into a ball park and picnic grounds. A meeting was called and included the Circle "S" Club, the Hay Lakes Branch of the Canadian Legion, and the Village officials, to plan fund-raising projects to pay for the land and improvements required. Therefore the proceeds of the Sports Day on the first of July were designated for this purpose. By 1955, the project was completed in time for the Jubilee celebration, which was held to commemorate the fiftieth year for the Province of Alberta.

In 1961, evergreens were planted from seedlings obtained from the Department of Agriculture, which

provided one row of trees in the park. The balance of the trees were obtained from roadsides and the Hubschmid farm in the Spruce Grove district.

History of the Village of Hay Lakes

In the 1930's Eric Lofgren provided the electricity to the Village residents from a Power Plant operated from his Implement Shop. Service continued from this source for all those who were hooked up. The Village had a contract to provide service and this was better than the old coal oil or high-test gas lamps in vogue in the province at that time. However, it was not possible to provide enough energy to meet all the needs and the service had to stop at midnight most of the time.

In 1949, the Village of Hay Lakes signed a contract with Calgary Power to provide the power for the Village, since most residents at that time required continuous service to keep refrigerators and furnaces going day and night.

So far as a source of fuel for heating and cooking, wood, coal, propane and oil provided the energy.

Natural Gas did not become available until 1968 when a contract with Plains Western Gas and Electric was signed by the Village. A network of gas lines had to be installed, so that every resident who wished to hook up could do so.

It was not until 1952 at a ratepayers' meeting in February that consideration was given to installing sewer and water on a Municipal basis. It was moved that the Village council study the possibility of installing water and sewer. Hence a study was made and a water well was drilled, but not sufficient water could be found to supply the whole village with well water. However, it was felt that a sewer system would be possible at a cost of \$40,000.00, with three and a half percent interest on a loan. A vote for this was held on December 12, 1953, but was rejected by the resident ratepayers. Finally, after a couple more attempts, the ratepayers voted in favor of the sewer system. (A two-thirds majority was required.)

In the fall of 1956, the work commenced with Haddin, Davis and Brown as engineers. The contractor was McLeod Construction from Edmonton. The system consisted of a main line and service lines, including five acres near the present lagoon site, and worked by gravity. In the spring of 1957 residents were hooked up, but not all were able to take advantage of the system at first, so that financing was managed with a hook-up fee of sixteen cents per foot frontage and a service charge of \$3.50 per month for each domestic hook-up. Commercial rates varied according to the amount of benefit.

The amount borrowed was \$40,000.00 and it was found that the system cost \$42,000.00 when all the

bills were totalled. After the system had been in use for twenty years the five-acre lagoon became too small, since this had to drain into the Hay Lakes Drainage District ditch.

Due to the fact that the original lagoon had to be drained into the Hay Lakes Drainage System twice a year, (thus not providing sufficient time for "curing" the sewage) it was found necessary, in order to meet the more strict provisions of the Department of the Environment, to increase the size of the lagoon. Hence in July, 1978, construction began on a twenty-seven acre lagoon and a lift station, to meet the requirements of an expected increase in the population of the Village in the future to about seven or eight hundred, and also to provide proper treatment of the sewage. This meant that the lagoon had to have four units so that the treatment would be provided in stages before being released into the Hay Lakes Drainage ditches on its way to Stoney Creek.

The cost of the system was \$305,000.00 and the contractor was Nikiforuk Construction of Edmonton.

Before construction on the new sewer system started, a study was under way for installation of a municipal water system. Several test wells were made, but in each instance, the supply of water from each well was considered insufficient. Hence it was decided to use surface water from the Hay Lakes Drainage ditches to be assembled in a twenty-five acre reservoir located one and a half miles north of the Village on a parcel of land belonging to Lorne Harke.

Construction of the water system started in the summer of 1981. Richcore Excavation Limited, Edmonton, was the general contractor for the job, with subcontracts to build water-treatment facilities given to Linalta of Trochu, and the building of the reservoir was awarded to John Wilfort Construction Limited of Stettler.

The work was completed early in 1982 at a total cost of \$1,315,000.00. A Provincial Government grant provided \$732,198.00 with the balance of \$582,802.00 borrowed from the Municipal Finance Corporation.

This is the largest project ever undertaken by the Village of Hay Lakes, and this project will enable the Village to expand to nearly three times its present population. The Village population in 1981 totaled 302.

In order to provide adequate office facilities the Village built an office on Main Street in 1981 at a cost of \$52,400.00, of which the sum of \$33,000.00 was raised by way of debentures and the balance of \$19,400.00 came from Provincial grants and Village reserve funds. Previously the Village kept all its

records and belongings in the Alf Arnston Insurance Agency office.

At present the election of Councilmen is held in October throughout all Alberta Municipalities. In October, 1980, the Village of Hay Lakes elected five members to increase their council by two.

Serving on the Village Council during the years 1928-1981 are:

Mayor

Chris Hein	1928-'32
Oscar Grahn	1933-'35
Gustav Hein	1936
Oscar Grahn	1937 to spring of 1940
Rudolph Fisher	1940-'43
Eric Lofgren	1944-'45
Mauritz Aspell	1946-'48
Emmanuel Paul	1949-'50
William Sware	1951-'54
Carl Nordin	1955-'63
Camille Moser	1964
Carl Nordin	1965
Lorne Drynan	1966
George Schultz	1967
Camille Moser	1968
Edward Wolter	1969-'71
William Yoner	1972
Henry Zucht	1973-'74
John Groeller	1975-'81

Councilmen

Lauritz Larsen	1928-'31
Emil Kiel	1928-'43
Norman Ogilvie	1932-'33
Gus Hein	1934-'35
Oscar Grahn	1936
Knut Carlson	1937
John Lofgren	1938-'40
Gus Bachnor	1941-'43
Mauritz Aspell	1944-'45
Ewald Erickson	1945-'47
Adolph Mittelstadt	1946
Emmanuel Paul	1947-'48
Carl Nordin	1948-'54
William Sware	1949-'50
Herbert Leicht	1951-'61
Arthur Schaffrick	1955
E. J. Mittelstadt	1956 to June

Mauritz Aspell	1956-'57
Henry Zucht	1958-'63
William Sware	1962
Camille Moser	1963
George Webber	1964
Lorne Drynan	1965
William Yoner	1965-'66
George Schultz	1966
Floyd Baier	1967-'68
Camille Moser	1967
Edward Wolter	1968
Henry Zucht	1969-'72
George Schultz	1969 to April 1970

Mike Sych	1970-'81
John Groeller	1973-'74
Dennis Leicht	1975-'79
Larry Piersdorff	1980
Dennis Radtke	February-October 1980-'81

Ron Rosychuk	1980-'81
Gloria Sheppy	1980-'81
Secretary-Treasurer	
J. E. Carberry	1928-'29
Louis Grommers	1930-'31
Florence Hein	1932
Justein Nordmoe	1933-'37
A.L.R. Nordin	1938-'40
Martha Kiel	1941-'44
Magnus Sware	1945-'50
Alfred Arnston	1951-'79
Emily Aspell	1980
Susan Perkin	1980
	December 1980-1981

The present Council in 1982 includes: Mayor — John Groeller; Secretary-treasurer — Susan Perkin; Councilmen — Mike Sych, Dennis Radtke, Ron Rosychuk and Henk Werkman.

Alberta Government Telephones — Ellswick Area

The Alberta Government Telephone Rural Line 19, connecting the Ellswick area to the Camrose exchange was built in 1914. It was listed for the first time in A.G.T.'s official directory in July 1915. There were eight names listed on line 19 in that official directory. Three of those names were J. P. Nelson, H. Hendrickson and A. H. Ladell from the Ellswick area. Soon after, a few others subscribed. They were John Famulak, Anton Pelz and Andersons. This line was used until the 1930's when the depression came and the farmers could not afford the government rates. Later, the local telephone co-op came into being, providing service at a lower rate.

AGT Northern September 1922

HAY LAKES

Day Service

EXCHANGE PARTY LINE SUBSCRIBERS

X 105 Broen I O
X 103 Grahn J res
X 110 Henschell F A res
X 102 Huard L res
X 107 Larson L General Store
X 104 Olofson E W res
X 106 United Grain Growers Ltd

HAY LAKES MUTUAL TELEPHONE CO.

R 308 Feragen Ole	R 322 Miller Fred
R 323 Feragen Peter	R 302 Nordin E P
R 304 Grahn H	R 311 Person Anton
R 312 Grue Lars	R 310 Person J A
R 321 Hanson Peter	R 318 Sollid C
R 319 Hinkelman Martin	R 317 Sware Anton
R 306 Holmberg Chas	R 309 Sware H
R 320 Jack Adam	R 303 Sware John
R 315 Johnson A	R 305 Sware Ole
R 307 Lindberg N S	R 313 Thompson M
R 316 Lofgren John	
R 314 Lofgren Jonas	

Edmonton January 1936

HAY LAKES

Day Service

EXCHANGE SUBSCRIBERS

- 1 Burns & Co Ltd Creamery
- 13 Canadian National Railways Station
- 9 Larson L General Store

HAY LAKES MUTUAL TELEPHONE CO.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| R 308 Feragen Ole | R 326 Naslund John |
| R 323 Feragen Peter | R 302 Nordin E P |
| R 304 Grahn H | R 311 Pearson Anton |
| R 312 Grue Lars | R 310 Pearson J A |
| R 321 Hanson Mrs Peter | R 318 Sollid C |
| R 319 Hinkelman Martin | R 317 Sware Mrs Anton |
| R 306 Holmberg Chas | R 309 Sware H |
| R 315 Johnson A | R 303 Sware John |
| R 316 Lofgren John | R 324 Sware M J |
| R 314 Lofgren Jonas | R 305 Sware Ole |
| R 322 Miller Fred | R 313 Thompson M |
| | R 307 Webster Geo |

The Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company

by Frank H. Walker

A nation is as its people are. Many parts make up a whole, and the whole is no stronger than its several parts. As we study the story of the development of communication in this rural area of Alberta this fact becomes evident, that the strength of this province has its origin in the strength of its pioneers and the co-operative elements they introduced in its early development.

I have chosen the Hay Lakes area because it was one of the first areas in Alberta to develop the mutual system of telephone communication. It is that part of Alberta lying east and north of the village of Hay Lakes, sepcifically a section of Township 49, Range 21, West of the 4th Meridian. It is interesting to note that the first telegraph line from Winnipeg to Edmonton (part of the Dominion Telegraph line)¹ passed immediately south of this area, in fact, bordering it on the south and west, and that the western terminus of the line was located on the NW 32-48-21-W4. Mr. Charles Holmberg, of whom we will hear later, has pointed out to me the site of the shack which served as the Telegraph station, and has also pointed out to me the signs of the old overland Red River Trail which closely followed the line, and over which lumbered the many Red River carts of the last century.

This area was settled around the turn of the century, basically by people of Scandinavian origin. Most of them came directly from Norway and Sweden. It might be well here to make another point. It is that these two countries are world renowned for their co-operative enterprises. This so-called national spir-

it was well exemplified by the new Canadians in the eastern Hay Lakes area.

By the fall of 1914 this district had no telephone system. The Alberta Government Telephone had a branch line north of Camrose extending to Armena, and when anyone from the area north wanted to telephone Camrose or elsewhere they had to travel several miles to the nearest telephone. There was a strong United Farmers' Local organized by this time, with Charles Holmberg as President. On behalf of the people of the district he enquired of the government if an extension of the telephone service could be made. He was given a flat refusal. Then in the spring of 1915 Mr. Holmberg was appointed by the U.F.A. Local No. 70 to interview the local member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. George P. Smith, to see what he could do about getting this area of his electorate telephone service. Mr. Smith stated that just so long as the war lasted (World War I) there was not the slightest chance of having any of the lines extended, and even at the conclusion of the war he could make no promise as to whether anything could be done.

Quoting the words of Mr. Holmberg, "When we knew there was no chance of getting Alberta Government Telephones I took it upon myself to get what information I could in connection with rural telephones. I wrote to the head office of the Northern Electric Company and obtained a booklet entitled "How to Construct a Rural Telephone Line". When he had thoroughly digested this booklet, he journeyed to Edmonton and purchased from the Alberta Government Telephones two discarded telephones. One of these 'phones was installed in Mr. Holmberg's house situated on NE 4-49-21-W4. The other 'phone was installed in the house of Anton Pearson, a neighbor, situated on SE 10-49-21-W4. These two 'phones wre connected to each other by an ordinary barb-wire fence, and where it was necessary to cross a road allowance or a farm gate the wires were raised in order to allow traffic to pass under it.

With this equipment, which had already been discarded by the Alberta Government Telephone System as obsolete and useless, the first communication system in this area began. It was in the fall of 1915 that the first installation was completed. All that winter messages carried well. The purpose of this experiment was two-fold: first to determine whether a community owned system would work, and secondly, to interest the people in the district in obtaining a workable system.

During the winter, considerable study had been made by Mr. Holmberg, so that when spring arrived, with its accompanying warm weather and moisture, and subsequent short circuits, he knew just why this

temporary line did not work well when winter was over.

This brings us to the spring of 1916. People in the district were interested to the extent that by this time ten of them had purchased discarded equipment from the Alberta Government Telephone System, and had "hooked up" to their neighbors via the fence wire system. The first twelve telephone pioneers were:

Charles Holmberg	NE 4-49-21-W4
Anton Pearson	SE 10-49-21-W4
John Lofgren	SW 15-49-21-W4
Jonas Lofgren	NW 9-49-21-W4
N. Lindberg	NW 10-49-21-W4
John Sware	NW 14-49-21-W4
Ole Sware	NE 14-49-21-W4
E. P. Nordin	SE 22-49-21-W4
Fred Miller	NW 22-49-21-W4
A. Sware	NE 20-49-21-W4
P. Hanson	SE 17-49-21-W4
T. L. Grue	NE 16-49-21-W4

Of these original twelve, only three are still living: Charles Holmberg, Anton Pearson, and T. L. Grue. Anton Pearson has retired to British Columbia, but T. L. Grue and Charles Holmberg, though not now farming, still have homes on the original quarter-sections. It is interesting to note that on the Holmberg farm the third generation of that family is still farming that quarter, with the fourth generation attending school. The land was settled first by Johan Palm in 1905, the grandfather of the present farmer.

With the experiment proving a success the interested parties held a meeting in the spring of 1916 to discuss the possibilities of establishing a farmers' mutual telephone system with the equipment up to the specifications of the Alberta Government System. To do this would cost \$150.00 per 'phone. No one had this much money, but this did not deter them. A company called the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company was formed with Charles Holmberg as the President, Anton Pearson as the Vice-President, and Johannes Sware, the eldest son of Anton Sware, as secretary-treasurer, together with a Board of Directors of three. The people at this meeting decided to spread the \$150.00 cost over a six-year period, paying \$25.00 per year. In order to get underway immediately, sufficient wire was purchased to overcome the line-loss and short circuits of the fence system. Labor was all voluntary and well organized. The first poles were poplar poles cut in the district, but it was necessary to purchase standard brackets and insulators.

In 1918, after two payments of the \$25.00 had been made, regulation 'phones were purchased from the Northern Electric Company, and as finances warranted, the poplar poles were replaced with tamarack. Before the six years had elapsed, all wire was carried by regulation poles. Up to this time the sys-

tem was known as a grounded circuit, that is, it was a single wire system.

All this time the Company was not a registered company under the Registered Companies' Act of the Province. It was working successfully and had gained several new subscribers. These may be noted on the accompanying map. This system was purely a local one, and had no connection with any point outside of this area. The services it provided were incalculable and this was evidenced by the use that was made of it during the "Flu" epidemic of 1918. Several residents of the area owe their lives to the prompt aid brought by the telephone.

The line extending north from Camrose had been lengthened to include the village of Hay Lakes by the year 1915 or 1916. Two 'phones were installed, one at Simon Grue's (mentioned above), and the other at the store of L. Larson, General Merchant at Hay Lakes. To get any message to the outside world one still had to drive either to Armena or Hay Lakes to speak to Camrose or elsewhere. Mrs. Charles Holmberg tells the story of such a trip she made during a spring night in 1914. Her father, Johan Palm, had been critically injured when his driving horses ran away. Both horses and wagon had run over him. During the darkness of the night she ran over two miles to a neighbor, who, in turn, drove to "the old Welda place" near Armena, where there was a connection with Camrose. Here she was able to arouse Dr. Nordbye, who drove with a livery team the twenty-five miles to the farm, and successfully ministered to Mr. Palm.

The pressure now was to have this rural system connected to the Alberta Government System. To this end, the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company was registered under the Companies' Act on April 26, 1919.

In the files of the Alberta Government Telephone System there appears this memo:

April 4, 1921

Letter to Froste
Com. Sup.

Hon. G. P. Smith intimated to Ferguson that Chas. Holmberg as President of privately owned Company wants service from A.G.T. Ferguson.

From this it will be seen that Mr. Holmberg again contacted Mr. G. P. Smith, who by this time had been appointed to the Provincial Cabinet as Minister of Education. Progress was being made, for later on another letter appears in the form of a questionnaire sent to Mr. Holmberg by Mr. E. G. Buckley, District Commercial Manager, District #2, A. G. T., as follows:

April 19, 1921

Information necessary before service is given by A.G.T.

1. What is the full name of the Company?

Ans. The Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Ltd.

2. Is it incorporated?
Ans. Yes, April 26, 1919.
3. Who are (1) the president, (2) the secretary-treasurer?
Ans. (1) Chas. Holmberg (2) John A. Sware.
4. Does the company own a metallic system?
Ans. We operate a grounded system.
5. How many different circuits are working?
Ans. One line with 20 'phones.
6. How are wires carried? What kind and size of poles?
Ans. Tamarack poles of government standard size and erection.
7. What makes of telephones are in use?
Ans. Northern Electric.
8. How many subscribers are there on the line?
Ans. 20 on the line.
9. What are the names of the subscribers on each line and what are their locations?
Ans. See enclosed map.
10. Do the company's lines come into Hay Lakes near our exchange in Hay Lakes?
Ans. The company's lines will be built into Hay Lakes this spring. I may also say that we intend to put on the second wire next spring and make it a metallic system in accordance with government specifications.

The questions were all answered satisfactorily and everything seemed to be in order. There was nothing to stop the connection from being made. However, the government offices move slowly and it was not until April 8, 1922 that there appears in the files of the Alberta Government Telephones a memorandum of agreement between the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Limited and the Alberta Government Telephone, signed for the rural line by Charles Holmberg and J. Sware, and witnessed by A. Sware.

The next memo on the files is quoted as follows:

April 11, 1922

I was today informed by the plant chief that the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Limited was connected to our board at Hay Lakes at 15K on April 8.

E. G. Buckley
District Commercial Manager
District #2

Eight years had passed since the first steps were taken to obtain telephone communication. From two obsolete 'phones connecting two neighbours, the system had grown to include practically every farm in the district, with modern equipment, and outside service. The company was neither government owned, serviced, nor maintained. It paid to the government a rent for its connection to the government lines. There is in the files the following memo:

Oct. 1, 1926

Agreement with companies owning private telephone lines,
Grounded Telephone Circuit
Rental — \$6.00 per insturment,
30.00 minimum.

Signed by Chas. Holmberg
John Sware

The Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Limited charged its members \$2.50 per month. This was sufficient to pay the provincial rental and leave

enough to provide for maintenance and new equipment. The service up to this time was for day service only, that is from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on week days, and two hours only on Sundays. Of course on the local line the service was continuous, providing you could raise your party by the signals.

This line remained a grounded system (one-wire circuit) until April 30, 1928, when sufficient reserve had been built up to change to a metallic, or two-wire system. It continued to operate successfully through the depression of the thirties, though financial difficulties were encountered. There is in the government files an answer to a letter, dated May 9, 1933, from A. Pearson, Secretary, asking for a reduction in rent from \$6.00 per 'phone to \$3.00 per 'phone, giving as reasons deflated currency and poor service from the government lines. The request was refused, with the explanation that of the fifty cents a month, the local agent, Mr. Ogilvie received twenty-five cents and the balance went to the government office. The poor service, the Edmonton office felt, was due to the fact that no regular check was made of the Hay Lakes lines, as the Alberta Government lines were kept in "excellent condition". (The quotation marks are mine.)

Up to the year 1935 the rural lines were, in the majority of cases, government lines. Hay Lakes was a pioneer in the mutual operation field. The government, during the depression, was experiencing considerable difficulty maintaining rural service, and in the thirties had given intimation that they were contemplating getting out of the rural 'phone business, and that in the very near future, would maintain the long distance line only.

It was recognized throughout the province that the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Limited was a pioneer in this field. Mr. Holmberg tells me, on several occasions when he was a delegate to the provincial United Farmers' Association conventions he was asked to outline the working of the system with which he was so familiar to the various committees who would soon be undertaking to establish mutual systems in their own areas.

This situation soon arose, for the provincial government vacated the rural lines in 1935 and their lines were sold to the farmers who formed mutual companies similar to the Hay Lakes Systems. Their work, however, was very much easier, for they were able to take over, at very reasonable prices, systems that were already established and in good working order.

It was not until 1952 that the Hay Lakes Company achieved continuous service. The system was growing larger and larger and automatic installations were becoming increasingly popular throughout the

province. The Alberta Government Telephone exchange in Hay Lakes was abolished in 1952 and the old Northern Electric 'phones that had served for nearly thirty years were exchanged for automatic dial 'phones. The line was split into two circuits with fifteen 'phones per circuit, but the system is still owned by the people of the area, in most cases the sons and daughters of the farmers who first established the company.

There is no doubt that the government carefully studied the errors and successes experienced by this pioneer company, and in their directives to the prospective mutuals used this material to help and guide them. It can be truly said that the mutual telephone systems throughout the province have benefitted from the experience and success of the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Limited.

The West Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone Company Ltd.

This company came into existence on March 10th, 1939. For several years previous to this time the residents of the area had been communicating with an elaborate maze of barbed and baling wire fence lines — the fence phone system. It was very handy for business and even romance. But the distance was limited, and it fostered a great desire for the real phone system, able to reach all facets of the growing community life.

On March 10, 1939 a meeting was held and the company was formed. Henry Zucht was the first president, August Rost was Vice-president and W. H. (Bill) Wesenberg Secretary-treasurer. Henry Zucht and Bill Wesenberg arranged for the purchase of poles immediately. Telephone boxes were ordered and the district was canvassed for members. Each subscriber paid for the 'phone box (\$7.50 each), the batteries, the poles and the wire (from Alberta Government Telephone salvage which cost about two and a half cents a pound) and the insulators and connectors, anchors, etcetera as was needed. All labor was done by the members.

Meetings were held whenever needed: keeping "on top" of the progress being made, developing rules and regulations, paying accounts, and trying to keep finances in order. The secretary was paid \$8.00 a year, and Henry Zucht, the first lineman, was paid fifty cents for each trouble call, regardless of how many hours it might take. In today's scheme of things this remuneration for labor performed is incredibly low and impossible to visualize.

Each subscriber was responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the line on his property. As the years progressed many changes were necessary in materials used, methods of construction and maintenance.

Even wages rose. Linemen now were paid \$1.00 per hour and the secretary-treasurer received \$16.50 annually. Voluntary workdays were held every year and on these days all brush was cleared from under the lines. All lines were checked for insulator breakages, cross pieces and brackets were replaced if needed, lines tightened and spliced, etcetera. It became necessary to charge all absentees a minimum of \$1.00 an hour — said charge was added to their phone bills. Another big item on workdays was the peeling and preservative treating of poles to be used in maintenance or construction. This alone might take two days of steady work.

In those days "Central" was in the Post Office in Hay Lakes, so all long distance calls were limited to the operating hours there. Norm and Lil Ogilvie will ever be remembered for their service to the surrounding areas as "Operators."

Naturally, the desire and need for twenty-four hour service became increasingly evident. Our mutual company approached Alberta Government Telephones in this regard. After several meetings in the area with Alberta Government Telephone officials an agreement was signed. Thus in 1966 the Hay Lakes area became one of the first rural areas in Alberta to receive the totally new "underground" telephone system with a twenty-four hour automatic dialing central situated in Hay Lakes village. It now operates toll free to the New Sarepta and Camrose subscriber areas.

The final meeting of this mutual company was held in the Legion Hall in Hay Lakes on June 21, 1967 at which time each subscriber received an equal share of the cash balance of the mutual company at dissolution less whatever he may have owed for toll charges, etcetera. All materials were sold to the highest bidder for cash only, so that all assets could be evenly dispersed.

Much could be written of the "tears" and "cheers" with which the life of this company was richly blessed. The untiring work of the executive was constantly under scrutiny and criticism whether deserved or not, the faithful service of all the linemen through sunshine and storm gave this mutual company an "in service" record second to none in all Alberta. This fact can be confirmed in the records of Alberta Government Telephones.

We can be very proud of the accomplishment of those who pioneered the very existence of this mutual company. It grew in twenty-seven years to a five circuit operation covering well over a township. It provided the basis for a lasting community bond of faith and fellowship.

To everyone who contributed time and energy to the formation, operation and final progression to the

existing service we all can say. . . "Thank you for a job well done." Presidents: Henry Zucht, August Rost, Adam Hein, George Grams, Oscar Mallas, Ernest Soch, Arthur Heinz, Ewald Tober, Norman Harke. Secretary-Treasurers: Wm. H. Wesenberg, A. Louise Nordin, George Roper, Mrs. Gertrude These.

It should be noted that by the date of dissolution the wages of the secretary-treasurer had been boosted to \$3.00 per member per year.

Linemen: Henry Zucht, Rudolph Nordin, George Schultz, Otto Mittelstadt, Robert Berkholtz, Alec Marusak, Adolph Wolter, Erwin Lachman.

Swan Hill Mutual Telephone Company

Most of the Telephone Mutuals were formed in the 'thirties and 'forties but this mutual was a relative newcomer, being organized and built in 1960.

It covered an area on the south part of the old Swan Hill School District and somewhat beyond. This was a small section of the country, somehow left

out when larger mutuals were built to the north and south in earlier times. It therefore had only one line but it was "full", having fifteen subscribers, the maximum allowed by Alberta Government Telephones, so there were no secrets. It was connected to the Camrose Central, therefore it had a lot of line, about twenty-three miles. The trouble-shooter was Rudolph Selin and he had his work cut out for him as there seemed to be no end of troubles: adverse weather of all kinds, ducks flying into the wires, farm machinery and trucks with high loads tearing down the lines, etcetera. When the Alberta Government Telephones put in the underground lines it was certainly welcomed even though there was quite an increase in the operating charge.

During all the ten years of its operation the board consisted of Herman Atema as President, Don Welda as Secretary-Treasurer, and the Directors were Stanley Selin, Rudolph Selin, Lawrence Schoenknecht, Clarence Huebner and Rudolph Schmidt.





Maple Leaf Band — 1909.

Play Not Work

Bands

Music has always played an important part in the lives of the people of the Hay Lakes district.

The Maple Leaf Band, under the leadership of Cornelius Grue, was formed about 1909 or 1910 and performed at social functions and picnics in the area, one such being a picnic at Little Hay Lake in April, 1910. Members of this band included: Nels, Simon and Oscar Grue, Anton, John and Thorvold Thronson, Albert Kringen, Paul Berg, Chris and Ralph Wilson, Carl Anderson, Einar Broen, and Alfred Anderson.

The Willowcluster Junior Local of the United Farmers of Alberta also had a string band in the early 1920's and performed at concerts in their area.

The first Hay Lakes Band was formed in 1914 under the direction of Mr. S. Neitsch. Members of this band were: Henry Zucht, Gus, Karl Sr., Theodore, and Karl Mittelstadt, C. W. Lechelt, Rudolph Lachman, Adolph Kropp, August Rost, Ludwig Schmidt and Chris Kopf. This band performed until the early 1920's when it disbanded only to reorganize



Hay Lakes Band. L. to R., Back: August Rost, Karl Mittelstaedt, Adolph Kropp, Ludwig Schmidt, Gus Mittelstaedt, Adam Hein, Rudolph Lachman, Henry Zucht. Seated: C. W. Lechelt, Theodore Mittelstaedt, Edward Tober, Chris Kopf, Howdy, Karl Mittelstaedt Sr., Rudolph Lechelt.

in the spring of 1924 under the direction of C. W. Lechelt with twelve musical enthusiasts. The popularity of the band increased and in 1929 was directed by John Lovas with a new name; "The Silvertone Band". This group consisted of eighteen members:



German Lutheran Band. Taken at the Karl Mittelstaedt farm about 1916 shortly before the St. Stephens Church was built.

G. Henschell, W., Ed., and R. Tober, R. Taron, Henry and Emil Zucht, A. Werner, A., R., and E. Mittelstadt, A. Hein, W. Lechelt, E. Soch, R. Wedman, A. Hintz, A. Rost and E. Frederich. This band performed until 1931 when the community was again without a band.

Then in 1955, after an absence of some twenty-four years, a band was again formed, this time under the very capable direction until 1962 of Reins Mittelstadt. This eighteen-piece band, after only six months practice, was praised for its performance at the Hay Lakes celebration of Alberta's Fiftieth Anniversary. Several members of the original Hay Lakes band were included in this group. They not only took part in many local functions but also participated in various parades which included the Edmonton Ex-



Hay Lakes Community Band 1955-62. L. to R., Back: Ronny Fisher, Kenny Smith, Ronny Karpysyn, Gilbert Schultz, Gerry Mittelstadt, Russel Roper, Reinhart Knopp, Richard Bitter, Marvin Schultz. Center: Henry Zucht, Jim Mallas, George Roper, George Schultz, Vern Ledgerwood, Leon Sware, Dale Nordin, Kenny Roper, Alex Marusak, Albert Werner. Front: Helen Sware, Gail Sware, Kenny Tober, Clarence Bittner, Wilfred Tober, Randy Grahn, Reins Mittelstadt (conductor).



Hay Lakes Majorettes.

hibition Parade, Ponoka, Camrose and July 1st Parades.

In 1960, an attraction was added to the Band performances. A group of majorettes, under the instruction of Miss Holmes, a local teacher, was soon swinging batons with great enthusiasm.

In 1962, the Band dispersed and some of the members joined the County to Camrose Band.

Dance Floors of Renown!

In the early twenties some local boys built on the south shore of Miquelon Lake (NW 24-49-21-W4) a floor twenty feet by forty feet for local dances. Later walls, roof and a kitchen (of lumber) were added.

Music was provided by Helge Hanson, Thor Johnson and Ole Sware who played violins and Sture Johnson and Hjelmar Sware who played guitars. These five were also instrumental in planning this place of recreation which was known far and wide and affectionately called "The Bowery".

In those times ladies were generally admitted "free" but men always paid admission, usually fifty cents. This included the lunch which the hall organization provided.

This hall drew such large crowds that "The Bowery" built a name for itself. Other orchestras were sometimes hired.

Trygve Sware ran the hall until it closed in 1935.

"The Bowery" still stood when the Vasa Andree Lodge No. 564VOA built near the same location (NW 24-49-21-W4) a hall for meetings, social evenings and dances.

Ladies were admitted free, gents were charged twenty-five cents — the lunch was included. The musician group was paid \$1.50 regardless of how many played that evening. Some of the many musicians that played were: Swing Sisters of Edmonton, Arlen Jaycock, Gus Bostrum, Hugo Hovelson, Norman Welda, Oliver and Stanley Selin, Gunner Erickson, Ivar Nore, Edna Moan, Alpha McLean, Helga Anderson, Thorsten Sweberg.

About 1957 the Brandland School was moved to the same acreage (NW 24-49-21-W4) and used by the East Hay Lakes Unifarm. The Miquelon Lake Saddle Club now has a share in the lease.

At the big house (SW 7-48-21-W4) the former Halley Post Office on the Arthur Henry Ladell farm — later sold to John Famulak — house dances and social gatherings were held for the young-at-heart in this area. (This was later, at the time when Mike and Sophie Famulak lived there.)

The usual admittance fee was twenty-five to fifty cents for gents, and ladies entered free. Included was a hearty lunch.

Most of the musicians who played there were

"local products". Anton Pasula drummed while Anton Schurek fiddled. Jessie and Jim Grant played fiddle and banjo. Jake Welda and family also played. Frank Famulak and Johnny Gariepy also gained musical fame on their fiddles.

That two-bit price also included shelter for the horses. There were two large barns which held most of the horses that had brought bob-sleigh loads of young people. This center quickly gained in popularity.

Another shorter-lived open-air dance floor in the same district is remembered for the time a horse was ridden over it and the floor was broken. It is not sure now, which one of these latter two was known as the "Heifer Pen".

The open-air dance floor that gained the most notoriety, however, was located west of Big Hay Lake. Many revellers from the Hay Lake and surrounding area danced or jigged at the "Bull Pen" and contributed to the Bull Pen's fame. More than a few Hay Laker's arrived home, bruised and shirtless in time to do the morning choring.

Chautauqua

Anyone who does not understand the meaning of the expression "Chautauqua" will be interested to know that it is an Indian word. The legend has come down through certain tribes that the daughter of a Chief was playing on the bank of a lake in New York State many years ago and ate some poison herbs which grew near the water's edge. She became thirsty and drank from the lake and died. Each year the tribe gathered at the spot to commemorate her death. They used a peculiar drumstick called "chocktau" to beat their drums in the war dance. The word "Chautauqua" is derived from this drumstick as well as that of the lake. The white men discovered the Indians in one of these ceremonies and eventually instituted celebrations which had broadened and grown.

About 1904, the traveling chautauquas were organized. These were commercial enterprises, operated on a circuit basis, and had no connection with the original organization. The traveling chautauquas brought information, religious inspiration, and professional entertainment to small towns and cities throughout rural America.

The chautauqua featured a program of high class offerings. It could be divided into five main divisions. These were: music, dramatics, humorous entertainment, lectures and special features for children.

Chautauquas came to Hay Lakes in the early thirties and were usually held in the fall of the year after harvest was completed. Some of the local businessmen were required to guarantee a minimum

amount of the troupe. If this was not realized, the businessmen would be required to make up the deficit.

The chautauqua lasted five days with the highlight being a three-act play held on Monday and Friday. The entertainers would arrive by train for each performance and leave the following day. These included the Sue Hastings Marionettes, midgets, magicians, comedians, ventriloquists and many others. Special afternoon performances were held featuring entertainment for the children. A dance in the local hall usually concluded the week's entertainment.

As automobiles, radios, and motion pictures lessened the isolation of rural communities, the travelling chautauquas lost their popularity.

Records show that on November, 1932, Jim Tomlinson's orchestra played for the dance. (Jim was an employee at Larsen's store.)

Charivari (Shivaree)

Shotguns, cow bells, horns, disc blades, wash-tubs or lids banged on with wooden spoons, anything that would make a loud noise. These were the constituents of a charivari.

Although the reasons for having a charivari differ as told by different people, the place and time were all the same. The place was the home of a newly married couple late at night, preferably when they were asleep. Neighbours who had gathered would sneak up to the house and with the signal of the leader — usually a shotgun blast — would proceed to make as much noise as possible. Soon lights would come on in the house and the newlyweds would appear.

For those farm weddings that lasted until breakfast time the next morning, the gang would arrive

while the celebrations were still in progress and thus were invited to join in.

Some say the reason for a charivari was just a neighborly welcome to the district or community.

Others say it was a group of people who had not been invited to the wedding celebrations and this gave them the opportunity to join in wishing the bride and groom their best wishes. Often they came bearing gifts for the bride.

Some gangs played tricks on the couple — often before the couple arrived home from the wedding — such as making sure their bed and night-wear were “ready”. Another trick, when there were coal and wood stoves, was to plug the chimney, so as to smoke them out.

Still others claim it was only friends of the bride and groom having a little fun.

Whatever the reasons the results were almost always the same. The group was invited in for coffee and lunch or left with a promise of a get-together at a later date.

Mock Wedding

A “mock wedding” as the name implies, ridicules and mimics the original wedding ceremony. A program of entertainment was often part of the Twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary celebrations. Included in this program would be the “mock wedding” ceremony.



Mock Wedding. Principals in this mock wedding were, L. to R.: Gerry Drynan, Birdie Lind, Alan Hein, Martha Nordin, Basil Lind.



A Charivari (shivaree) Gang. This charivari took place at the Gus Lachman wedding in 1934. L. to R., Standing: Adolph Mittelstadt, Gus and Lydia Lachman, Selma Mittelstadt, Oscar Mallas. Seated: George Mogdans, Rudolph Rost, Little Joe, Reinhardt Tober, Albert Thiel, Rudolph Schultz, John Schultz, Ed Schultz.

Among the cast were the “bride and groom, bridesmaid, bestman, minister, organist, soloist and, of course, the parents.” The most “stern” personality in the group was selected to act as the minister.

The participants dressed in either traditional attire or, if this was not readily available, in whatever their imaginations afforded them.

The ceremony, of course, remotely resembled the usual wedding format, but with additions and deletions to suit the occasion.

The actors, usually close friends or relatives, knew the couple's particular mannerisms and characteristics and exaggerated them.

Also if there had been any unusual incidents during the original ceremony, these might also be "exploited".

But whatever the cast included in their skit usually guaranteed many hearty laughs.

Ku Klux Klan

A very strange and scary event took place one evening on Main Street, east of the Community Hall in Hay Lakes, in 1933 or 1934.

The Chautauqua had just completed the Friday night performance, and as the crowd filed out of the hall they were greeted by a fiery scene. A large cross about nine feet high and with a span of about eight feet had been set afire, setting the sky aglow. It was reported that some people fainted at the sight and everyone was very frightened.

Rumours were that it was the work of the Ku Klux Klan as it had been reported that several people had previously received threatening letters from them.

An investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police followed. They also checked all typewriters in the area but none corresponded to the letters involved. No one ever reported having seen a hooded, white robed figure which is the traditional garb of Klan members.

Was this merely a local prank or was the Klan actually active in our area?

A few years later another cross burning occurred but this time it was proven to be the work of pranksters.

Picnics of Hay Lakes and District

The earliest recollections of picnics are the school picnics which were held in each school area.

One of the earliest recorded mention of a public picnic was in 1910 when a Victoria-Day picnic was held at Little Hay Lake and due to its success, another was to be held on July 4th at Thomas Olson's farm four miles north of Little Hay Lake. Featured at these picnics were all types of races, including horse races. All attending were expected to bring their own picnic lunches.

In 1921, we began the tradition of July first picnics at Hay Lakes. The first inception of July 1st was a small-scale fair and sports' day held on the school grounds. This was sponsored by the Junior local of the United Farmers' Association.



School Fair Parade marching past Larsen's Store. October 1928.

In 1922, with the popularity of the first fair and sports' day, the event was enlarged and featured livestock, farm produce, ladies' handiwork and school children's work, as well as the usual line of sports.



July 1st Parade to sports grounds located behind present Youth Center.

In 1924, the local Community Club helped to sponsor the fair and picnic. It was decided to hold only a Sports' day and picnic on July 1st with a fair at a later date (the fairs were held in the Community Hall well into the 1930's). The first display of fireworks in the area was probably in 1924. The fireworks were set off the night before the picnic and could be seen for miles around, reminding the outer districts that a big day was coming. Baseball teams participating that year were from Sulitjelma, New Sarepta, Armena, Ellswick, and Hay Lakes. There was also a basketball game between the Hay Lakes and Sulitjelma girls.

In 1926, a new Sports' ground was erected on land north of the village. Events at the Sports' days included log sawing, nail pounding, pillow fighting, pie eating, and a variety of races.

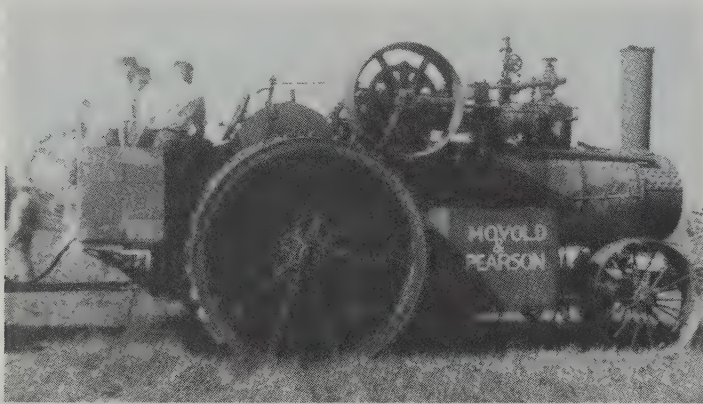
Over the years July 1st has continued to be celebrated at Hay Lakes with a Sports' day and picnic which often included a parade. It is a day when all

former and present residents gather together to visit and take part in activities at the Sports' grounds.

Another special event and parade we recall was on VE-Day, May 8, 1945, when World War II was declared ended. Many residents will recall dancing that night (until they had holes in the soles of their shoes) on the cement floor of William Sware's unfinished garage. The young folk had gathered bulrushes which were soaked in fuel, placed on posts and lit to provide light.

The following year a celebration was held on July 1, 1946, for all the Servicemen who had returned home to Hay Lakes. This time there was a parade with a military theme and a huge banquet was again held in Sware's now completed garage.

Another memorable occasion was Alberta's Golden Jubilee celebrations held at Hay Lakes on August 15, 1955. The success of the celebration exceeded the expectations of the planning committee, although Hay Lakes, with a population of 150 at the time, had a previous reputation in many areas for its enthusiasm.



Hay Lakes Parade — 1955.



Hay Lakes Parade — 1955.

The festivities commenced with a parade of thirty-three floats, each dealing with the Fiftieth Anniversary theme; they proceeded triumphantly from the school grounds along ten blocks, ending at the

Legion Hall. The floats aroused every sentiment with the Hay Lakes Band setting the tempo. Then red, white, and blue bunting, uniforms of the Armed Forces, the Union Jack and the Canadian Ensign heralded the Hay Lakes Legion float. Each of the services was represented: the Navy (Vern Nordin), Army (George Grieve), Air Force (Al Proudlove) and the Veteran's Guard (W. T. Roper).

The spirit of the pioneers was evoked again and again in the theme of the various floats. Some of these were a 1912 International Harvester Company tractor, a dog-wheel pump, a walking plow, a flail, scores of mounted auto license plates, and models of local elevators and churches. The ladies of the Circle "S" Club performed the pioneer women's lot — spinning, carding, scrubbing, sawing wood, milking and churning. Their float was decorated with over three hundred paper roses. Sleek riding ponies as well as the "old grey mare" pulling a buggy were included in the parade.

Following the parade, the crowd moved to the Cenotaph where, under sunny skies, the Mayor (Carl Nordin) gave an address relating the significance of the past fifty years to our present heritage. Rev. W. Sewell (an Edmonton padre) underscored the need to rededicate ourselves and pray for the faith that sustained the pioneers. The cenotaph was then unveiled. (The cenotaph was previously erected and dedicated; however, the Legion Hall was built later and thus it was necessary to move and rededicate the cenotaph.)

A bandstand was erected behind the Legion Hall for a service honoring the Pioneers of the district. Scrolls were presented to forty-two senior citizens of Hay Lakes. Six local and visiting ministers paid tribute to the old-timers who had come from many parts of Europe to make a new home in a new country.

The eldest Senior, Karl Heinz, (94) cut the cord unveiling an historic plaque which commemorates Hay Lakes as the original small telegraph outpost on the old Blackfoot Trail, and at one time the most westerly telegraph office in Western Canada.

A one-hour talent show was held which emphasized the varied national origins of the families of the Hay Lakes district. Included were: Scandinavian selections, Dutch songs and dances, Ukrainian polkas, a Barber Shop Harmony group and a German choir.

A forty-five minute open-air concert with an eighteen-piece band under the direction of Reinhold Mittelstadt then entertained the capacity crowd.

A collection of antiques was displayed at the Legion Hall. Over four hundred items were numbered, recorded and informative data cards researched by the Circle "S" Ladies. Among the items was a cane originally owned by Louis Riel, guns of

every type — including a buffalo gun and a muzzle loader, locally found pemmican, grist mill stones, ox-yoke, many styles of clothing from the early 1900's, a mother-of-pearl snuff box, to mention just a few.

The Ladies Circle "S" Club worked diligently cleaning the hall in time for the big event as it had been struck by lightning shortly before Jubilee Day.

An Old Timers' ball game with Armena's Old Guard defeating Hay Lakes was another feature of the day. The combined ages of the Armena team was 478 years while the Hay Lakes team's combined ages were 536 years.

Refreshment booths were set up in the Curling Rink by the Circle "S" Ladies. The five church groups of the Hay Lakes area took turns serving. No profit was made. Ice-cream was free to children under twelve, pop was five cents, and everything was free to the Senior Citizens.

Mrs. Charles McLean manned the First Aid Station where minor accidents were treated.

A free motion picture of Alberta topics was shown and was followed by a dance in a packed hall, with admission of fifty cents.

The inimitable Byron Moore was Master of Ceremonies for the programs held throughout the day. The whole affair demonstrated the spirit and friendliness that has always characterized Hay Lakes.

During Canada's Centennial year (1967), special celebrations were held at the Hay Lakes Sports' Day on July first of that year.

Activities commenced with a parade of the pioneer theme. This was followed by ball games, horseshoe competitions, races, pony rides and games of chance.

The Circle "S" Ladies were in charge of the lunch booth. Many a friendship was renewed that afternoon over a cup of coffee and a piece of home-made pie. The Scouts and Girl Guides manned the "pop" and ice-cream booths. Later in the afternoon the Hay Lakes Community Hall Association served a barbecued beef supper.

The celebrations concluded in the evening with an outdoor stage programme and fireworks which lit the sky with glowing colors.

In 1978, the Sports' Day celebrations were held on July first and second in conjunction with the Fiftieth Anniversary of Hay Lakes' incorporation as a Village.



Hay Lakes Parade — July 1, 1978.

Glorious weather prevailed and over 2500 people attended the festivities which commenced with a colorful parade in the morning of July 1st.

During the noon hour a luncheon was held in the Recreation Center hosted by the Village of Hay Lakes and served by the Circle "S" Ladies. Over one hundred and fifty Senior Citizens, special guests, former mayors and their wives attended the luncheon. Mrs. Inga Larsen was a guest and spoke briefly. She is the widow of Lauritz Larsen who built the first store in Hay Lakes in 1912. Deputy Minister of Alberta Municipal Affairs, Bill Isbister, presented a special plaque to Mayor John Groeller.

Many interesting displays were set up in the Senior Citizens Center and the Library. Antiques were displayed as well as items made by the Adult Further Education students. A flea market and bake sale was also held in the Recreation Center.

At the Sports' grounds a lunch booth was in operation and there were several rides geared for small children.

Sixteen men's teams participated in a fastball tournament with prize money of \$1600.00 at stake. Teams came from as far as Whitecourt and Olds, bringing their families with them and camping at the Sports' grounds for the weekend.

Since 1978, the Hay Lakes Recreation and the Hay Lakes Senior Men's Fastball Club have continued to sponsor a two-day celebration for Canada Day (July first). Former residents look forward to this event as an opportunity to come "home" and socialize with old friends.

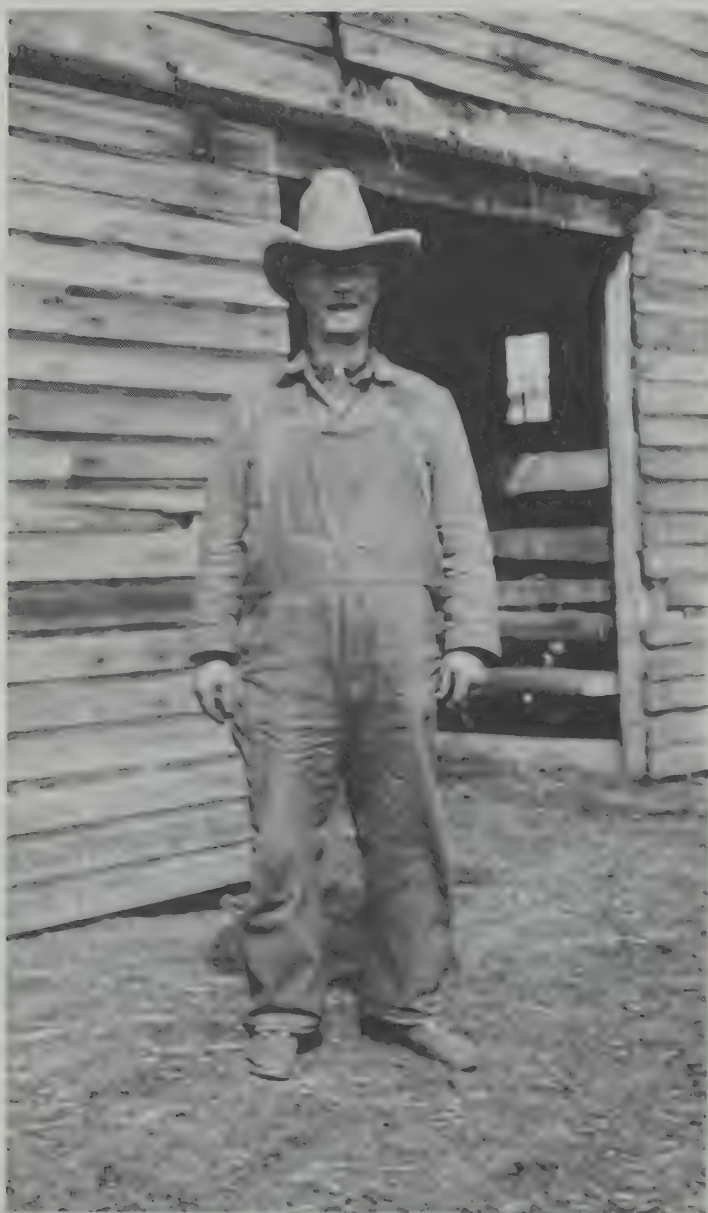
Fashion



Fashion! Herta, Edith, Alice, Ida, Lily Lechelt — 1930's.



George Roper 1922.



Robert McLeod.



Helen Lerke.



Martha Kiel.



Sigred Nordin, Selma Pearson, Thea Pearson.



Bathing at Banff 1922. Standing, L. to R.: Hilmer and Oscar Grahm, Thea Pearson, E. P. Nordin, Caroline Grahm and Sigred Nordin. Seated: Mary and Anton Pearson.



Ella May (Blakely) Loder. Front: Hope Blakely, William's wife with youngest daughter Margaret.



Mrs. Natsel and Mrs. Pawloske 1912.



Hilda Hanson, about 1910.



Marie Sollid, about 1907.



Gus and Jessie Henschell 1920.



Olina Olson 1908.

Skating and Hockey

In 1910 no one had heard of a skating rink or arena as we know them today but that does not mean there was no skating or hockey. We have information telling us that in 1910 hockey matches were held on several lakes in the area. Large crowds attended the skating parties on the many sloughs and lakes in the district. These parties were often accompanied by a large bonfire and were all highlights of rural life.

In 1923, the first skating rink was built in the Village. This was situated just off Main Street where the tennis court was located during the summer months. The rink was relocated to a spot south of the Canadian National Railroad station during the late 1920's. In the early 1930's a rink was then built on the



Margaret Erickson Ingleson 1919 or 1920.

vacant lot next to the Ogilvie home. These rinks required endless hours of flooding and preparation but provided many hours of entertainment for the youngsters.

In the mid-1930's the men of the village organized a hockey team and most of their practices were held on Kreamer's slough. The team members participated in the local district tournaments and, upon hearing remarks that their team wouldn't provide much competition as they didn't even have sweaters or uniforms, the members acquired the help of the local ladies to make and sew green letters and shamrocks on their white sweatshirts. This team, known as the Hay Lakes Shamrocks, won the Camrose District tournament in 1940, but disbanded when several of the players enlisted to serve in World War II. The team re-organized with several new member after the war and again won the Camrose



L. to R.: Reg Barry, Eddie Kreamer, Henry Schlender, Anton Pasula, Art Schaffrick, Paul Schmidt, Ed Schlender (manager), Lawrence Schlender, Norm Ogilvie, Henry Landsman — 1936.



L. to R., Back: Art Schaffrick, Paul Schweitzer, Gordon Fisher, Lawrence Schlender, Norm Ogilvie. Center: Nick Masikewich, Rudolph Nordin, Pete Kowal, Jack McCoy. Front: Eddie Kreamer, Reg Berry.



Camrose District Champs 1945-46. Hay Lakes Hockey Team. L. to R., Back: Fred Sikstrom, Nelvin Schmidt, Lawrence Schlender, Paul Schweitzer, Gordon Fisher, Len Lachman. Front: Art Schaffrick, Eddie Kreamer, Carl Nordin, Reg Berry, Clifford Sikstrom.

District tournament in 1946. They all wore new matching red sweaters with a “V for Victory” emblem and were known as the Hay Lakes Red Wings. By this time they were able to use the new skating rink which was built in the early 1940’s and not only had a “change” shack but also a regular board fence. Maintenance and caretaking help was all voluntary for many years. In the late 1960’s two local boys were paid fifty cents each time they built a fire in the skating shack. For several years the Circle S Club paid a caretaker at the rink, and later when the Recreation Association assumed the operation of the rink, Robert Tober was the caretaker for a number of years.

In 1972, a new skating “change” house was built and a new board fence erected. Some of the funds for this project were raised by sponsoring a “Skate-a-thon”. Many skating parties were held over the years and, at the present time, the Recreation Association provides music and lunch every Friday, weather permitting.



Back, L. to R.: Ernie Wahl, Rudy Fuernkranz, Eddie Eliason, Carl Fuernkranz, Billy Sware, Melvin Movold, Ron Zucht. Front: Willie Rost, Ken Forsen, Mervin Pasula, Ron Eliason, Art Forsen, Grant Skippen, Byron Moore (playing coach). This team won the Camrose District Tournament in 1957, and again in 1958 with additional players, Bud Grieves, Reuben Pasula, Flavian Pasula and Rodney Movold.

Several more good hockey teams have emerged from this area such as the Senior Men’s team that won the Camrose tournament in 1957 and again in 1958. They were still known as the Hay Lakes Red Wings. After the schools amalgamated and the district became involved in the County of Camrose Recreation program, hockey skills were developed in the young boys of the area. Some of the young boys still play on local hockey teams but a number have gone to play on Representative teams.

There have also been two girls’ hockey teams in the village, one during the 1950’s and another during the 1960’s.

Several young girls in the area are involved in figure skating programs.



County Champs 1963-64. Back Row, L. to R.: Rueben Pasula, Rudy Fuernkranz, Carl Fuernkranz, Gerry Mittelstadt, Russell Roper, Earle Berry, (unknown). Front: Ken Forsen, Leonard Galenza, Doug Galenza, Keith Moren, Doug Berry.



1973 County of Camrose Champs. Back Row, L. to R.: Larry Selin, Coach Allan Hein, Clifford Movold, Charles Bulmer, Ricky Cayene, Gary Jantz, Coach D'Arcy McGhan, Fred Miller. Front Row, L. to R.: Ricky Galenza, Kevin Pasula, Rory Rost, David Jantz, Archie Merriman, Don Jantz, James Radawetz.



County of Camrose Champs 1972-73. Coach Willie Rost, center back. Back Row, L. to R.: Lief Wahl, Terry Sych, Blayne Welda, Brent Rost, Bruce Mallas. Front Row: Glen Arnston, Robert McGhan, Darcy Galenza, Darrell Hendrickson, Barry Tober.

The Sulitjelma Hockey Team

The original Sulitjelma hockey team played on a slough on John Lofgren's land and on Miquelon Lake against Spilstead. Some of the early players included: Oliver and Chester Grue, Carl and Adolph Nordin, Arvid Feragen, Ivar and Gus Lofgren, Ted Grahn and Johnny Holmberg.



Original Sulitjelma Hockey Team. L. to R.: W. Morrison, Chester Grue, Arvid Feragen, Carl Nordin, Adolph Nordin, Oliver Grue and Ivar Lofgren.

Later it was decided to make a rink at Lars Grue's. Lenart and Adolph Nordin and Chester Grue hauled water from Miquelon lake with two steam engine water tanks drawn by horses. When the rink was half finished a heavy snowstorm brought operations to a halt for that winter. However, the completed half was cleaned off and used for skating.

The following winter, water was hauled from Lofgren's slough to make ice. This time they were more successful and the rink was completed. The snow was cleaned off with horses and a fresno. The boards for the fence surrounding the rink were sup-



Later Sulitjelma Players. Top Row, L. to R.: Vern Nordin, Norman and Chester Grue, Eddie Lindberg, Leslie Webster, and Ivan Broen. Front Row: Gus and Ivar Lofgren. Goalie — Carl Nordin.

plied by Pearson Brothers Lumber in Breton. At first the team members wore identical sweaters, and in 1936 they got their uniforms.

The following year they were tired of hauling water so Carl Nordin witched a well west of the rink; the strong vein went all the way under the rink. A twenty-foot deep well was dug with a four by four-foot curbing halfway down. This well produced an abundance of water.

In 1939, the Lofgren brothers donated a light plant to the Club. It didn't generate too well, so Leon Endres, the teacher at Sulitjelma at the time, and some of his students rewired it. It still didn't work so it was sent to a Technical school in Calgary. The discovery was that only the lead wires were wrong. The total cost for this examination was only seven dollars for freight. What a difference these lights did make and when they went on they were visible for miles. This was a signal for the local boys to finish their chores and rush over by skis or on foot, shovel off the ice, practise hockey and then walk home. The shack at the rink was a granary moved from SW 33, donated by John Lofgrens. It was heated by an air-tight heater, which was usually red hot, and anyone getting a few minutes respite from the cold would have to keep turning around or he could become very well roasted on one side.

While Leon Endres was teacher, a daring venture to raise funds was attempted. A two-day Carnival was arranged at the Vasa Lodge hall. Although there were a few skeptics, it was very successful and enjoyed by everyone. There were games of chance, darts and numerous other events, culminating in a dance on the final night with music supplied by the Endres band.

In 1941, during World War II, there was a shortage of players so the light plant was moved into Hay Lakes and we played hockey with them. Two years later it was again moved back to the rink at Grue's. Later players were: Ivan Broen, Art Grahn, Bert Hanson, Richard Pearson, Arnold Feragen, Vern Nordin, Stanley Sware, Leslie, and later Billy and Bobby Webster and also the Naslund boys. We played against Hay Lakes, Spilstead, Armena and Kingman. When Eddie Lindberg taught at Sulitjelma he also coached the team.

As well as hockey, numerous public skating parties were held at the rink. A loud-speaker sound system was rigged up from the light plant that provided music for skating. Hjalmer Swanlund contributed his skills for this. It was all "pretty grand", the lights and the music. The Lars Grues were most hospitable and opened their home for many a cold, wet skater, both from the district as well as from Armena. There was lots of hot chocolate served from their kitchen.

A severe blizzard in 1943 completely covered the rink. It took an entire week to clean the snow off by working with a team of horses and fresno and lots of musclepower as well.

The team disbanded about 1945. There will always be fond memories of all the effort and team spirit that went into the Sulitjelma hockey team and the pride we all had in our rink with those marvelous lights and music.

The Sulitjelma Baseball Team submitted by Henry Pearson

The Sulitjelma baseball team originally was organized around 1920. It was made up of local farm boys who with time became top-notch players, resulting in some real good teams. The nucleus of the Sulitjelma team in the early twenties were the Miller boys led by Fred Miller who was our coach and manager. Fred had played semi-professional ball in the Twilight League in Chicago previously, and since arriving in the district shortly after the turn of the century he was in great demand throughout central Alberta as a catcher in baseball tournaments. At these special games some of the sponsors would wager large sums of money.



Sulitjelma Ball Team. Fred Miller and John Morrison.

In later years, Fred moved to first base. Ed Miller held down second base and Joe Miller third base. Ingwald Feragen was the pitcher, John Warcup Morrison was catcher, Hank Pearson (myself) in centre field and as relief pitcher. The short-stop was filled by Fred Hustad who was a grain buyer from Hay Lakes. Left and right field were alternated by Local farm boys.

The Sulitjelma ball team was also the main-stay of the Hay Lakes team in the early twenties and



Sulitjelma Ball Team. Fred and Joe Miller.

thirties, when they would combine forces on sports' days and tournaments. New Sarepta was perhaps our toughest opposition and this would lead to a lot of rivalry between the two teams. The teams would import a special Battery made up of a pitcher and catcher; New Sarepta came up with the Mix brothers from Fredricksheim. Big Mix was a smoke ball pitcher; his control was not the best, so about the only way to get on base was by way of a "hit" batter. I remember one game when our third-base man got hit three times. This led to a dispute which nearly ended in a free-for-all.

Sulitjelma played in a league with Armena, Dinant, and in many exhibition games with Kingman, Round Hill, Camrose, Gwynn and also Canard. Lefty Gemroy was one of the earliest pitchers for Hay Lakes, Martin Badner was also one of the great pitchers that played for Hay Lakes in the early thirties. East Hay Lakes came up with a well-balanced ball team in the 'forties, coached by Johnny Erickson.

Baseball and Fastball

Around 1935 the "Breezy League" was formed with teams from Dinant, Armena, Sulitjelma and Hay Lakes. This later evolved into a league comprised of Duhamel, Armena, East Hay Lakes and Hay Lakes where great rivalry prevailed, and the trophy became the ultimate goal of each team. The names predominating at this time were Millers, Nordins, Johnsons, Persons, Ericksons, Jornlins, Thronsons, Jasman, Mittelstadt, Rachues, Werners, Sochs, Ropers, Soderstroms, Moores, to mention a few.



Hay Lakes Baseball Team 1938-39. Back Row, L. to R.: Nick Masikewich, Ernest Lerke, Paul Schmidt, George Roper. Seated: Clifford Sikstrom, Walt Schmidt, Carl Nordin, Philip Thompson, Rudolph Nordin, Eddie Creamer.



Hay Lakes Baseball Team 1948. Back Row, L. to R.: Art Rachue, Leo Rubis, Trevor Roper, Robert Berkholtz, Harvey Grahn, Ewald Soch, George Roper, Art Soch. Seated, L. to R.: Albert Werner, Eddy Creamer, Rudy Nordin, Carl Nordin, Henry Karpowich, Alex Radowitz, Art Rost, Allen Creamer is bat boy.

As the original team members retired or moved away the league folded. A good junior team then took the limelight with names like Eliason, Forsen, Fuernkranz, Wahl, Rost, Sware, and many more in the line-up. They carried the local banner until Fastball became the dominant game and Baseball at the Senior level was no more.

Throughout the years of 1928-53, Hay Lakes boasted the finest infield or diamond, for many miles around. Fast, hard and true, it was a fielder's delight — but it did leave many "burns" on the bodies of

those choosing to slide on a “squeeze” or steal. Community Sports days always highlighted a baseball tournament during these years, much the same as fastball now holds the spotlight.

Some of the young boys from Hay Lakes continued to play baseball in the County of Camrose League until the early seventies. Teams from Hay Lakes won County Baseball Championships in 1970 and 1973 and were the last teams to play baseball here.

Fastball became popular here during the early 1960's when most neighboring centers began fielding teams. The Hay Lakes Senior Men's Fastball team were champions for several years during this time. The Blue Knights Senior Men's Fastball Team have represented Hay Lakes in the South Edmonton Rural Fastball League for the past few years and have been very competitive.

Each year several young teams from Hay Lakes (boys and girls) play fastball in the County of Camrose program. Many are successful in winning championships and continue to do so, the latest being the 1981 boys bantam team, carrying on the tradition of the fine athletes that have emerged from this area.

Baseball

Baseball proved to be popular pastime for residents of Hay Lakes as early as June, 1916. Then it was reported in the local news in the Camrose Canadian that the Baseball team was getting into shape for the coming season and again in 1919 when the team organized and held a benefit dance after a game with Bittern Lake. Then on February 12, 1921 a dance was held in the Cox Cafe whose proprietor also donated the supper. A sum of \$66.25 was raised for the purpose of obtaining new uniforms. An additional fund was raised by staging a local talent show which netted the Club a sum of \$139.50. The community did seem to have an abundance of talent for playing baseball during that summer, since they were able to put three teams into the field. These teams were namely, the Hay Lakes Senior Club, the Junior Oilcans and a club from West Hay Lakes which called themselves the Sauerkrauts.

The Senior team got off to a shaky start when they suffered two losses from Bittern Lake. However, the team gained momentum as new talent was recruited to replace some of the deadwood on the team. By late summer of 1921 they were able to pool some of their best talent and challenge an all-star team from Edmonton. Their final triumph was to win the Northern Alberta Intermediate Championship that summer. Much of their success was attributed to their ace pitcher, Mr. Gordon Gemray who had played semi-pro-baseball before coming to Hay Lakes on a teach-

ing assignment. There were several other players on that roster who had semipro-experience. The best known was Fred Miller who started his Baseball career in the Brooklyn Farm System before emigrating to Alberta. Fred Miller became somewhat of a legend among baseball fans for his cunning strategy in mastering the team.

There was no organized league competition prior to 1933. This form of entertainment was rather restricted to Sunday exhibition games between the local squads.

The annual Sports Days brought the teams together from many distant communities to compete. The annual Summer Fairs that were held at Camrose and Wetaskiwin were highlighted with a baseball tournament where teams from the surrounding district would compete. The Hay Lakes team won several prizes in these tournaments in the early twenties according to the weekly paper reports taken from Microfilms in the Archives. However, the best baseball coverage was provided by the Hay Lakes Times that was published during the latter part of the 'twenties. This paper was edited by J. W. Morrison who would provide the readers with an inning by inning description of the rivalry competition that existed between the New Sarepta and the Hay Lakes squads. However, this rivalry was terminated by 1930 along with the Hay Lakes Times.

The termination of this rivalry resulted from the popularity of the Softball matches at New Sarepta. Meanwhile, the popularity of the Baseball matches continued around the Hay Lakes area when a League competition was formed between Dinant, Armena, Hay Lakes and Sulitjelma. The tradition of baseball survived for another three decades around the Hay Lakes area but much of the fan support was distracted by the number of Softball teams that sprung up around the area.

The first Ball Diamond where this entertainment was provided for the local fans was located near the Pithouse store where a patch of natural prairie was put to good use. This property was subdivided into lots in 1956 and the Ball Park was relocated on another patch of open prairie. This Ball Diamond was located on some homestead land that was owned by Mr. Charles Chettleborough. This location is presently used for the school playground. The use of this Ball Diamond was of short duration however. The property was obtained by Joseph Kreamer who developed the property into farm land by 1928. A new Ball Park was developed by the Hay Lakes Ball Club in the summer of 1928. This athletic park was located west of the present curling rink. It served the Hay Lakes community for twenty-five years and was replaced by the present Ball Park in 1953.



Hay Lakes Men's Fastball Champs 1966. Battle River Fastball League. Back Row, L. to R.: Earle Berry, Gerry Mittelstadt, Clifford Rost, Allan Hein, Ron Berkholtz, Ron Baird, Rudy Fuernkranz, Irvin Berkholtz. Front Row: Doug Galenza, Gerry Kreamer, Harry Baker (coach), Gerald Trepmpner, Rueben Pasula, Randy Grahm.



1964 County of Camrose Champs (also Champs in 1965). Back Row, L. to R.: Vern Nordin — Coach, Allan Hein, Dennis Leicht, Robert Grams, Irven Berkholtz, Delmar Davidson, Ron Berkholtz, Ed Schoenknecht, Art Rost, unknown. Front — Bill Francis, Willie Rost, Wilf Soch, Rudy Fuernkranz, Gerald Kreamer.



Hay Lakes Fastball Team. Back Row, L. to R.: Rian Berkholtz, Larry Soch, Brian Paul, Ron These, Ron Berkholtz, Cliff Rost, Cecil Berkholtz. Front Row: Les Groeller, Rod Rost, Lorne Paul, Keith Radtke, Neil Berkholtz, Marvin Groeller, Morley Harke. Center: Coach Robert Berkholtz, Willmer Radawetz, Manager.



PeeWee 1970 County Baseball Champs. L. to R., Back Row: Glen Harke, Coach Wilf Soch, Gary Broen, David Bulmer, Jack Roper. Center Row: Kevin Pasula, Gary Jantz, Charles Bulmer, Mark Galenza. Front: Ricky Galenza, Calvin Soch, Jim Radawetz, Kelly Yurkoske, Dwayne Broen.



County of Camrose Baseball Champs. Coach Harold Miller at backcenter. Back Row, L. to R.: Barry Tober, Brian Grahm, Glen Arnston, David Jantz, Bruce Mallas, Don Arnston, Len Weber (middle). Front Row: Brent Rost, Darcy Galenza, Kevin Miller, Rick Galenza, Rory Rost, David Leicht.



Zone Champs — July, 1971. Hay Lakes United Grain Growers Bantams went to Calgary for Provincial "B" Finals after winning the Zone crown. Standing, L. to R.: Ernie Kartz (coach), Darren Marusak, Darryl Hendrickson, Terry Lien, Darcy Galenza, Darren Moe, Del Kryer (coach). Front: Bruce Mallas, Ralph Lumpe, Barry Tober, Ken Metzker, Brent Rost. Missing from picture: Kevin Tritten, Terry Sych, Glen Arnston, Robert McGhan, Garth Peterson.

Ellswick Bluebirds

In the year 1934, the Ellswick girls softball team was formed and named "The Bluebirds". Playing at sports days and picnics in the surrounding areas, the Ellswick Bluebirds were seldom defeated. Some of the scores (taken from a diary) went as high as 42-11 and as low as 5-4 after ten innings.

The prizes that were given out at ball tournaments ranged from \$1.00 and \$2.00 to \$2.50 towards the end of the playing year of 1938. The players were also treated occasionally at the concession booth.

In case a player was unable to participate in a game, there was no problem replacing her as most girls were always willing to play. A few of the players had long distances to go for practices and with transportation not always available, felt they could not stay on.

Members of the team were Edna Anderson, Doris Famulak, Louise Galenza, Albina Pelz, Caroline Galenza, Bertha Anderson, Helen Galenza, Eva Kosovich, Mary Kosovich and Eleanor Willisko. Alice Galenza, Bertha Willisko and Alice Schurek played on the team for only a short period of time.



Ellswick Bluebirds. Standing from left to right; Eva Kosovich, Katie Marusak, Louise Galenza, Albina Pelz, Mary Kosovich. Sitting: Caroline Galenza, Helen Galenza, Alice Schurek, Edna Anderson, Bertha Anderson. Missing are: Doris Famulak, Eleanor Willisko, Alice Galenza and Bertha Willisko.

Caroline Galenza pitched for the team, Bertha Anderson played third base, Doris Famulak played short stop and Louise Galenza played first base. Other members of the team changed positions at times.

The competing teams were Gwynne, Central Community, New Sarepta, Canard, Armena, Sulitjelma and the Camrose Troopers. There were a couple more teams the Bluebirds were asked to compete with but because of the distance the team had refused.

There was a bit of rivalry going between the Bluebirds and the Canard team because more games were played between the two teams, and the Canard

team was a local team. It was all fun and an enjoyable past time for both the participants and the spectators.

East Hay Lakes (Brandland) Baseball Team

It all began in the early 1930's when we had a very sports' minded school teacher at Brandland School, named Arthur W. Eriksson, who now is living in Edmonton. Arthur worked very hard to get the young people in the community interested in sports, and he had good success.

The school pupils started playing softball using ragged balls, sticks and pieces of boards or whatever could be found for bats. They had a grand time. Brandland used to play ball against the other country schools such as Sulitjelma, Pretty Hill, Thronson and Swan Hill and others. In those early years Brandland took some terrific beatings but as the years progressed and the Brandland children improved in their abilities, the situation was reversed somewhat and they started to win a few games.

Mr. Eriksson was instrumental in getting the older boys interested in playing hardball and soon a team was formed called the Brandland Cougars. Some of the older boys who were still going to school used to practise hardball with the team and when they quit school they were full-fledged members of the baseball team.

After some years some of the older boys got too old to play ball so they quit and younger ones took over. In this manner a constant new crop of boys was available. For a number of years a baseball league had been in operation called the Breezy Baseball League. Teams from Hay Lakes, Sulitjelma, Armena and Dinant made up the League. Brandland used to play exhibition games with these teams. Then in the mid-thirties the Dinant team disbanded and this was the opportunity for Brandland to join the Breezy Baseball League. There were some great ball games played in those days and the competition was very keen, especially between Hay Lakes and Brandland.

The League consisted of a twelve or fourteen game schedule, finishing with semi-finals and finals. In 1939 Brandland qualified for the finals and beat Hay Lakes for their first championship in the Breezy Baseball League. In September, 1939, war broke out and this caused the League to disband for the duration of the war.

After the war when the boys returned home, the League was reorganised with the same fierce competition between the teams. As a reorganized League, Brandland changed its name to East Hay Lakes as there was a community club formed during the war

called The Cheery Chums and this club sponsored the ball team for a number of years.

In those days there were no fences around the ball parks so in order to hit a homerun you had to hit the ball over the fielders. The number of homeruns hit proved that there were long ball hitters in those days too.

In 1949, East Hay Lakes again reached the finals against Hay Lakes and had a hard-fought five-game series. (exerpts from the Camrose Canadian)

In the early 1950's Hay Lakes finally beat East Hay Lakes in another hectic series. The following years saw baseball die a slow death as softball, or fast ball as it is called today, took over. This also proved to be the end of the Breezy Baseball League which had provided a lot of fun and entertainment for players and fans alike. In this day of highly organized sports and highly paid players it's hard to envision the fun and enjoyment had by hundred of people with a minimum of organization.



Breezy League Baseball Champions East Hay Lake 1949. Back Row: Donald Miller, Ivan Broen, Ivar Lofgren, Arlen Jaycock, Harlan Johnson, Angnar Swanlund, Ken Rotto and Oscar Lund. Centre Row: Wilfred Johnson, Johnny Erickson, Albin Person, Verner Johnson and Clarence Sware. Front Row: LaVern Joycock and Bill Webster.

Tennis

In the 'twenties tennis was a popular sport in Hay Lakes. A court was built just south of Main street. Two of the most ardent players were W. T. Roper and Mr. George Davies, a teacher in Hay Lakes. Many of the men and women of the town would spend their idle hours playing tennis as well.

The following reports from the Camrose Canadian show that interest was good for a time. On June twelfth, 1921, it states that "the ladies of the town are talking about starting tennis". In 1922, Mr. Davies reports "there is much tennis being played." The May, 1923 issue reports "the Tennis Club of Hay



Airborne W. Trevor Roper, 74-year old farmer from Hay Lakes, Alberta, enjoys his favorite sport in Vancouver's Stanley Park tennis courts for almost four months every year. He has played up to 18 sets a day, but averages eight or nine.

Lakes is again getting into form." The June, 1923 newspaper mentions two courts in the area, this perhaps includes Sulitjelma as well as Hay Lakes. It also states "the courts are being kept hot by many rubber-soled shoes", indicating a keen interest in the sport, and says that "they are now contemplating competing in amateur tournaments."

The May twenty-second, 1924 Camrose Canadian reports that "the Tennis Club of Hay Lakes has

come to life again” and that “its members have been working up a sweat and blistering their hands.” The grounds required an overhaul and “plans are being made for two courts”, indicating the amount of participation in the sport. The same paper states “The Willow Cluster Junior United Farmers of Alberta at Sulitjelma is also in operation and looking forward to a good year.”

In April, 1925 the Tennis Club was reorganized and in June of that year a number of players motored to Tofield for competitions. Out of five sets played, Hay Lakes won two. This was the start of a schedule of games played at outlying points that summer. On July thirtieth that same year the Hay Lakes players took part in a tournament in Camrose. Representatives from Hay Lakes were W. T. Roper, Solveig Lund, Elida Nordin, Maude Sware and Oscar Grahn.



The first tennis court built by tennis fans. Mrs. Pfrimmer in 1923.

The following was taken from The Hay Lakes Times in April, 1928: It states a meeting of the tennis enthusiasts was held in the hotel dining room. It was decided to secure equipment as soon as possible to get the courts in shape. The fees set were \$2.00 for gentlemen and \$1.00 for ladies.

On March twenty third, 1932, a meeting was held to organize a Tennis and Horseshoe Club. The courts were to be located on the lot where the former Chris Hein store originally stood. This carried on the following year, 1933.

The interest died down and tennis was dropped for several years in town; however, in the 1940's a new court was set up in the north end of town, approximately where the Legion Hall is now located and tennis was again played until about 1947.

It is interesting to note that in the 'thirties the Jonas Lofgrens had a tennis court in their farmyard. Their ground was very level and conditions were favorable for a court. The young neighbours close by spent many enjoyable hours playing the strenuous game of tennis.

Boxing and Wrestling

There were boxing and wrestling matches held in the village on several occasions during the 1930 to 1960 period.

During the “depression” years there was a dollar to be made by boxing, so a ring was set up in the Community Hall. Several local men boxed and sometimes boxers from other districts also participated. Return matches were always in order and local men travelled as far as Saskatchewan. There was usually a dance held after the match.

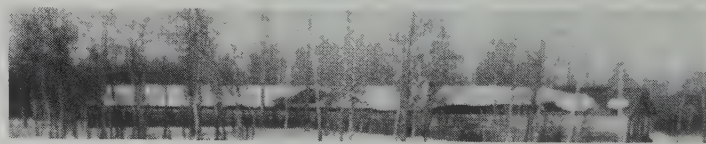
During the 1950's, boxing was taught in the Legion Hall by Gus Wahl who was very talented in this sport. The local boys were very enthusiastic and several became very good at the sport, some even advancing to competitions held in the Sales Pavillion in Edmonton. Gus also trained boys in Camrose for a few years and those interested from this area also attended.

Wrestling matches were also held in the Community Hall on different occasions. The fact that the ring was set up in the center of the floor, and the close proximity of the fans, brought many funny and interesting predicaments. These matches were held during the 1950's.

Hay Lakes Curling Club

In 1939 a group of interested curlers and business men, among them Mr. Grahn, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Kiel, decided that Hay Lakes was lacking in winter activities and that a Curling Rink would be of great benefit to the Village.

With money raised from raffles, donations, and a loan from the Bank, they were able to finalize plans. The lumber was purchased from Pearson's Lumber at Breton for \$20.00 per thousand. With volunteer help under the supervision of Oscar Grahn Senior, a one-sheet rink was completed in the fall of 1939.



Hay Lakes one sheet curling rink built in 1939.

The club could not afford to buy all the rocks so most members bought their own with the majority of rocks purchased second-hand in Saskatchewan. What a variety of rocks! One pair had wooden handles, another weighed fifty pounds. A set of tassels had to be used on the handles to distinguish the team rocks.

Someone had suggested that sawdust would

make an ideal base for the ice; the rumbling noise this created was unbelievable but it produced a good crop of mushrooms the following summer.

Bill Pearson was the first caretaker and between him and Reg Berry, Al Payne, and May Grahn, everyone soon learned to curl and thought they were ready for bonspieling. After curling only four weeks, a ladies' team skipped by May Grahn and teammates Esther Sjolie, Martha Kiel and Rose Zucht curled in the Camrose Bonspiel and proudly came home with a prize.



First winners of Circle "S" Curling Trophy. L. to R.: Alpha McLean — skip, Anne Aspell — third, Elsie Zucht — second, Dorothy McEachern — lead.

Enthusiasm was high with ladies enjoying afternoon curling and mixed round robin play in the evenings. Several rinks from New Sarepta curled here until they built their own in 1949. Over the years we have also had many Armena curlers as club members. The season always ended with a Club Bonspiel and for a number of years wind-up banquets were held at the hotel at which time the prizes were presented.

During the summer months the rink was often used for a lunch booth and games of chance at Picnics



Eddy Kreamer, Mauritz Aspell, Ralph Head, Carl Nordin.

as it had been so constructed that part of the west side could be opened to serve as booths. The Hay Lakes Legion also held their Turkey Shoots in the rink each fall.

In August, 1949 the Curling Rink and all rocks were destroyed by fire of unknown origin.

On November 5, 1949 construction started on a new two-sheet rink. Lumber was again purchased from Pearson's Lumber at Breton. Rudolph Nordin used the County of Leduc equipment to level the ground for the foundation which was then put in by volunteer labour under the supervision of Oscar Grahn Senior and Carl Nordin. Rafters were built by Walter Seipert and erected by volunteers. The following day a severe windstorm hit the area and everyone was afraid the rafters would blow off but they stayed in place. The first fall only shiplap was applied on the roof and the following year the roofing was put on. Johnny Wentland and Mauritz Aspell completed the waiting room and the upstairs. A matched set of second-hand rocks was purchased from L. Olson in Edmonton.

Money was raised by donations as well as by various money making events that were held such as: Moccasin Dances in the rink, Bingos, Raffles and Bonspiels.

Many games had to be cancelled because of roads being blocked. Sometimes the participants had to curl all night to finish a bonspiel because the ice was not keen enough in the daytime. For twenty years many bonspielers and curlers enjoyed these facilities.

On April 16, 1968 a meeting was called because power and gas were then available. Enough enthusiastic curlers canvassed and worked hard voluntarily to install artificial ice, and heating and plumbing for indoor washrooms. Sixty-five shares were sold at \$100.00 apiece with the share-holders receiving a reduction on curling dues for the next ten years.

Another ten years of ardent curling were enjoyed.

Lots of good home-made soup and pies piled high with whipped cream were sold at bargain prices which enticed a community gathering to watch curling.

Then Health Inspectors became stricter regarding the way food was handled for public consumption so we were required to up-grade the kitchen. Therefore, on April 4, 1978 a special meeting was called. A decision was made to cut off the old kitchen completely and rebuild the lobby, kitchen, washrooms and upstairs lounge. A building committee was elected, namely: Robert Berkholtz, Bill Harke, Walter Metzker, Rod Rost, Ola Sandbu, and Rod Skaret.



Hay Lakes Curling Rink taken in 1981.

With good support for volunteer help, it wasn't long before the old part was hauled away. A mason was contracted to do the block work, and the rest was volunteer work. This time sixty-six shareholders bought at \$100.00 a share. The Ladies Circle S Club donated the money for a grill, stove, and hood; a barbecue was held; dances were held; and we sold lunch at sales to help raise money.

The new lobby and lounge contributed to the bonspiels becoming more profitable. Lots of prizes and money are donated for these bonspiels by local merchants and businessmen.

After three years we are debt free besides having set aside money for the next generation of enthusiastic curlers to enlarge the ice area for three sheets of ice.

Inflation, too, has hit the sport of curling. In 1968, curling dues in Hay Lakes were \$5.00 per person for the season. Now the rates are \$40.00 per person which is still a bargain in comparison to the rates for other sporting events.

Stampede

A stampede was held in Hay Lakes in the mid-'forties. Temporary corrals were built near the railway tracks north of the village. The stock was all shipped in via rail.

The performances were enjoyed by young and old with some local men getting involved in the action.

The stampede, however, was a one-time event.



Hay Lakes High School Girls Curling Team. L. to R.: Brenda Selin (skip), Nancy Selin, Fay Fuernkranz, Elaine Fuernkranz. Winners of the "C" event in Provincial High School finals held in Calgary. March, 1982.

Badminton

In 1963 a badminton club was formed by some local folks. The school gymnasium was used for the practices which were held once a week. Although a few competitions were held with other local clubs the majority of the time was spent in fun, exercise and relaxation.

Horseshoe Courts

In the early '30's Hay Lakes first horseshoe court was set up east of Grahn's Garage.

In the '50's William Sware set up horseshoe sets along side of Gus Hein's Garage and the hitching rack on Main Street. This was a popular spot for the townsmen and for farmers who had completed their deliveries of eggs and cream to the creamery.

Golf

A small golf course, as such, was located on Kreamers hay meadow. The local men used to spend leisurely hours testing their skills during the 1930's. It seems that during these specific years we had several local men very interested in keeping active. Thus we find many small clubs and several projects initiated. The interest in golf has again appeared and we find local enthusiasts on the Miquelon Hills or Camrose golf courses.

Athletic Club

In 1933 an athletic club was formed by several of the local residents who recruited J. E. Lyle school

teacher to help with the instruction. The group met in the town hall once a week to practice the many formations and drills of which they became very proficient.

They held a variety night to raise money to buy Indian clubs which supplemented the many donated and homemade items, such as mattresses and wooden horses. They performed such antics as tumbling, vaulting horses, building pyramids and swinging Indian clubs which in itself was quite an art. This club was in existence for several years.

Basketball

A ladies' game when it was first played in this area, had its beginning before 1920. Most of the competition was between the Hay Lakes and Sulitjelma girls.



L. to R., Back Row: Hilda Bittner, Anna McCoy (coach), Eda Fisher, Elsie Fisher. Front Row: Gola Kreamer, Frieda Henschell, Rose Henschell. Taken 1928 or 1929.



1925 era. L. to R.: Millie Tober, Ruth Sikstrom, Margaret Roper, Loah Frederick.

Dances and socials were held to raise funds for these matches which were played outdoors on sod marked courts. The five girls that comprised a team

were tastefully attired in white middies and black bloomers. Each player was assigned a position playing only in their restricted zone.

One of the Hay Lake coaches, a local teacher Mr. Samis was very adept although having only one arm. Anna McCoy another teacher coached also. The Sulitjelma team was coached by their teacher J. W. Morrison.



The Algeo girls in their basketball uniforms — 1924-25.

Later a team from New Sarepta competed with the two local teams.

There was no basketball played from the mid 1930's until the mid 1950's when the school gymnasium was built, now both boys and girls have participated.

Boys' Gym Club

A club was formed in the mid 1920's by approximately twenty boys of the Sulitjelma district. This club provided training and amusement for the local boys who met weekly in the school during the winter months. They held boxing matches and whist games, ending their season with a fine banquet.

Gun Club

In the early '20's crows and gophers were believed to be doing considerable crop damage. The announcement by the municipality to pay for crows legs and gopher tails was well received. While payments at first were going out to young hunters, this quickly developed into competition between local

districts to see which collected the most “tails and legs”.

A Hay Lakes Gun club (Lauritz Larsen — President; Fred Hustad — Secretary) was organized for the purpose of entering the 1925 Provincial Crow Competition. The Willowcluster Junior Local of the U.F.A. also held turkey shoots and crow competitions.

At first the authorities endeavoured to count the “tails and legs” before paying up, but as this soon became a most obnoxious chore, the counting was often discontinued. More than one humorous story is told regarding the tightly closed jam pails containing the booty.

Later the club built a rifle range on the Simon Grue farm. Twenty-two calibre rifles were used for target practice. Local competitions and presentation of trophies were later featured by the Gun Club.



Rifle Range East of Hay Lakes. L. to R.: Henry Zucht, Reg Berry, Henry Landsman, Justein Nordmoe.

Another “shooting” club that came into existence shortly after the turn of the century, was formed by a group of enterprising and enthusiastic hunters who formed the Big Hay Lakes Gun Club, erecting a building on the NE 21-48-22-W4 which was a hunters haven. Members were nearly all bankers, lawyers, doctors, etc. who had both the necessary funds and desire — coming from Edmonton, Wetaskiwin, Camrose and even further points to enjoy hunting upland and migratory birds in an area which at that time was unsurpassed in the quality, variety and quantity of game offered. The first World War took its toll and the club folded by mutual agreement of the very few remaining members. The building itself still stands on the Ken Roper farmsite.

Hay Lakes and District Fish and Game Association **by Stan Kadatz**

On August 11, 1967 the Hay Lakes and District Fish and Game Association held their first meeting.

It was at this time that the Club was organized, and it has been an affiliated member of the Alberta Fish and Game Association ever since. Mauritz Aspell was elected as the first president and Leslie Webster the first secretary. Monthly meetings were held in members' homes for the first few years.

The majority of the memberships come from Hay Lakes and surrounding areas including New Sarepta, Armena, and Bittern Lake, with a few from Camrose and Edmonton signing up as well. Members are signed up as early as possible in each new year, with the memberships expiring at the end of the year. The number of persons signing up has varied from year to year, with the highest membership reached to date being eighty-two.

Along with regular monthly meetings to attend, there are various other activities in which members can participate. Beginning in 1973 a clay thrower was purchased and trap shooting got a start. Commencing in the spring and continuing through the summer months, all the sharp shooters get their shotguns and meet every other week to try their skills at trap shooting. The person breaking the highest percentage of clay pigeons is presented with a trophy at the end of the year. The annual fish derby is another time when all the anglers get together to try their luck.

The first trophy donated by the Club was in 1968 for the largest duck shot by a member. Since then, more trophies have been awarded for the following: largest whitetail and mule deer (both typical and non-typical), moose, elk, largest goose and fish, and also for predator. Predator includes legs of crows, magpies and starling.

There are several activities that the Club has been involved in since the beginning. Starting in 1971, an annual wild game supper was held. This supper was always well attended and greatly enjoyed, with hungry mouths coming from as far as fifty miles for the meal.

In 1968 the Club began its pheasant rearing program. In that year there were three-hundred and twenty cock pheasants released in the Kingman and Camrose areas. In 1978 the Club became quite involved in the program, with close to two thousand pheasants, cocks and hens, being released in the Hay Lakes and surrounding area in the following three years. In the pheasant rearing program, pens were built on the property of volunteer members at the expense of the Club. In late May or early June, day-old pheasant chicks would arrive from the Upland Birds Association of Calgary, along with enough feed for approximately two months. The chicks and feed were distributed among the members with the pens. They would raise the birds to the age of two months and then release them. The goal is to re-

establish the pheasants in areas where they have been wiped out.

Another program is goose nesting. In this program, round flax straw bales, and enough cage wire to wrap the bales, are brought out to the Club in late fall or early winter. Members then get together and tie the wire around the bales. These bales are then taken out to selected lakes and sloughs, at which time holes are chopped into the ice and the bales dropped in on end. The bales will remain on end in the water after the spring thaw and hopefully become nesting sites for Canada geese. Once a good nesting site is found, geese will return year after year to nest in the same area.

The Fish and Game Association is dedicated to the conservation of wildlife. Anyone interested in the preservation of wildlife is encouraged to become a member.

Sports and Recreation



Lawrence Schlender and his pet bear.



The six children of Ignace and Tillie Sych, in Ukrainian attire, performing a Ukrainian dance at a Festival in Edmonton on July 19, 1980. The dancers were accompanied by a live orchestra — The Polka Ramblers (Sylvia Kupka and her two sons Gary and Randy) of Hay Lakes.



Trevor Roper Sr. and Leonard Lachman with an elk shot in Hinton country 1952.

SHOOTING OF MUSKRATS PROHIBITED

FEE \$1.00



Nº 7330

Permit to Trap Muskrats

Under and by virtue of the power vested in me by Order in Council No. 2459/20,

Theodore Carlson, of *Hay Lakes, Alta.*
is hereby authorized (in accordance with his application) to trap Muskrats on land described as

follows: *SW/4* Section *34/3* Township *49* Range *21* West of the *4*th Meridian.

On land owned by T. J. Carlson of Hay Lakes only.

between the *5th* day of *April*, 19*29*, and the

30th day of *April*, 19*29*.

Benj. Lawton
Signature of Permittee.
Game Guardian.

BENJ. LAWTON,
Game Commissioner.

TRAPPING IN MUSKRAT HOUSES PROHIBITED

N.B.—This permit is returnable immediately after date of expiry, with a statement on the back showing the number of muskrats trapped.

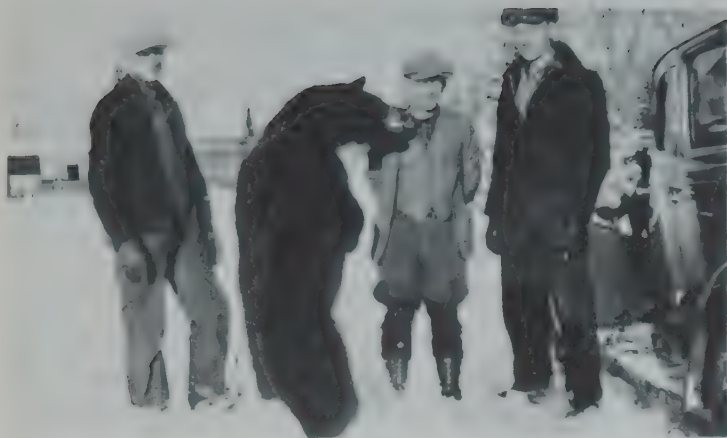
Permit to trap muskrats — 1929.



Big Game Hunters. L. to R.: Norman Moe, George Miller, Joe Miller, Einar Broen.



L. to R.: Ed Schlender, Morris Aspell and Oscar Grahn.



Alvin Forsen, Einar Lindberg and Holmfred Swanlund with bear that Einar shot.



Emil Erickson with his muskrat and weasel skins.



Azro (Budd) Blakely.

Dominion Ski Champion (February, 1929)

"Once again Jostein Nordmoe brings distinction to Western Canada with the sweeping victory in the Dominion champion skiing contest held at Montreal. This master of skiing won the Western Canada amateur skiing championship at Banff this year and he was eager to compete against the greatest skiers of the continent in Eastern events. His success is a sweep-

ing victory in the field of winter sports and his winning is being acclaimed as highly deserved and is most popular amongst the Easterners. In a telegram forwarded to the Camrose Ski Club, Mr. A. Grant of the Montreal ski club says in part: "Congratulations. Nordmoe won all-round Canadian championship to-day. His was a very popular win. Nordmoe gave a wonderful exhibition and deserved to win."

"Nordmoe thus wins the challenge trophy presented by Sir Henry Thornton which is the most coveted award in the realm of skiing events. He will hold the trophy for a year and receive a replica to keep as a perpetual recognition of his victory.

"By placing fourth in the cross country race and second in the jumps, Jostein Nordmoe won the Sir Henry Thornton trophy, emblematic of the all-round championship of the Canadian amateur ski association. Nordmoe is the holder of the Western Canada title.

"All of Nordmoe's jumps were well executed and on his third attempt he equalized the old record of 132 feet for the Montreal Ski Club's hill at Côté des Neiges."

Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club

The Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club was first organized on April 3, 1972 in Hay Lakes. The first executive consisted of President — Morley Berkholtz, Vice-President — Dennis Galenza, Secretary-Treasurer — Bruno Hartman. The list of members who originated the Club with the Hay Lakes Recreation Association were: C. Eckert family, Bob Stirrett family, Dennis Galenza family, Morley and Cecil Berkholtz, M. Goodhope family, Jerry McCracken family, Lawrence Berkholtz family, Garnet



Gymkhana Action.

Ferguson family, Walter Jantz family, June Bulmer family, Don Welda family, Susan Drake, Donna Radtke, Lothar Haak, Laurie Grahn, Doug Neuman, Leo Berkholtz, Bruno Hartman, Tannis Fiderko, Jim Debman, Lynn Gorman, Norman Stable, Georgette Grahn and Gerry Kreamer.

Until 1977 the Club held a Gymkhana in conjunction with the Hay Lakes July First Sports Day at which time Clubs outside the area were invited and the Gymkhana Queen was crowned. Successful Queen candidates over the years were: Linda Goodhope, Candace Ferguson, Lorraine Bulmer, Bonnie Selin, Deanna McCullough, Shauna Whyte, Grace Kiel and Cindy Fisher. These girls represented the Club in parades, on Trophy Day, at the Camrose Rodeo and other similar functions.

The club has participated in many parades, namely at Hay Lakes, New Sarepta, Camrose, and won first place in Camrose and also placed in all other entries. The Club's dress has consisted of white shirts, mauve neckerchiefs, mauve serapes with black lettering and white fringe. The banners and flags have been of the same color. Often seen at these functions was their mascot which was a stuffed "Hay Lakes Mule," with matching serape.

Once a year the Club held a Trophy Day when trophies were donated by member families and local businessmen and were given as prizes for barrels, poles stakes, and flag picking, keyhole in each category. Until 1978, Trophy Days included in-club competition only. Since that time Trophy Days include anyone who wishes to compete, with competitors

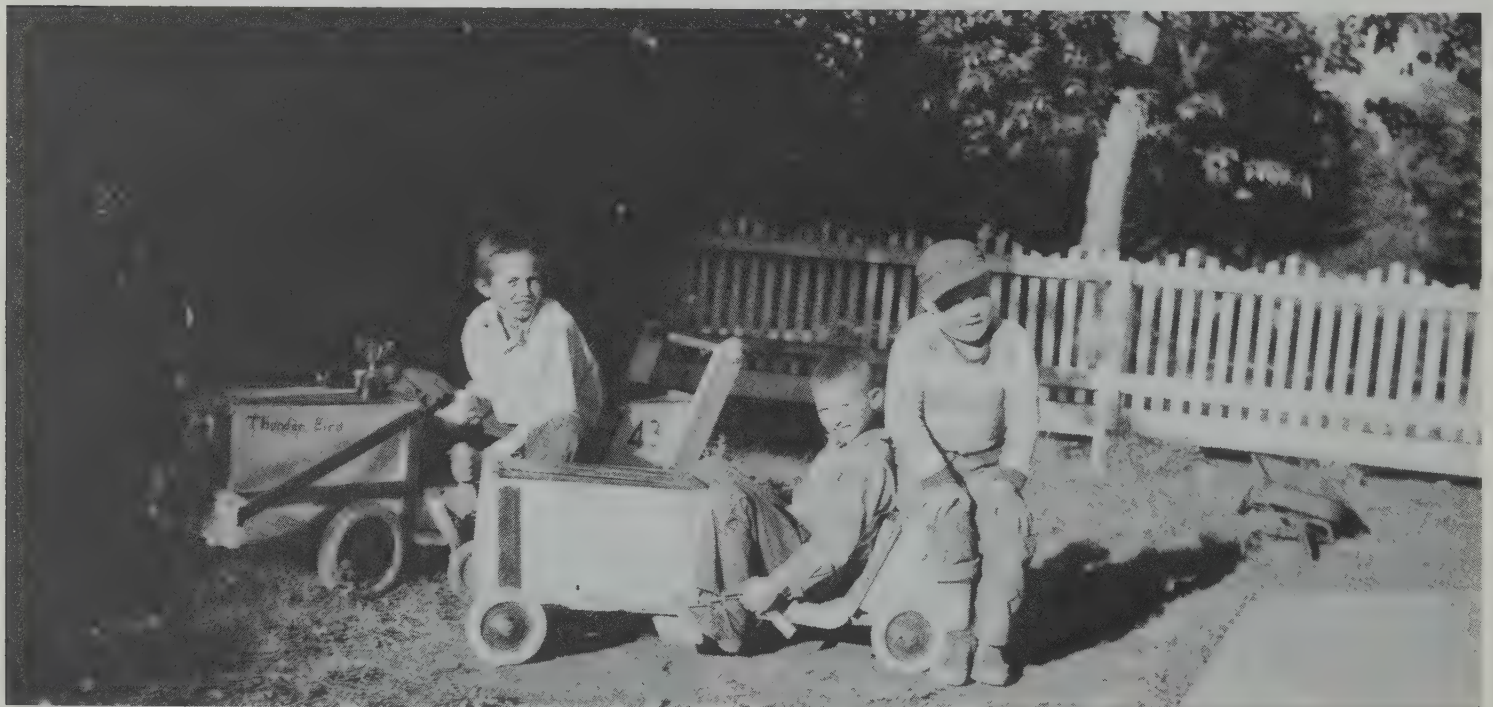
numbering as many as seventy-five from across Alberta.

In 1979 the Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club joined the Edmonton Gymkhana Association which includes nine other clubs which compete against one another and the winners compete in the Provincials.

The first year, 1981, was when the Club had anyone competing in both the Edmonton Gymkhana Association and, having won that, went on to the Provincials.

Besides holding Gymkhanas, the members have had very exciting trail rides, barbecues, wiener roasts and dances. Every year there is a wind-up banquet at which time large yearly trophies are given for Ladies' High Point, Men's High Point, Intermediate High Point, Junior High Point, Pee-Wee High Point, and Over-all High Point which is the Jim Debman Memorial Trophy. A new addition this year is the Sportsmanship Trophy, which is the Happy Sandy Memorial Trophy. Other donors of these annual Trophies which have been with the Club since its origin are: A. Arnston Insurance, Trempner Tanks Service, R. Mittelstadt (Hay Lakes Hardware), Hay Lakes Garage (Grahn) and United Farmer's of Alberta (Leicht).

In 1981 the Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club moved, due to lack of space, to the Farmers Union of Alberta grounds in the Miquelon Lake area. Due to the change of location the name was also changed to the Miquelon Lake Saddle Club, although the organization is still the same.



Hay Lakes Soapbox Derby organized by Byron Moore. Winner Allen Kreamer, left; with Doug Berry and Duayne Schaffrick, 1955.



Little Hay Lake 1923.

Water, Water Everywhere

Miquelin Lake

Miquelon Lake is located sixty-four kilometres southeast of Edmonton. It is about twenty-three kilometres straight north of Camrose in the extreme southern end of the Beaver Hills. It is actually a chain of three lakes, Miquelon First, Second and Third, with a group of islands between First and Second. Near the north side of Third Lake is another island named Pelican Island. Here for centuries pelicans and cormorants have returned yearly by the hundreds to nest. On the other islands there are birds of every description — ducks, geese, gulls, herons and bitterns.

In the early days there were also thousands of muskrats and beavers which the homesteaders trapped for extra income. At that time the local lakes also abounded with jackfish and suckers which were a source of food.

From reports in the *Camrose Canadian* for September, 1909, it states that “boating, canoeing and shooting are enjoyed at Miquelon Lake.” The following April, fifteen lots were sold, and motor boats

were seen on the lake. A pier was to be built to improve boating and swimming. In November, 1910, the *Canadian* reports that “an ice boat is operating on Miquelon Lake and they are looking forward to good skating and hockey.”

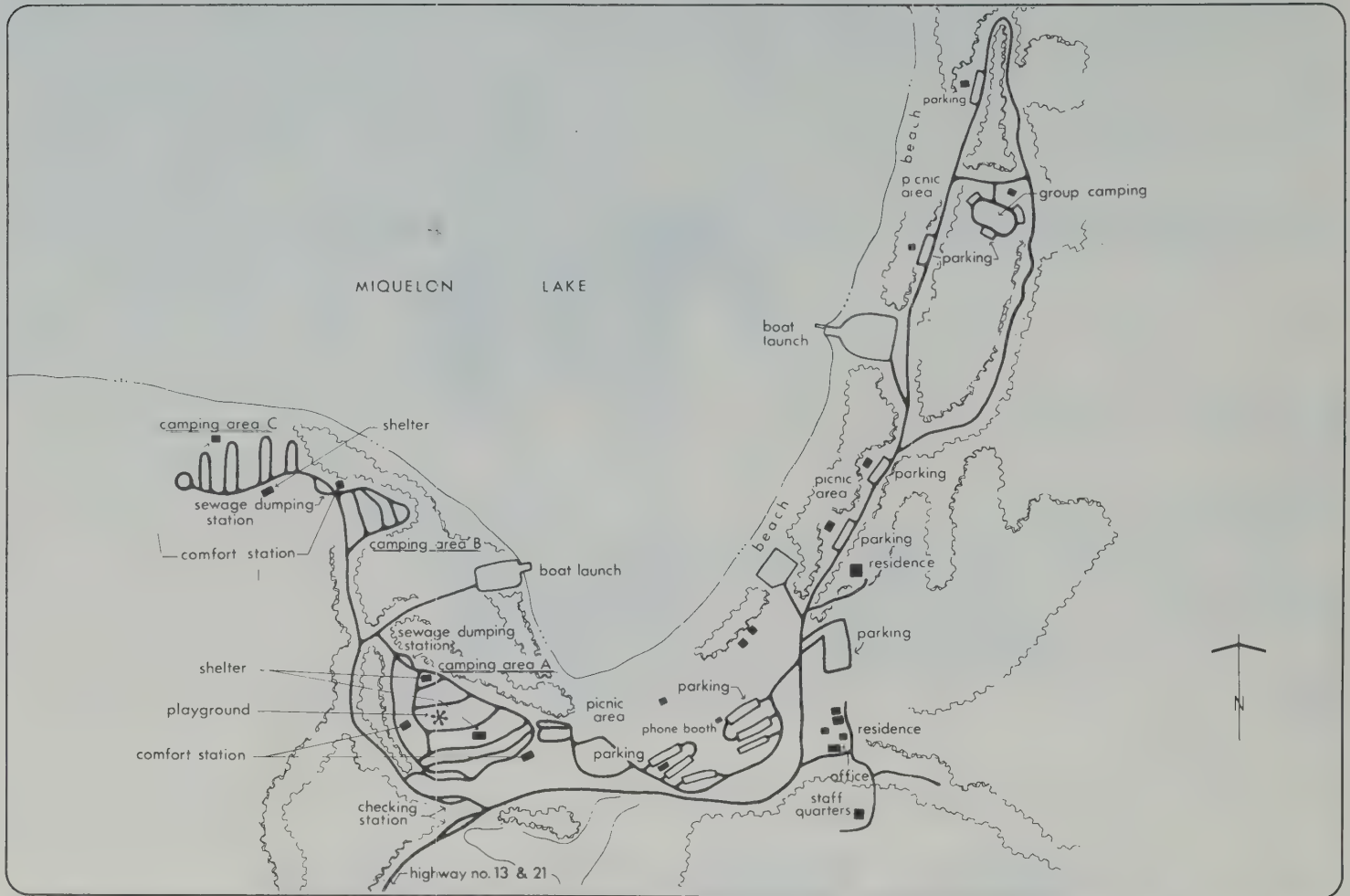
In June, 1911, “Mr. Battram, a local farmer is named Game Guardian for Miquelon Lake.”

In November, 1957, the Lions Club of Camrose purchased eighty-seven acres of land from Mrs. Victoria Reirson. The following May this land was donated to the Parks Branch of the Provincial Government, hence the Miquelon Lake Provincial Lake was established in 1958.

In 1961, the Provincial Parks Branch returned to the Lions Club of Camrose from the original property enough land to build a campsite. The Camrose Lions Club Youth Camp was built in 1961. An additional four hundred and forty-three acres were purchased in 1965, with two hundred and eighty more acres added in 1966, bringing the size of the park to eight hundred and eighty-three acres.

As the park expanded, so did the number of patrons. A paved highway connecting Miquelon to

MIQUELON LAKE



3115 PROVINCIAL PARK

Miquelon Provincial Park (map).



Herb Hunter, Lions Club Pres., presenting Hon. Russell Patrick, Minister of Lands and Forests with the deed to the property that formed the nucleus of Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. Looking on are Charlie Harvie, Provincial Parks Supervisor with Harry Andreassen and Robert Young, members of the local parks board.

Highway twenty-one was built, greatly improving travel for the Edmonton crowd. This also obliterated the blinding dust clouds from the heavily travelled gravel roads. The approach from the south is now paved, except the last six miles adjoining the park.

Vast improvements and additions have occurred through the years, including electricity, and, in 1972, a pressure system was installed for showers and toilets. There are now four shower buildings, four "change" houses and four "comfort" stations. The third warden residence was built in 1974, as well as an office and a new workshop.

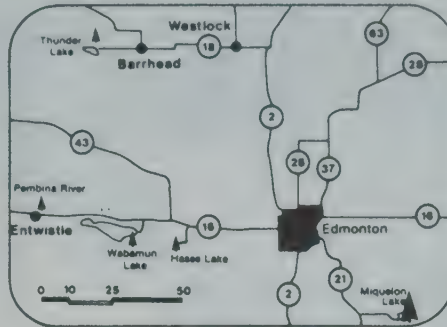
There are two hundred and eighty-seven camping stalls and in the summer they are always filled. When the weather is good people are turned away by the hundreds. There are five hundred picnic tables and three hundred and ninety-one swing-top stoves with fire pits; however, there are never enough to go around, for on a "peak" Sunday when the weather is

MIQUELON LAKE

VISITOR FACILITIES

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| ◻ CAMPING | LAUNDRY |
| ◻ PICNICKING | ◻ TELEPHONE |
| FISHING | ◻ SEWAGE DUMP |
| ◻ SWIMMING | HIKING TRAILS |
| ◻ CHANGE HOUSE | ◻ BOATING |
| SHOWERS | BOAT RENTAL |
| ◻ GROCERIES | ◻ GROUP CAMP |
| ◻ FLUSH TOILETS | ◻ INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM |
| ◻ PLAYGROUND | |

REGIONAL LOCATION



MIQUELON LAKE

PROVINCIAL PARK

Just 64 km southeast of Edmonton lies a swimmer's paradise – a large warm water lake bordered by wide, sandy beaches. Miquelon Lake is excellent for boating and waterskiing too. And the highly rated picnicking and camping facilities make your visit even more enjoyable.

There's no fishing at Miquelon Lake, but the variety of fragile wild flowers and colorful waterfowl make spectacular subjects for the amateur or not so amateur photographer.



- Please do not litter
- Protect trees and shrubs from cutting or damage
- Keep vehicles on established roadways
- Hunting and carrying firearms are prohibited
- All pets must be on a leash and under physical control at all times
- Build your campfire in the facility provided

P-068-8004-10M

Alberta
RECREATION AND PARKS
Parks Division

hot there can be twelve thousand visitors to the park. There are also two Group Areas rented out by reservation. Three years ago the peak attendance for a day was six thousand, indicating that attendance has now doubled. There are swings and slides for the children and a General Store at the entrance to the park.

In 1980, the west half of NW 26-49-20-W4 was purchased from Rupert Haselgruber, who owns and operates the Miquelon Hills Golf Course. Incidentally, part of the Number Seven hole on his golf course is now on Park land. Two water wells were drilled in 1980 on the south half of 33-49-20 W4. In the past three years two thousand additional acres of land were purchased.

This past summer, 1981, a road was built from the park across to the Miquelon Hills Golf Course, a shortcut for many golfers who don't mind parking their cars and walking the last quarter of a mile and pulling their carts through a scenic lane. This convenience has increased the clientele considerably.

As of December, 1981, the attendance at Mi-

quelon Park to this date for the year is two hundred and eighty-seven thousand visitors (287,000). There are twenty-five to thirty employees in the summer, for the most part people from the area. In the winter the work force is reduced to ten. Ed Whitelock is the Head Warden, his rank being Park Ranger Three. His assistant is Park Range Two, Jim Mulzet. The Park secretary is Judy Schoenknecht, a local girl.

Joseph Lake

Joseph Lake was a popular spot for the first community picnics in the surrounding area. They were held yearly starting about 1914. The lake contained an abundance of fish, an important source of food for the settlers. Trapping muskrats and beavers helped augment their slim incomes.

This glowing report dated July, 1910 taken from the Camrose Canadian states that "a numerous array of boats, campers and tents are seen at Joseph Lake." Further it reports "fish are always plentiful and anglers are always pleased with the sport". It was



Joseph Lake Picnic — 1913.

proposed to hold some OLFISCO concerts in the near future. I am told they were entertainers of that time. It also reports that “in the near future arrangements are being made for illuminating the boats and lake at night.” They expected the resort to become one of the most popular in Canada, with the advocate of the Canadian National Railway.

The winter of 1919-1920 was particularly severe and that is the year all the fish in the lake succumbed due to lack of oxygen. In the spring the dead Jackfish and suckers were to be seen floating by the thousands along the shore.

Joseph Lake continued to be a popular place for swimming, boating and camping. In the 1950's swimming lessons were taught at the lake.

The Superior Joseph Lake Number One oil well was completed on March twenty-fifth (25th), 1949. This was the first commercial Viking oil well in Alberta. Several more wells were drilled along the lake shore and in the vicinity.

In 1954 under the Board Order No. F-132, the Joseph Lake, Armena and Camrose fields combined into the Joarcam Field. The name was derived by taking letters from each name. On February first (1st), 1967, Imperial Oil and Petcal took over the field to unitize it and make it more automatic. The market for this oil is Edmonton, via the Edmonton Pipeline.

Joseph Lake is still used for recreation. There is a kitchen and a number of picnic tables. Swimming and boating are still good. It is owned by the County of Leduc. Last year it was leased to the Lions Club. The landscape has changed considerably from the early days with all the oil wells and roads, as well as a great number of acreages in the area.

Oliver Lake Story

submitted by Henry Pearson

Oliver Lake was known as Island Lake in the early years. During the years between 1916 and 1920 Lars Grue had a sixteen foot Klimber-built boat, with a one-cylinder inboard motor. In addition to his own enjoyment, he treated his neighbours and friends to



Art Grahn and Richard Pearson Oliver Lake in background.

boat rides around this scenic lake. I can remember weekends when a caravan of cars, which would be antiques today, would pass through our place going to the lake. Jake Welda had a Pathfinder Studebaker, with all its brass, Simon Grue with his Brisco, Tommy Movold with a Ville, and also I remember an Abbot, a Russel, one Maxwell and many Model-T Fords. The road they travelled on was very rough, around sloughs and over steep hills, but the cars all made it. Those years were dry. Now they could not have driven since the sloughs are full of water, and yet the lake has dried up.

In those times there was an abundance of fish, "Suckers and Jackfish" in Oliver Lake, furnishing the diets for the people in the area. I remember when neighbours returning from a fishing trip would have a wagonbox half full of fish. The fish died in 1922 from the lack of oxygen because of the ice being very thick due to a cold long winter. That spring the lake was covered with dead fish attracting many Blue Herons.

More Memories of Oliver Lake submitted by Richard Pearson

Oliver Lake was different from other lakes because of its many islands covered with small and large stones, and also for its inlets of bays making it very scenic to boat around. Swimming was good, a favorite place for people from this district and Hay Lakes to gather for weekend picnics. I remember many times when neighbour friends would walk to our place located about one and a half miles south of Oliver Lake, and continuing to the lake for a swim. Walking home evenings when it was dark was tiresome, yet we looked forward to the next venture at the old swimming hole. Some of these neighbours were the Grue's, Nordins, Grahns, Websters, Adam Jack, Pete Hansons and others. There is still evidence of the fish trail which went through J. A. Pearson's land north to the lake which today has grown in with trees.

The Johnny Johnson family, Mrs. Johnson being the former Maude Sware, and the Norm Nordmoe family, of skiing fame from Hay Lakes, camped at Oliver Lake during the summer for a few years. That they were good outdoors people was reflected in their well kept and attractive campsite. A path leading from the beach to the camp was bordered by attractively painted rocks. The entrance to the camp consisted of a unique gate sign of an Elk Horn that Johnny Johnson found in the lake. A stone fireplace within made a cozy atmosphere for visitors who came to call.

Johnny Johnson and Norm Nordmoe were excellent swimmers and sometimes would race from one shore to a small island, a distance of about one

hundred and fifty yards, and ending in a close finish. They taught us water safety, a valuable experience for our future years. A spring diving-board twenty feet in length was built from the shore of an island. As the water was very deep, this provided a lot of fun for those who liked this sport.

The environment changed as time passed by; dry seasons with less water entering the lake put an end to the swimming. At present one finds it difficult to recognize the area. Oliver Lake provided a haven for the migratory birds of Canada, pelicans, geese, ducks, and shore birds, as the islands provided excellent habitat for nesting. Hunting was allowed during those early years but now it is restricted as a Canada Goose nesting project which was undertaken by the Department of Wildlife. Fond memories remain for the participants during those early times, and we hope the sanctuary will not be lost to commercial development.

History of Hay Lakes Drainage District, Number 11

by Alf Arnston and Johnnie Sware

Water has always been mankind's greatest need. A good supply of water has determined the location of cities and agriculture has prospered or failed due to an adequate amount of water at the right time. The control or lack of control of water has caused conflict for areas where there is not proper distribution of water on the surface of land areas, since some areas have too much and others not enough.

In the Hay Lakes District a body of water known as Little Hay Lake was a problem, especially during the spring months when a vast area to the north, east, and west of the lake drained into Little Hay Lake. Farmers who had land in the lake or near it suffered from an over-supply of water, since the lake would otherwise provide adequate hay for livestock during a dry summer. However, since a large area drained into the lake, which covered about two sections of land, quite often the lake land would be covered with water all summer or would be too wet to work. Hence the hay crop would either be abundant or a complete failure. The situation led some of the local residents to take remedial action without first consulting their neighbors, such as building a small ditch or removing an old beaver dam.

In July of 1914 an Inspector from the Irrigation office in Calgary made a surprise visit to residents of the area — no doubt as a result of complaints from someone who did not want anymore water on his land. It was pointed out that time that it was not legal to drain water without Government permission, so that several of the illegal ditches were closed.

Since it was declared illegal to move water from

one location unilaterally, residents near the lake and some from upstream, decided that there must be some other way to do this. After a few years a study was made of the area to find a legal way to lower the level of water deposited into Little Hay Lake. Simon Grue, H. G. Pithouse, Charles Holmberg, and John Sware were among the first to organize a petition to the Government of Alberta to provide for the formation of the Hay Lakes Drainage District.

According to the records the following is a list of the first ratepayers of the Hay Lakes Drainage District Number 11: H. G. Pithouse, John Sware, Ole Sware, Ole Feragen, Joseph Kreamer, Robert McLeod, John Naslund, Jonas A. Sandquist (on the place where Carl Fuernkranz lives now), Anton Pearson, Mrs. E. Gronlund, Jonas Lofgren, Martin Henkleman, Charles Holmberg, P. Elliot, M. Nichols, Mikkil Bakken, Peter Hanson, Christian Sollid, John Grahn, Edward Matson, Simon Grue, Simon Bertloff, Ed Diewert, A. Ostgaarde, A. Mohr, K. Schafer, A. Kalis, Carl Klammer. In addition to the farm owners, crown lands which were assessed for benefits, also had to pay their share of the taxes at that time. Crown lands were later sold to active farmers in the area. Cornhill Municipality, with its office in Tofield No. 487, was assessed and taxed according to the benefits to roads in the area serviced. Cornhill had jurisdiction over the land north and east of Hay Lakes. South of Hay Lakes the Municipality of Lloyd George No. 457, of Bittern Lake, was assessed and taxed for road benefits.

After the Drainage District was registered by the Water Resources Branch of the Alberta Government, work was started on the laterals leading to the main ditch on July 4, 1923, under the supervision of an engineer from the Water Resources Branch. Strip scrapers drawn by horses were used and local



Hay Lakes Drainage Ditch District 11. Not being able to get a drag line to clean out all the ditches in 1962, Johnnie Sware used ditching powder.

ratepayers worked on their own land on a contract basis. Engineers had started with surveys in April, 1923. Some of the first ditches were made by Gus Edwald who had a machine to winch the way through the low lying areas, and this was done before the formation of the District.

Progress was slow. During wet periods it was impossible to work, so that it was not until 1926 that work was started on the Main Ditch. On the Main Ditch, a steam-powered machine was used as much as possible by a contractor, who later had to abandon his machine to the mercy of the bank, since he could not earn enough to keep on any longer. Horse drawn machines were also used on the Main Ditch and this ditch was completed in the late 1920's.



Steam shovel, fired by coal, draining Little Hay Lake, 1924.

The total cost of the ditch work was \$40,000 and the District paid a large portion of the work. It took several years to pay for the project. The first Board of Directors elected were: H. G. Pithouse, Charles Holmberg and John Sware. Secretaries during the years of operation have been Mr. Pithouse, Magnus Sware and Alfred Arnston. In addition to the above, board members over the years have been Simon Grue (chairman), Johnnie Sware (chairman), Carl A. Fuernkranz (chairman), Ivar Lofgren, Lorne Harke, Eric Huebner, Norman Grue, Carl Fuernkranz Senior, Wilmar Harke, Leo Krell, Leslie Webster, Edmund Reinke, William Webster, Dale Donohue and Reg Kreamer.

Since the construction of the ditches, the Board of Directors over the years have always been engaged in the maintenance of the network of ditches. Growth of tall grass, brush, beaver dams and the general buildup of silt and dirt always tend to block the free flow of water through the network of ditches which lead the water into Stoney Creek, moving the water southward.

In 1955, a dragline contract with Tomik and Hyuiek cleared ditches in one of the major works undertaken to improve the flow of water. To finance this operation, local ratepayers advanced the money,

and notes were repaid over a period of three years to Gus Kiel, Carl Fuernkranz Senior, and Johnnie Sware. The cost involved was approximately \$7,000.

Also, beavers were removed and the District paid the cost of taking out the animals, this procedure saving more costly action later. Some of the large beaver dams were removed by dynamite.

In 1966, the Drainage District levelled some of the ditch obstructions by placing dynamite in the ditch and thus removing some of the "high" spots, at a cost of \$2,100. Backhoes were also used in areas which required minor obstruction removals.

In 1976, the Water Resources Department Engineers commenced a study of the whole area, including ditches outside the district, to lower the level of the south portion of the Main Ditch flowing into Stoney Creek. Hence the work was undertaken at a cost of \$25,000 to the District and over \$1,000 to the Government of Alberta. Repayment of this loan is presently in progress and no new undertakings have been made in the past year.

The Big Hay Lakes Drainage District compiled by Otto Drebert

This drainage district came into being in 1950 as the result of several factors. The Big Hay Lake has always been a fluctuating body of water, sometimes more marsh than lake, depending on the run-off and rainfall in any given year. The lands which were perpetually in this state of flux were all crown lands, leased to surrounding farmers at very low rates, tax free, for use as grazing leases or for hay cropping. During the 1930's continual lack of rainfall and practically no spring run-off caused the lake to become a very large hay meadow. Some farmers even obtained permission to sow greenfeed crops on the bare centre of the lake. Fences were erected to hold pasturing cattle. The Big Hay Lake had been dry before, but that was before this area was settled. So now some of the lessees envisioned purchasing this land for full farming use. They let their wishes be known to the government of the day in no uncertain terms, and the result was the sale of most of the marginal parcels by the government. This created the basis of events which led to the forming of the drainage district.

The lake began to return to its usual form in the 1940's, large run-offs and heavy rains soon flooded the whole area. Most of the land so recently purchased was unusable causing great pressure to be brought on the government to have the lake drained. After a plebiscite held on July 30, 1950 permission to drain the lake, with some regulatory conditions, was obtained. The original drainage district contain the following parcels:

In Township 48, Range 22, West of the fourth meridian; the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 8; the N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 9; all of secs. 16, 17, 19, 20, and 21; the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 22; the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of 27; the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of 28; and all of 29, 30, 31 and 32.

In Township 48, Range 23, West of four all of Secs 24 and 25; the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of 35 and all of 36.

In Township 49, Range 22, West 4 . . . the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of 5; the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6 and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 6; the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of 7 and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 7; and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 9.

In Township 49, Range 23, West 4 . . . the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1.

Much of this land was crown land as it contained the main body of the lake. Many would have liked to drain the lake completely but this could not be done as it was declared a Wildfowl Refuge by the Department of Wildlife. The purpose of the drainage then was to enable the landowners to utilized their patented land, yet stabilize the water level to keep the lake a waterfowl resource. A drainage control system was necessary.

The original three man board of the Big Hay Lake Drainage District was composed of August Schlender, Peter Maruschak and Robert Hodge with A. Gallie as secretary-treasurer. They organized the district and set in motion plans to raise necessary funds to finance the undertaking. The initial operating budget was forty one dollars donated by twenty one members. By 1957 this budget had increased to \$12,055.92, made up of a \$2,000.00 grant from the M.D. of Camrose; \$4,000.00 from the M.D. of Leduc; and a \$6,000.00 loan debenture. As of 1958 all revenues came from property assessment of members plus loan debentures which were taken when needed.

Initial ditching brought the water level down to the 2470 foot mark. High moisture levels in the early 1960's caused heavy run-off from the ninety-six square mile drainage basin surrounding the lake. Minor channel improvements did not keep the water level from rising continually. A larger drainage channel from the Big Hay Lake to Adrian Lake and from there on to Bittern Lake became the priority. Surveys were conducted from 1971 to 1973 for this purpose, and also for proper drainage around the lake. In April of 1974 the recorded water level of the lake was 2475.4 feet and rising. Patented lands were inundated.

That spring, Alberta Environment presented the board with four alternatives or plans for drainage and control levels; varying from \$128,000 as a maximum cost and scaling down.

The one chosen to be implement was "to stabilize the water level at 2471 feet with maximum fluctuation of one foot in a one in twenty year flood." This would cost \$76,000, plus the cost of a drainage ditch for the area west of the lake core.

In 1974 a 50-50 cost sharing agreement was signed between the Big Hay Lake Drainage District and Alberta Environment. Work proceeded on June 13th from Adrian Lake upstream. Progress was slow due to heavy run-off but by November nearly six miles of channel was completed. New farm and road crossing culverts were supplied by Alberta Transportation. The switch draining the west section was improved along with three farm crossings. One road crossing was improved by the County of Leduc at their cost.

A gabion lake control structure was placed in the main channel just upstream from the junction with the west ditch. The sill of the structure was set at 2471 feet at a width of twelve feet. Fifty gabions were used in the structure. The necessary dyking could not be completed due to the cold weather.

In 1975 easements were obtained to improve the drainage from Adrian Lake to Bittern Lake. This construction was carried out by the Department of Environment. It entailed brushing and excavating nearly one mile of ditch plus a gabion drop control structure to help prevent erosion on the W ½ 35-47-22-W4, plus new farm crossing culverts. It was completed that summer.

During 1975-76 the spoil banks were leveled, two drainage ditches were dug at the north end of the district, and the dykes were completed for the main gabion control structure. The structure had been damaged in 1975 due to heavy run-off with no dyking. This was repaired by the Dept. of Environment. All other work was on a cost-share basis.

The following contractors were hired in 1974-75-76.

Kingsport Contractors Ltd. Edmonton.

A 595 American Dragline . . . 1½ cu. yds. . . .
at \$28.00 per hour. George Larson Bulldozing . . .
Wetaskiwin.

A TD 18 Cat at \$14.00 an hour.

Prill and Johnson Construction . . . Wetaskiwin.
D7 Cat at \$25.00 an hour.

E and N backhoe Service Ltd. did the Adrian Lake to Bittern Lake work on a service agreement with the department of Environment, with the gabion drop Structure being constructed on W ½ 35-47-22 W4 by D. A. McIntyre Construction Ltd.

A total of \$152,332.30 was spent on construction during the fiscal years 1974-75-76. Seven miles of channel improvements, one gabion lake control structure, one gabion drop structure and thirteen road crossings were constructed or improved during this time.

The Big Hay Lake Drainage District share of the cost was \$48559.95.

Special recognition must go to A. Gallie who was

secretary-treasurer for the first fifteen years. His expertise, gained from similar work with the Cameron Drainage District, was invaluable. Following his death in 1971 the position has been filled by Ed Ortlieb.

Board members through the years have been diligent in their work. The present board consists of Ray Bolton, Mel Kublik and Ron Hodge.

Note — As of this date plans are under way to extend the district north and east of the present area to include some thirty four more parcels of land. If approved by the Government, surveys will proceed immediately for routing of a ditch to serve this area — plus possible further improvements to the system now serving the district.

ANYFOOLCANBEAFARMER

by Henry Brewis (a Scotsman)

Any fool can be a farmer
In fact it helps no end
to be a little crazy
and half-way round the bend
It's not essential to be crackers
good gracious not at all
as long as you're not normal
and a wee bit up the wall
If you can't meet these requirements
no need to break your heart
you'll quickly get the hang of things
once we get a start
'cos if the weather doesn't bug y'
it'll be a half wit cow
or a nit wit politician
or an old demented sow
or a collie dog that's clueless
doesen't even know his name
or a sheep that's just Plain awkward
they can all drive y' insane
but mind I wouldn't swap you
for your posh suburban pad
it's quite nice here in the country
especially when you're mad
Let the wealthy and great
Roll in splendor and state
I envy them not I declare it,
I eat my own lamb
My chickens and ham
I shear my own fleece and I wear it,
I have lawns, I have Bow'rs
I have fruits, I have Flow'rs
The lark is my morning alarmer
So jolly boys now,
Here's God speed the plough
Long life and success to the
farmer.

United Farmers of Alberta

The United Farmers of Alberta were very active in the Hay Lakes area for a number of years as indicated in the following reports, all taken from the Camrose Canadian:

March, 1910 — The United Farmers of Alberta met at the Thordenskjold School and have been holding meetings for the past three years

July, 1914 — The Swan Hills division of the U.F.A., jointly with the local Lodge of the Order of Templers have laid the foundation for a hall at Hay Lakes. The building will contain a spacious auditorium for the various business and public meetings of the two groups.

March 25, 1915 — On Friday night last, a successful dance was held at the Knights of Templers and the United Farmers of Alberta hall at Hay Lakes. The building was recently completed, and this is the first time it was opened to the public. The function partook of the nature of an opening night. The hall will no doubt supply a long felt need in being

available and large enough for the frequent social functions that make rural life pleasant.

April 22, 1915 — The Hay Lakes division of the U.F.A. recently organized and held a "Rousins" meeting at the Busenius School for the purpose of explaining their aims and purposes to interested outsiders.

October 28, 1915 — The farmer's association have reason to be pleased with their experiment of shipping direct. Prices all around exceeded expectations. Fifty-three extra dollars profit on two steers, is worth travelling after these days.

March 29, 1917 — Farmers are asked to report to their local U.F.A. secretaries if they need help to seed their crops this year.

May 31, 1917 — The U.F.A. sold a carload of hogs on Wednesday. The price received was fifteen and a quarter cents a pound, weighed off the wagons.

September 22, 1917 — The farmer's Co-operative is putting up a good sized elevator at Hay Lakes. This new project is a sign that this district is making real progress.



U.F.A. Delegated in the early 20's. Back Row, L. to R.: J. A. Pearson, Charles Holmberg, Mr. Ingram, Anton Sware, E. P. Nordin, Anton Pearson, Ed. Matson and Ole Feragen. Front Row: L. to R.: Selma Pearson, Thea Pearson, Mrs. E. P. Nordin and Mrs. Anton Sware.

November 1, 1917 — That the new elevator at Hay Lakes supplies a great need to this district is born out by the fact that wagons of grain are seen by the dozen some days, waiting to unload their grain.

August 21, 1919 — More than two thousand pounds of twine have been sold to farmers by the U.F.A. and still more is needed. Mr. George Hendrickson, who had been in charge of the U.F.A. elevator here, has been transferred to Donaldda. His brother will be in charge temporarily.

September 4, 1919 — Forty-four loads of grain were received at the elevator last week, close to three thousand bushels. E. Cousins of Camrose has taken over the management of the U.F.A. elevator. The U.F.A. hall was sold to the Hay Lake Village School District #3876 as stated in the June, 1920 school meeting. The Department of Education gave permission to purchase the U.F.A. hall for school purposes.

December 15, 1921 — A U.F.A. meeting is to be held and it is hoped that all farmers and as many farm wives as possible will attend.

January 12, 1922 — The U.F.A. sent a delegate to the Calgary convention. E. Carlstrom attended on behalf of the organization. A splendid report of the Convention held in Winnipeg was given by the local candidate, Fred Miller. The shipping agent's report was presented by M. Thompson and a resolution was passed to make an attempt to secure another pen to replace the one in the stockyard. Another resolution was passed to apply for some bank to establish a branch at Hay Lakes.

February 22, 1923 — A special meeting of the U.F.A. Local was held with representatives from Edmonton City Dairy present who addressed the meeting on the subject of a Creamery and Cheese Factory at Hay Lakes.

The meeting decided the proposition was out of the question at the present time and under existing conditions.

August 23, 1923 — The local U.F.A. is taking steps to do its share in the coming Wheat Pool campaign.

February 28, 1924 — All farmers interested in benefiting themselves should support the organization which works for them and attend the meetings in the local hall. They also held a pie social in May, 1924.

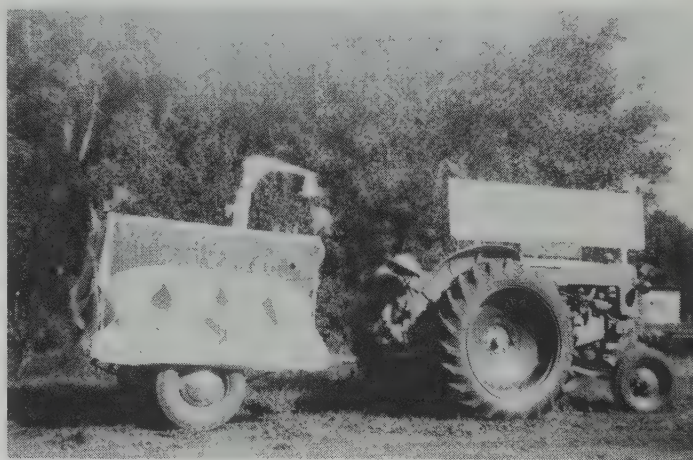
October 29, 1925 — The U.F.A. held a political forum, an outline of the conditions of Alberta farmers was presented.

February 26, 1926 — The U.F.A. held a debate "Resolved that the present system of grading grain is not in the best interest of the farmers".

August, 1926 — A meeting of the U.F.A. was held. In 1933 the organization was still functioning as

Mr. Chester Ronning spoke at a meeting in Kingman.

The United Farmers of Alberta became inactive in the mid-nineteen thirties when the U.F.A. Political Party was defeated by the Social Credit Party. Later, about 1946, the Alberta Farmers Union was formed. The three districts for Hay Lakes are: Canard, Big Hay Lakes and East Hay Lakes. This was changed to the Farmers Union of Alberta and is presently called Unifarm.



United Farmer's of Alberta Canard Local Province of Alberta 50th Anniversary 1955.

Willowcluster Junior Local of the United Farmers of Alberta

On February 12, 1921 a Junior Local of the United Farmers of Alberta was formed in Hay Lakes with an enrollment of thirty-two. The first president was J. W. Morrison, the Vice-President was D. Gemroy and the Secretary-Treasurer was M. J. Sware. It was decided to call this local "The Lakeview Junior Local". It was later discovered that another club already used that name so this was changed to "Willowcluster Junior Local". Meetings were held once a month.

Various social and entertaining functions were held over the years. In May, 1921, a basket social was held. The following month a number of members attended the Convention in Edmonton. They also formed a string band, and entertainment was provided at the Scandinavian Church in April, 1922. Debates were very popular and a most interesting one was held in May, 1922: "Horse versus Tractor" with Dagny Lofgren, Agda Miller and John Morrison for the affirmative and Edith Dick, John Sware and Henry Pearson for the negative. A victory was scored by the affirmative.

At their meeting in June, 1922 it was decided to again hold a Fair on July first. This would feature livestock, farm produce, ladies' handiwork, school children's work, as well as the usual line of sports.

On August 23, 1923 an evening of entertainment was held in the Sulitjelma School with the proceeds

of \$32.75 to go towards the purchase of an organ for the school.

On January 31, 1924 Mr. J. W. Morrison gave a talk on "Radio and Its Future" and the following month the group listened to a radio concert from Edmonton. The evening concluded with a basket social.

In April, 1924 the Junior Local sponsored a "crow contest" and it was reported that over four hundred pairs of crow's feet had been collected. It was also decided that, together with the Community Club, they would sponsor the fair and picnic, the Sports day and picnic being held on July first, with the fair at a later date.

The local people had some enjoyable times in those days when the Willowcluster Club was one of their main sources of entertainment. Dagney (Lofgren) Lyseng and Agda (Sware) Miller, former members, have fond memories of these good times, especially the debates and fairs.

Big Hay Lake Farmers Union

In the spring of 1942, Henry Kelly helped organize the Farmers Union in the Big Hay Lake district. Elected to office were Henry Karpowich as president and Bob Hodge as secretary. The local was very active for many years. The meetings were held in the Big Hay Lake school the second Monday of each month and most of the time they were well attended. After the school was closed and the children bussed to Gwynne and Wetaskiwin, the school was put up for sale. The Big Hay Lake local bought the school and continued to use it.

For many years the Big Hay Lake local along with the Canard and East Hay Lake locals celebrated Farmers Day together. At first the picnics were held at Miquelon Lake and later at Hay Lakes. These picnics were enjoyed by both old and young. The farmers and their families were out to enjoy the day. Pot luck lunches were served and the youngsters were treated to free ice-cream. It was a day of social visiting and friendly sports.

These three locals curled in a farmer's bonspiel each winter. At these bonspiels the competition was keen and interest ran high.

Each year the Big Hay Lake local sent delegates to the Farmer's Union Convention. These conventions were held either in Calgary, Edmonton, or Wetaskiwin and usually lasted from Monday morning to Friday afternoon.

To raise money to carry on the work of the local, card parties were held, and in summer a local picnic was put on with a donation sale to bring in a little extra revenue.

In 1970 the name was changed from Farmers Union of Alberta to Unifarm.

Our local has entered a float in the Hay Lakes parade almost every year.

At present the local is still active but the membership has dwindled down and the meetings are now held in the homes of the members. At present Emil Bauman and Waldemar Metzker are serving as president and secretary of the Big Hay Lake Unifarm.

East Hay Lakes Unifarm

During the war 1939-1945, Canadians were asked to contribute to the war effort by producing with little profit, and farmers were producing "Bacon for Britain", "Bread for the hungry world", as their contribution to winning the war.

Farmers were impatient as the price of their produce was rising slower than the goods they had to buy. The United Farmers of Alberta, a farm organization, had been inactive since the mid-1930's when their political organization lost power to Social Credit. A few farmers saw the need of a new "grass roots" farm organization to speak with a united voice in order to get a more equitable share of the wealth, and so the Alberta Farmer's Union was formed.

The East Hay Lakes local was formed in the fall of 1946 following a "Farmer's strike" earlier in the fall. The first executive to serve were: John Erickson as president, John Holmberg as vice-president, and Richard Pearson as secretary-treasurer. The board of directors were: Herman Selin, Carl Naslund, Elfert Johnson and Ivar Lofgren. The meetings were held monthly in the Brandland and Sulitjelma schools.

Some of the problems dealt with were: Rural Electrification, Freight Rates, Rural Education and Gravel for the roads. The main roads were not gravelled in those days, and snow plowing had not become general. Our Local was located in the Municipal District of Beaver, with Mr. Albin Anderson as our councillor.

In 1947, a grant was received from the Provincial Government to start a gravelling program, and the gravelling of roads began. The local was also involved in the centralization of schools and busing children to Hay Lakes, Kingman and Armena. The gravel was needed to keep the roads in good condition in wet weather.

In 1950, oil drilling came into our area, and brought problems with surface rights, compensation for oil leases, and the added strain on our road system.

About 1949 the name of the organization was changed to "Farmer's Union of Alberta", when the United Farmer's of Alberta joined to make a united voice for agriculture. This name was changed to

"Unifarm" in 1970 when the commodity groups were admitted into the organization.

In the 1960's our local became involved with Medical Services and Blue Cross, as a service to members since there was a benefit in group coverage. This was discontinued when our National Health Plan came into being. Also, during the early years, young people were sponsored to Gold Eye Lake camp, as well as the University Young People's Week. These were much appreciated by the youth who attended.

With the closing of the rural schools, the Local purchased the Brandland schoolhouse and moved it to the East Hay Lakes sports' grounds. The grounds were improved to serve all ages with swings, horse-shoe, sand-boxes, barbecue and ball diamond. The lake was nearby for swimming. The facilities served the Boys' Scouts from Hay Lakes and Edmonton, as well as family and group picnics. However, vandalism occurred continuously over the years so Unifarm simply had to give up doing repair work.

The Unifarm also served as a social and recreational organization for the community. Annual farmers' bonspiels were held with Big Hay Lakes and Canard locals in Hay Lakes, with as many as sixteen teams from our local, young and old curling with kitchen brooms and barn boots, which was a bit messy on the ice. Once a team scored an eight-ender and lost the game when one curler tried to lay a guard and knocked three of his own rocks out. In two or three years the calibre of curling improved.

For a number of years Farmer's Day picnics were held with the three locals working together to make a success of it. Our local sponsored a fastball team in the County League. We had a lot of fun and met a lot of new people, even if we didn't win many games.

Travelling suppers were held a few years as money raising ventures, as well as bingos and turkey raffles, which were well attended. Santa Claus parties were held for the young children, when gifts and treats were handed out by the "jolly old fellow".

Our membership has dropped from a peak of sixty-five, to about ten at present. The old core has retired, moved away or died, and no one has taken their place. That is progress? The need for a strong organization is today more apparent than ever.

Canard United Farmers of Alberta "Unifarm"

The United Farmers of Alberta was originally a farmer oriented organization but they began to turn their efforts toward politics. As a result, many farmers felt that their needs were no longer served by this organization.

Although more and more parts of the labour force

were being unionized giving them more bargaining power, the farmer was left out and had to take whatever prices were offered them for their products. To offset this situation the farmers decided to make a concerted effort to organize an active Provincial Farmer's Union. This effort was spear-headed by Henry Young (a farmer from Millet), Mr. Cody (a farmer, lawyer and later an appointed judge from Millet), and Hank Kelly of Clover Lawn.

On February 13, 1942 the Canard Local of the Alberta Farmer's Union was organized under the leadership of the following people:

President: Herman E. Wesenberg

Vice-president: Gus Mittelstaedt

Secretary: Charlie Heinz

Directors: Wm. Lede, Emil Zucht, Mrs. Wm. Wesenberg, Geo. Grams and Mrs. Loa Link.

Membership fees were \$1.00. Meetings of the local were first held at the Canard School and later in the homes of the group's members. The purpose of the organization was to lobby for parity prices for the farmer's products, to get involved in local community affairs, to make donations to worthy causes and to sponsor dances, picnics and curling bonspiels.

Party lines and crank phones were the thing of the day so to remind members of meetings, a series of short rings was given on each line and a designated person would make the announcement. During an emergency, the same procedure was followed, using one long, continuous ring.

The first barn dance sponsored to raise money for our local was held at the George Grams farm in 1943. Admission was thirty-five cents and lunch was fifteen cents. A profit of \$30.38 resulted.

In 1944, one hundred cups and saucers were purchased for \$16.00. These were then used at meetings.

In 1945, a petition was sent to the Alberta Government to protest the use of Daylight Saving Time. This read as follows:

"Whereas daylight saving time is very unsatisfactory in rural areas and whereas it is a hindrance to good health principles, especially to the smaller school children, therefore be it resolved that we the undersigned rate payers of Canard School District No. 1577 herewith do petition to have school hours returned to the standard time."

As you may remember, Daylight Saving Time was discontinued for many years.

Several barn dances were held at the Henry Zucht farm and weiner roasts were held at Joseph Lake.

A non-delivery of farm products strike was declared by the Alberta Farmer's Union in 1946. Pickets were set up at Hay Lakes. Creamery closed for the duration of the strike. After thirty days the strike was discontinued without much gain having been made by the farmers.

Capital to operate the organization was low so membership fees were increased to \$2.00 per year.

Keeping roads open for car traffic during the winter was a problem. There were very few high graded roads and the municipality was short of snow removal equipment. The local turned its attention to the problem and in 1947 a platform was built at the Oscar Mallas farm (three miles west and one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes) and two dances were held. The proceeds of these dances were used to buy a heavy snow plow which was made by Otto Kneller near Rolly View. Any member of the Canard Local was entitled to the free use of the plow. There were not too many tractors large enough to handle the plow in the district however, so it was fastened to Henry Zucht's tractor a great deal of the time. To open a main road, a group of farmers would gather with shovels and three or four tractors to help pull. In this way, many of the roads were opened. After its use as a community plow was over, the plow was sold to Erwin Soch.

The farmers approached the government and asked to have a day in June declared as a holiday called "Farmers' Day". They requested that Farmers' Day be on June 21st, since this is the longest day of the year. However, the government would not agree to this as it would interrupt the final exams in schools. The second Friday in June was agreed upon and was officially declared to be "Farmers' Day".

In 1948, the Canard Local co-operated with Big Hay Lakes and East Hay Lakes to sponsor a Farmers' Day picnic and dance at Hay Lakes. The picnic and dance became somewhat of a tradition and it continued on a yearly basis for a number of years.

In 1949 the Farmers' Union of Alberta held a joint convention. They agreed to amalgamate under the name of Alberta Farmers' Union and the membership fees were set at \$2.50 per year for adults and fifty cents per year for those under twenty-one years of age.

Margarine was a hotly debated subject. Farmers did not want the margarine manufacturers to have the authority to colour it so that it would look like butter. The government finally gave the margarine manufacturers permission to include a separate package of food colouring in their product packages but they were not allowed to colour the margarine before it was packaged for sale. In later years, this regulation was withdrawn.

In 1957, George Schultz had the misfortune to lose his machine shed in a fire. The Farmer's Union Local built him a double garage which was all paid for by donations. After it was built, he was presented with a clear title to the garage and a social evening followed.

The farm women were also an active group. At annual conventions they held some separate sessions which dealt with the special problems of farm women. One of their projects was a cookbook made up of women's favourite recipes. The book was a great seller.

A junior section of the Alberta Farmers' Union was also formed so that young people were actively involved.

Another name change took place in 1970 when the Alberta Farmers' Union amalgamated with the commodity groups and agreed upon the name "Unifarm". At this time the Canard Local changed its name to the West Hay lakes Unifarm Local No. 8215 since the Canard School District no longer existed.

As time went on many changes in farming methods were made. Government services, agencies and regulations improved at various levels so farmers' needs changed. They became more independent and no longer needed to band together to clear roads or attempt to control prices as they had in the past. After years of dedicated, active participation on the part of so many local men, women and young people the need for an organization such as Unifarm has dwindled. Therefore, the local is inactive at the present time.

The Interprovincial Pipeline

In 1949 it was decided to build a pipeline from Edmonton to Sarnia. The Interprovincial Pipeline Company was organized by the major oil companies that had production in Alberta, mainly at Leduc. The Leduc discovery well was February 13, 1947. The only market for the oil then was in the Toronto area. By the end of 1949 the Interprovincial Pipeline Company was organized. It was designed and managed by Bechtel Canada Ltd. of Toronto. It was a twenty inch line coming out of Edmonton and ending in Sarnia. To the best of my memory it was a distance of 1,680 miles. Bechtel and Mannix had a contract for the first



Interprovincial Pipe Line.



Interprovincial Pipe Line.

450 miles from Edmonton to Regina. Other contractors were given the rest of the work.

I went to work with my company, at that time called the Mannix-O'Sullivan Paving Co. We did the stringing for the centre portion of 160 miles. It was reluctantly given to me as practically all the work was to be done by Americans. It was a highball job and no one in Canada had any experience in running pipeline. We had different ideas. We were out to train every Canadian we could to work on the project so future pipelines would be built by Canadians. I remember Mr. Piot, a tall Texan who was managing the main pipeline telling me, "Frank, when I'm right, I'm right. And when I'm wrong, I'm the first to admit it. You showed us how to string pipe." I finished stringing pipe in the centre but I also finished stringing pipe to the east and west of the centre section. We had a railroad strike in the middle of this operation. I organized a fleet of one hundred and fifty trucks and trailers to bring the pipe from North Portal, North Dakota to wherever it was stranded on the railroad and to Edmonton. We distributed it to all the pipeline working spreads, never interrupting pipeline construction by a single day. I moved to Rosetown, Saskatchewan in January and worked through to completion in September.

contributed by Frank O'Sullivan

History of the Joarcam Oil Field

Esso Resources Canada Limited, a subsidiary of Imperial Oil Limited became involved with the Hay Lakes area during 1952, when a number of wells were drilled, flowlines laid and batteries built. Some of the first Imperial batteries were built on Sections 26-48-21W and 34-48-21W4.

A Field Office was established in the Town of Hay lakes in 1951 at the present United Farmers of Alberta location. The first Imperial Oil Limited person to occupy this office was Mr. Angus Hooker. One of the first ski-doo's in the area was kept at this office for a number of years.



First oil well drilled at Chris Lachmans on SW 31-49-21-W4 — 1951-52.

The office was moved from Hay Lakes to Paul Schweitzer's farm on Section 26-48-21W4 in 1960. Shortly after this, the main Imperial Oil Limited office was closed in Camrose and the personnel moved to this field office.

Some of the Hay Lakes and district residents employed by Imperial Oil were: Bill Sware, Jim Selin, Rudy Nordin, Art Grahn, Ken Rotto, Lionel Udenburg.

The present office, located on Holdsworth's land on Section 3-49-21W4 was built and occupied in 1972. This location is also the site of our Field Gate Battery and the location of our future Unit-2 Water Injection Plant. With the new technology in oil recovery, it will give the Joarcam area a much longer life than had been previously thought.

Two persons who were employed in 1952 and are still on staff in this area are Tom Williams and Peter Fearnough.

The Joarcam oil field is located two miles east of New Sarepta, Hay Lakes and Armena extending from north west of Joseph Lake in a south easterly



1980 addition to Imperial Oil Battery NW 3-49-21-W4. Reactor Building in foreground.



Imperial Oil Battery NW 3-49-21-W4. Tanks and Compressor building at right.

direction to near Camrose and covers approximately 15,000 acres. It runs in townships 48, 49 and 50 and ranges 20, 21 and 22 respectively. Oil production is from the Viking formation with the average depth of 3,246 feet. The field was discovered in 1949 with the drilling of Legal Sub Division 11-22-50-22 on a farm out lease from Imperial Oil Company and was the first oil well in the Viking sand of commercial value in the province.

There had been some oil discovered in the Camrose area in the Viking sand prior to the strike made by Mowett and Bab rig in September 1951 on L.S.D. 27-48-21 in the east Hay Lakes area in the central portion of the field. This only confirmed the fact that the discoveries were actually one large field. By 1954 some 505 productive wells had been drilled on a forty acre spacing. Drilling and completion costs were averaging \$32,000 dollars per well at that time. Well head price for 38 A.P.I. crude oil was fetching \$2.45 a barrel. Imperial Oil Company owned about 40% of Joarcam Viking oil pool with

the remainder distributed between several other companies.

The reserve is a stratigraphic trap formed by a shaling out of the sand to the north east. The structure is generally monoclinical and dips to the south west. This makes an ideal situation for water flood where you have a water drive from the low side up the incline. This drives the oil higher in the formation and increases the pressure in the gas cup on the high side.

The reservoir rock varies from silty fine grained sandstone on the north and south end to a cleaner, coarser grained sandstone in the center of the field. Contact was made with the oil and gas at 737 feet subsea in the upper sand and in the lower sand at 746 feet subsea. By 1962 the contact for the upper and lower sands were 765 and 748 feet subsea, respectively. This is a lowering of contact of 28 feet for the upper sand and only 2 feet for the lower sand. This means the upper sand is pretty well gased out and oil recovery is basically from the lower sand.

Production for the field is approximately 58 million barrels of oil for the year ending in June, 1968. This is about 60% of the recoverable oil in the field.

The original pressure in the field was about 840 pounds per square inch. By 1963 pressures had dropped to 540 pounds per square inch with the greatest drop in the southern portion of the field. With the start of the water flood in 1963 in unit one (East Armena area) there was an apparent climb in pressure and by 1972 the pressure had increased to 618 pounds per square inch.

The peripheral was adopted as the flood pattern for unit one. With this design, producing wells become injectors only as they were contacted by the flood front.

Unit one covers an area of about 5,000 acres and is located in township 48 range 20. There was about 127 wells in the unit. At the start of the water flood in 1963 and by 1972, 45 wells remained that were capable of oil production. Nine more were used for water injection wells. The water for this system was derived from Lysengs slough, which is 380 acres in area with storage capacity of 1,720 acre feet of water. This is ample water for this project. In 1966, unit two was formed and a huge compressor was installed at 11-3-49-21. This was to force any gas produced along with the oil back into the field. L.S.D. 15-4-49-21 became the salt disposal well and was connected by pipeline from the battery at 11-3-49-21. This was to put back any salt water that was produced, along with the oil on the low side of the field, with the gas being injected on the high side of the field.

By 1980, the drop in pressure coupled with the fanning out of the gas cap, it was evident that some

form of pressurization was necessary. A sixteen mile, ten inch pipeline was constructed from Coal Lake to the field gate at 11-3-49-21 to supply 22,000 barrels of water daily, or 1,300 acre feet yearly. Miles of feeder lines were constructed and laid to connect to numerous oil wells which then became injection wells. The water flood is slightly different than that of unit one, that every second well on the edge of the field became injection wells and the central row of wells being all oil wells. With this system, it is hoped that some eight and a half million barrels of oil will be recovered over a twenty year period from unit two.

There has been some experimental work done on a fire flood in unit one, where a fire is started in the

oil zone underground and is controlled by the amount of oxygen fed by high volume pumps. This creates extremely high temperatures and gas pressures. While it is too soon to evaluate what effect it has on production it is hoped more oil can be recovered by this method.

The field gate was modernized in 1980 and 1981. This project was under the supervision of Francene Lavoie, a French lady engineer from North Bay, Ontario, this being her first project. We would like to thank Roxanne Roebrock from Esso Resources in Calgary for compiling and forwarding this information which has been read with tremendous interest. Also our thanks to Kelvin Luedtke, Pete Fearnehough and the employees at the battery for helping with this history.

Farm Pictures

18 APR
Carmorse *APR 12*
 \$ *21.00*
168
 On or before the *15th* day of *April*, 190*8*, for value received, I promise to pay to
22.68 **The Sharples Separator Co., of West Chester, Pa., U.S.A.**
 or order, the sum of *Twenty one* DOLLARS,
 with interest at eight per cent. per annum until due, and ten per cent. per annum after maturity of note until paid.
 Payable at *Merchants* (Bank) *Carmorse* (Town)
 This note is given for a No. *3* Sharples Tubular Separator. No. but the express condition of the sale and purchase of the said Separator, for which this note is given, is such that the title or ownership thereof does not pass from the said The Sharples Separator Co. until this note, or notes given in renewal thereof, is paid with interest at the rates above mentioned; and if I make any default in payment of this note or any other note in your favor, or should I dispose or attempt to dispose of my land or any part thereof, or of my personal property, you may then declare this note due and payable even before other maturity of same and suit therefor may be immediately entered, tried and finally disposed of in any Court having jurisdiction; and you may retake possession of the Separator so sold to me, for which this note is given, without process of law, and at any time thereafter, without notice to me, may sell the same at public auction or private sale, the proceeds thereof, less proper charges of retaking possession and sale, to be applied on account of the amount of the purchase price and interest then unpaid; such sale or right to sell shall in no way affect or limit my liability for the amount hereof, and for the full purchase price, or your right to sue for and recover from me the amount hereof and the said full purchase price and interest, except that in the event of such sale I shall receive credit on account as before provided, and shall thereafter be liable to pay the balance only. Upon such sale, if any, my right to possession and delivery before and after full payment and all my other rights and claims thereto shall forever cease. Subject to these provisions I am to have possession and use of the said Separator for which this note is given at my own risk of damage or destruction from any cause whatever; but the title thereto is not in any event to pass to me until full payment of the purchase price and interest or any obligations or renewals thereof is given therefor. I hereby acknowledge having received a copy of the bargain made for the property for which this note is given.
 Post Office *Butterton* Miles North
 County *Alta* Con.
 Lot Tp. or Parish
 Witness to Signature *H. H. Wolda* Miles East
 Local selling agent *Butterton* Miles West
 of said Post Office, *Butterton*
 [Fill out all blank spaces except number. Signatures must be witnessed. If name is foreign or illegible, write it plainly in margin.] (OVER)

Receipt for Cream separator, \$21.00 — 1907.



Lars Grue with seed drill. Early 1920's.



The Schulze's making hay in 1936. Sam on horse drawn rake, Rudi on hay stack, Ted on hay fork and Eric on hay sweep.



Helen, Ted and Elsie Berkholtz on top of load of hay — 1940.



George watching his dad, William Sych, clean grain.



Anna Aqualina Johnson with son's Thor and Sture — 1908.



Baling hay on Kreamer farm. Joe Kreamer, John Beilesh, George Schultz and Joe Zasulak.



Home made plow made by Mike Schurek of Big Hay Lake District.



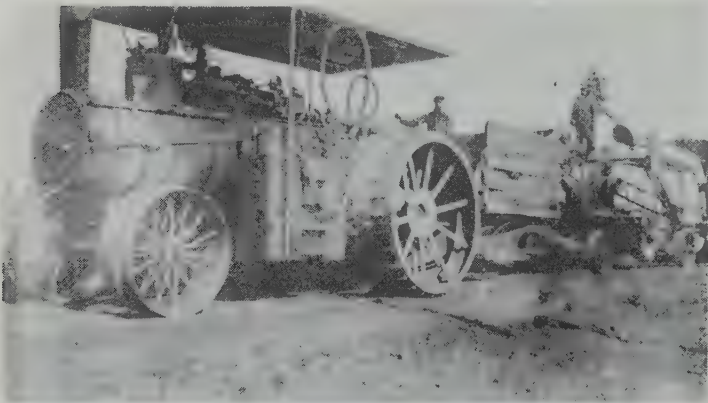
Mrs. Pithouse taking sheep to market 1925.



Mrs. Jenny Kiel mowing hay — 1925.



David Holdsworth farmstead. Note the drive-through hay loft in barn.



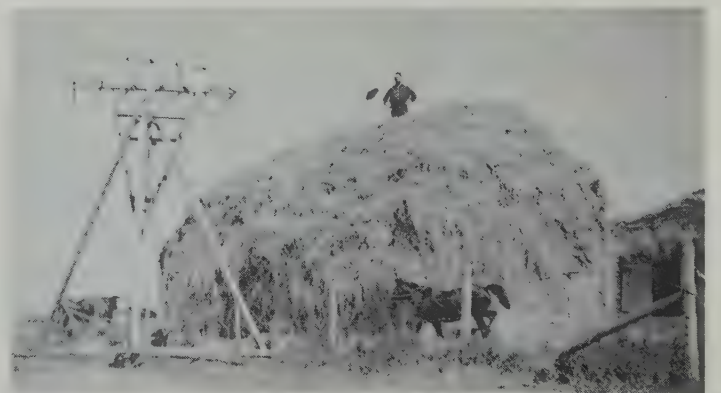
Diewert threshing outfit, straw used for fuel to fire engine.



Edmund Mittelstaedt.



Harvest time on R. McLeod farm — 1916.



Ted Berkholtz stacking hay.

Local Improvement District 24 R 4 Division 4

ALBERTA LABOR NOTICE

TAX RATE 5¹/₂ PER ACRE

WAGE RATE, \$ 4.50 PER DAY FOR MAN AND TEAM

WAGE RATE, \$ 2.00 PER DAY FOR DAY LABORERS

SE Sec. 14 Tp. 28 R. 22 M. 4 W.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED to turn out Monday the 5th at 7 a.m.

with _____ man _____ team.

Place Hornum Corner

Otherwise Taxes Strictly Cash.

To Rick Maruska

Signed Robert McLeod
Councillor.

Div. No. 4

Alberta Labor Notice.



Sam Sych threshing machine, 1945.



Butter churn.



Willie Schoenknecht in foreground building road with slip.



Bill Sagert on load of hay — 1929.

Phone No. 23413
CONNECTING ALL DEPARTMENTS
GAINERS LIMITED
PACKERS AND PROVISIONERS
Edmonton, Alta. Oct 31 1932

Received from *Ed Schlander*
Hay Sales

Car Number *to J. Carlson*

NO.	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT	PRICE	AMOUNT
8	Butchers	1480	2 1/2	37 00
				19
	<i>less exp</i>			36 81
				5 18
				31

MPH 12948

LESS 50c ON EVERY \$100 FOR INSURANCE AGAINST
LOSS FOR DISEASED ANIMALS WHEN DRESSED.

"WIZPARI" PAT. 1929. OTHER PATENTS PENDING. WESTERN SALES BOOK CO. LTD. WINNIPEG & VANCOUVER

Receipt showing price of hogs: 2 1/2¢ per pound — 1932.



Familiar sight before the combines came into use.



Threshing grain off the stacks.



Breaking land on SE 9-49-22-W4 in 1925. Horses of Roy McLean with Roy and Charles.



Threshing on the Gus Kiel farm — 1937.



Building new roads 1912, using teams of horses and scrapers. L. to R.: Carl Jr. and Gus Mittelstadt. R. to L.: Julius Schultz, August Mittelstadt, Theodore Mittelstadt. Others unknown.



Axel Selin's threshing outfit — 1917.



Einer Broen's threshing outfit with steam engine tractor. Early 1920's.



Simon Grue's Breaking Plow in the early 1900's.



Altman Taylor Wooden Threshing Machine. John Zucht threshing crew. L. to R., Front: John Zucht, Robert McLeod, Gottlieb Mogdans. On machine: Gus Lachman, Emil Zucht, Jim McLeod, August Zucht, Bob McLeod, Albert Lachman, George Mogdans. 1920.

MEATS
East End Meat Market

NORTHERN POULTRY

Wholesale
POULTRY AND PRODUCE
10109 Whyte Avenue
STRATHCONA, ALBERTA

Phones 3343
31444

FRED J. GEARY
Proprietor

Agent for P. Burns & Co. Ltd. and Pure Butter Co., Creameries

DATE

June 27 1927

Mrs. L. L. Pithouse

Dear Madam.

Enclosed find check for 13.00

being payment on 10 & lb @ 14.00

Goal will be down again tomorrow as there are quite a few coming in now

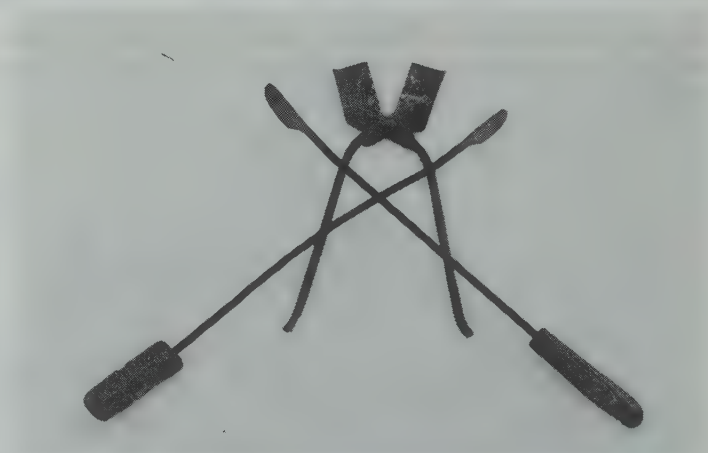
Yours truly
Fred J. Geary



Bundle teams at Gus Kiels. L. to R.: On wagons: Bill Kiel, Leo Kiel, Carl Ferko, George Kraal, Jim Dodds, Lorne Harke. Sitting: Rudy and Gus Kiel, Joe Elisher, Julius Sagert, Teddie Tober, unknown.



Snow drifts on the Arthur Heinz farm in the winter of 1964-1965.



Castrating Irons made by blacksmith John Palm, around 1910.



Oscar Selin's steam tractor breaking land in the 1920's.



Dortheau Grue with breaking plow and first tractor.

Phone 376

COMMUNITY FLOUR and FEED MILL

Byers Brothers

3019

Camrose, Alta.,

June 20 1933

Name C. J. Carlson Address _____

Grade 1 Run GRINDING, ETC.

Load Weight ... 1300 Bushels ... @ 22 1/2 2.65 No. 1 Flour ... 430 del'v'd

Wagon Weight ... 590 Flour S'ks @ _____ No. 2 Flour ... 35

Jute Sacks @ _____ Whole Wh't Flour _____

Dockage ... 700 Bran S'ks @ _____ Wheatlets ... _____

Shorts S'ks @ _____ Whole Wh't Bkft. _____

Cott'n S'ks @ 10 .10 Shorts _____

TOTAL ... 2.75

Selling ... Bus @ _____

Receipt for grinding flour — 1933.

Alberta Co-operative Livestock Producers Limited

No. 127

\$ 10.00

Edmonton, Alberta, Dec. 1st. 1930

Received from Hans Arnston

of HAY LAKES Alberta, the sum of TEN Dollars

in payment ON TWO share(s) of capital stock, under the terms and provisions of Livestock Contract duly executed, and set forth in Section 16 of said Contract as follows:

Contract No. _____

"16. The Producer covenants and agrees to purchase one or more shares of capital stock at \$5.00 per share in a subsidiary Company to be selected by the Pool, which shares shall be allotted and held by the Pool in its name or in the name of the Directors for the time being, in trust for each shareholder."

Ass'n BEAVER LAKE

Countersigned

ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS LIMITED

Accountant.

President.



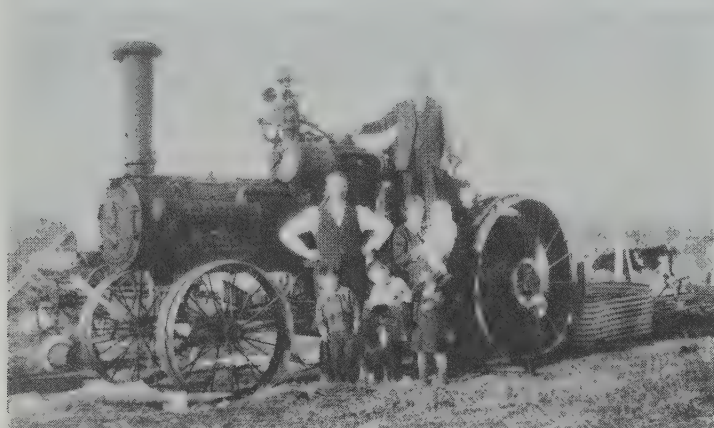
Building the road.



Hans Palm building road with fresno.



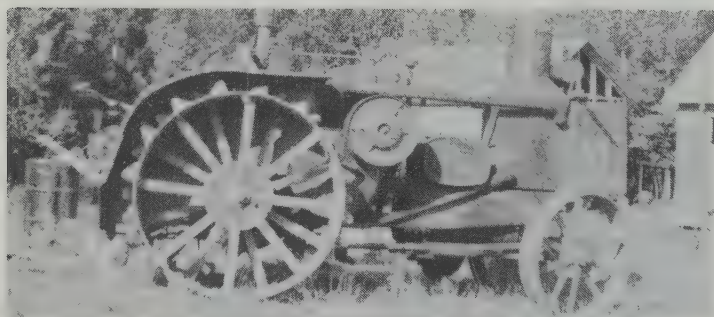
#1836 Oliver Hart Parr.



Gus Sagert on engine 1927. L. to R.: Julius Sagert and Mrs. Gus Sagert holding baby, Leonard Sagert. Front: Lawrence and Antonia Sagert.



Original farmstead of Jacob and Anna Welda. Anna Strand, Anna Welda holding Alpha and Jacob holding Rolfe.



Rumley oil pull.

No. Oct. 14, 1933

STATEMENT OF GRAIN THRESHED

By Julius Sagert

For E. V. Erickson

Kind of Grain Threshed	Number of Bus.	Per Bus.	\$	c.
Wheat <u>353-10</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>00</u>
Oats.....				
Barley.....				
Flax.....				
Total.....	<u>343</u>		<u>\$12.</u>	<u>00</u>

You are hereby notified that the above-mentioned Grain will be held by the Threshers' Lien until payment of this account in full.

Thresher's Signature Julius Sagert

Witness Paul Strand

Witness.....

Statement of grain threshed — 1933.



Working at Section 14 in 1926 Hilmer, Art and Alice Grahn.



Gus Lachman with his new tractor 1930's.



Spinning Bee Sulitjelma 1935. Back Row, L. to R.: Mrs. L. Grue, Mrs. M. Sware, Mrs. Skaret. Front: Mrs. Ed Matson, Mrs. E. Nordin, Mrs. P. Hanson, Mrs. Jonas Lofgren, Mrs. John Lofgren. Seated: Sonja Hanson, Isabel Grue.

Clubs

The Red Cross Society

We have information stating that May 24, 1916 was Red Cross Day in the village. During World War I local ladies knit and sent food packages overseas to the enlisted men. Concerts were also held to raise money.

Excerpts of a letter sent to Mrs. Robert McLeod from W. T. Roper, dated January 29, 1917 reads as follows: "Somewhere in France: "Received your very nice parcel just two days ago and it was certainly very good of you to send the things.

Thank Anna very much for the scarf, it is certainly very useful and a very nice one too, will come in very nice for me to wear when I am out on bombing post again, at night time, and it is a very cold job and you can't dress up too warmly. The socks are much appreciated as that is something you can't have

too many of as to keep your feet warm and dry as possible.

The cake was dandy, nice and fresh and not dry at all.

Where I am writing now is in an underground rock basement and you can feel the jar of heavy guns. Well I must end off as my time is very limited."

Two local youngsters, Thora Johnson and Sigurd Sware, received medical attention at the Junior Red Cross Hospital in Calgary in the mid 1920's.

Another Red Cross Society was formed in the Village shortly after 1939 during World War II. The first executive members were Louise and Martha Nordin.

The ladies would knit sweaters, sock, and scarves for soldiers serving overseas. Food parcels and car-

tons of cigarettes were packed and sent to each soldier from the district at regular intervals.

The district was canvassed for donations and teas were also held to raise money to purchase wool from Red Cross Headquarters. This was distributed to members to knit socks, scarves or sweaters and finished articles were returned to Headquarters for distribution. Blankets were also bought for shipment overseas.

Mona Eberly and Anna Sware were also presidents of the local organization with Gola Berry as secretary-treasurer.

The local Red Cross Society was disbanded after the war ended and the ladies then formed the Circle "S" Club.

Weaving

by Wanda Grahn

Many woman, in families which emigrated from Scandinavia in the early 1900's and settled in the East Hay Lakes district, brought with them the art of

weaving. Due to necessity and lack of time, weaving was limited to rag rugs to cover their bare wooden floors and simple woolen blankets to be used in sleighs and on beds. Worn clothing and household linens, often redyed, were cut into strips and woven into rugs. The blankets were made of spun raw wool which was also dyed. Often wool of a black sheep was mixed with white wool by carding. This grey wool was spun and woven into soft grey blankets.

The first loom I remember was built in the early 1920's by Mr. E. P. Nordin and my father (Peter Hanson). This loom had a two-harness wooden frame with the heddles made of cord. The reed was in a frame suspended from beams on which the heddle harness hung. There were only two treadles. By the early 1930's another set of heddle frames and two more treadles were added to the loom and more intricate patterns were woven of wool and cotton into fabrics and blankets.

In 1942, weaving classes sponsored by the Searle



A Searle Weaving Afternoon Class in Operation — 1943. L. to R.: Pauline Busenius, Miss Bailey (instructor), Wanda Grahn, Violet Pawloske, Ella Lechelt, Martha Kiel, Evelyn Webster at spinning wheel.

Grain Company were introduced to Western Canada. The main purpose of these classes was to introduce weaving to ladies in rural communities. Carding wool and spinning were also taught in these classes. All the material and instructors were supplied by the Searle Grain Company without charge.

In 1943, Henry Landsman, grain buyer for the Searle Grain Company in Hay Lakes, promoted the weaving classes here with Miss Boiley as instructor. Both afternoon and evening classes were run for two and a half hours, five days a week and continued for six weeks. A number of girls and married women of English, German, Scandinavian and Ukrainian extraction attended these classes.

Materials of linen, wool and cotton were woven for home use such as blankets, drapes, tablecloths, cushion tops, bedspreads, scarves, handbags and other useful articles. Several looms were purchased in the district through the Searle Grain Company. Weaving has remained an interesting and useful hobby to many of the students who attended the classes.

There has been much improvement through the years in weaving, and many new threads and patterns have been introduced. Weaving classes are again held in Craft Centers in cities and towns.



Lydia Lachman Sr. spinning wool 1945.



Spinning wool early 1920's. Mr. and Mrs. Harald Person.

Some of those attending the weaving classes sponsored by the Searle Grain Company in Hay Lakes were: Lil Ogilvie, Mary Paul, Evelyn (Webster) Pearson, Martha (Kiel) Nordin, Pauline (Busenius) Henkelman, Violet (Pawloski) Kimbal, Wanda (Hanson) Grahn, Sylvia (Naslund) Lechelt, Ella (Lechelt) Halback, Lillian (Naslund) Grahn, Ruth Mittelstadt and Georgia (Webster) Selin.

Several individuals in the community have developed weaving skills with the aid of some of these ladies.

The Senior Citizens purchased a loom in 1977 and weaving classes were held at Hay Lakes under the instruction of May Gray of Camrose.

Scouting in the Hay Lakes District

Scouting got its start in the Hay Lakes district when Alfred Pearson became a lone Scout in 1932. Alfred led the first Scout Camp at Oliver Lake which was attended by, Verner Nordin, Bert Hanson, Leslie Webster, Norman Grue and Richard Pearson.

In 1937 a Boy Scout troop was organized in the village of Hay Lakes sponsored by the Lutheran Church of which Reverend Fred Lenz was the pastor. Mr. John E. Lyle, the school principal at the time, consented to be the Scoutmaster. Some of the boys in this troop were, Joe Hamilton, Leonard Lachman, Ernest Lerke, Otto Lerke, Paul Schweitzer, Nelvin Schmidt, Glen Ogilvie, Nick Masikewich, Ken Thompson, Stanley Willisko, Leo Willisko, and Clifford and Harold Sikstrom. They did all the things that later Scouts did, such as learning to tie the various knots, camping and camp cooking, first-aid and working to earn proficiency badges. They took part in competitive games and gymnastics. One of their money making projects was the publication of a weekly newspaper, "Haymaker", which carried ads from the local business men. Harold Sikstrom, a creative sketcher, produced the weekly cartoon strip. The group disbanded in 1939.



Scout's — June, 1976. "Dishes" Battle River Camp. L. to R.: Darren Marusak, Ken Metzker, Richard Schultz, Bruce Mallas.

The year 1959 saw the organization of the present Scout Troop and Cub Pack under the sponsorship of the Lutheran Church. Lorne Drynan was the first Scoutmaster of this troop with Edwin Schoenknecht and Walter Busenius as assistants. The first Cubmaster was Grant Skippen as Akela, and Frank Herle as Baloo. This arrangement remained until the spring of 1960 when Lorne Drynan resigned and Walter Busenius became the leader, assisted by Edwin Schoenknecht and Ed Lofgren.

The Hay Lakes Group Committee were responsible for appointing leaders as well as co-ordinating all the activities and arranging help for outings, camps and tours and whatever help, financial or otherwise, was needed. Through the years, a large number of parents of Scouts and Cubs, and later Beavers, have filled positions on the Group Committee and the Ladies Auxiliary.

It was in 1964 that the first group was presented to the Lieutenant Governor to receive their Queen Scout awards under the leadership of Walter Busenius. They were Duane Pearson, Dale Nordin and Gary Nordin. Later Morley Harke earned his Queen Scout award. In 1978 three Scouts and two Co-eds received the award, now renamed the Chief Scouts award. They were, David Screen, Richard Schultz, Ralph Lumpe, Carol Hein and Laurel Kreamer. Todd Adamson received the award in 1980. Very recent recipients of the award were Geoff Olson and Wayne Rolston.



Scoutmaster Walter Busenius and assistant Bill Harke at Sylvan Lake "Camp Woods" 1976. Serving tea to their guests at camp.

By being members of the Scout movement many boys were privileged to attend jamborees, some of them a great distance away. Some of the jamborees attended by Hay Lakes Scouts and leaders include, Camp Woods at Sylvan Lake, Manitoba Jamboree at Portage La Prairie, Arctic and Northern Jamboree at

Yellowknife, N.W.T., the World Jamboree in Norway, the Canadian Jamboree at Cabot Park, Prince Edward Island and a jamboree at Oamaru, New Zealand. There was also the Scout exchange program where Scouts from other provinces exchanged visits in their respective homes.

In 1975 a pilot Co-ed Scout Troop was formed which proved quite successful. The same year a Beaver program was introduced which included the younger boys. Girls also took part in the beginning.

Several residents from the Hay Lakes area have been presented with long service awards. Gola Berry and Wanda Grahn each received seventeen year awards. Bill Harke received the Lamb Award, the highest award presented by the Lutheran Church. This is for twenty years of devoted service to Scouting, and to the church and community. Walter Busenius who devoted over twenty years to the Scouting Movement also received the Lamb Award for work with the young people of the church. In addition, Walter also received the Medal of Merit for especially good service to Scouting, a much deserved honor.

Down through the years several dedicated leaders have served the Scout movement in Hay Lakes. A more detailed account of leaders and the boys and their activities can be found in "Scouting Trails In Wildrose", published by the Wildrose Boy Scout History Book Committee in 1981.

Girl Guides and Brownies

An organizational meeting of the Girl Guides Association of Hay Lakes was held on January 23, 1962, at the home of Mrs. Frank Dyck.

The first officers were, Mrs. Melvin Thompson — President; Mrs. Charles McLean — Badge Secretary; Mrs. Norman Grue — Treasurer; Mrs. Wilmar Harke — Secretary.

Mrs. Esther Dyck and Mrs. Kathleen Mullan were the first Girl Guide leaders at Hay Lakes. Twenty-five girls were enrolled that first year. The Girl Guides disbanded for a time in the late 1960's but were soon reorganized.

The Brownies were organized by Mrs. Doris Nordin in 1963. The seventeen member pack was officially enrolled on November 15, 1963 by Adele MacInnis, the District Commissioner. The first leaders were Mrs. Doris Nordin and Mrs. Hennie Selin.

The Guides and Brownies first held their meetings at the old school house, then moved to the Legion Hall. The two groups have raised money to contribute towards the renovation of the Legion Hall, now known as the "Youth Center".

The girls have raised funds by serving at various auction sales. Other fund raising activities have in-



Anne Thompson, Carol Heinz, Kitty Mullan — 1963.

cluded pie sales, raffles and selling Girl Guide cookies annually. During the past the group were often in charge of the ice cream booth at the Sports Grounds on July 1st.

In 1979-80 the annual "Guide Fair" was hosted by Hay Lakes and the local girls took top honors in all categories.

The annual "Brownie Revel" was hosted by Hay Lakes in 1980-81. Girls from Tofield, Beaumont, New Sarepta and Hay Lakes participated.

In 1979-80 a new group was introduced into Guiding and the age eligibility was changed. The new age groups are: Brownies — six to nine years, Guides — nine to twelve years and Pathfinders — twelve to fifteen years.

Leaders for the groups have included:

Girl Guides: Esther Dyck, Kathleen Mullan, Anne Thompson, Colleen Lachman, Marge Twissell, Vera Lofgren, Hattie Rowbottom, Anne Drake, Evelyn McGhan, Hertha Hein, Shirley Hagel, Carol Huebner, Helen Marcotte, Barbara Kupka, Peggy Huff, Brenda Seward, Janet Gallupe.

Brownies: Doris Nordin, Hennie Selin, Helen Webster, Wendy Brett, Kit Hughes, Donna Storvik, Anne Berkholtz, Anne Drake, Marge Twissell, Elsie Moser, Lil Grams, Frida Hawryluk, Bonnie

Fuernkranz, Bernice Lumpe, Muriel Doucet, Evelyn McGhan, Alberta Tritten, Corrine MacLean, Helen Marcotte, Anna Peters.

Pathfinder leaders: Carol Huebner, Barb Kupka and Gayle Werkman.

The present Ladies' Auxiliary executive are: President — Helen Marcotte; Vice-President — Avril Barroch; Badge-Secretary — Bonnie Fuernkranz; Secretary-Treasurer — Ardy Trepner.

The Ladies Circle S Club

The Ladies Circle S Club was formed in the fall of 1945 by a group of local ladies whose aim was service, sewing and sociability. The name of the Club was chosen by Wally Tullis, husband of one of the members. The first president was a local teacher, Margaret Fraser.

Meetings were held once or twice a month in the members' homes. A small collection was taken from which cards, fruit baskets and flowers were sent to people in the community who were hospitalized. For several years gifts were also given to new babies.

The members have catered to the High School Graduation banquet since its inception, except for one year. Annually a scholarship is given to the Grade eleven Hay Lakes student with the highest average over 75%.

For many years The Club paid for the power at the skating rink, paid the caretaker's fees, took turns supervising and making fires when necessary, held skating parties and also bought a Public Address unit for the rink. The Recreation Association now takes care of the rink.

In 1956 and 1957 The Club sponsored learn-to-swim classes at Joseph Lake, hired a Red Cross instructor and also provided warm lunches. The cost was \$1.00 per person for two weeks of lessons. Hal-lowe'en Masquerade dances were also another undertaking that became very successful over the years, also card parties, sewing lessons, teas, and bake sales as well as canvassing for several charitable organizations. The Club did a lot of catering to local weddings and banquets for many years but this is now reserved for Club members only as the Recreation Association now takes charge of the local catering.

The Circle S Club has given several monetary donations to such organizations as the Salvation Army, Red Cross, Institute for the Blind, and the Cancer Fund. The members have also helped other local clubs such as the Hay Lakes Scouts, Guides and Brownies, the Hay Lakes Band, the Recreation Association, Curling Club, and Play School, as well as giving a yearly donation to the Hay Lakes Municipal Library. They built and maintained the booth at the

Sports' grounds and, until 1979, were in charge of the lunch booth for the annual July first Sports Day. They donated a robe, crown and sceptre to the Hay Lakes Legion for the crowning of the Queen at their annual Carnival, also a curling trophy for the Ladies Bonspiel. They bought material and made drapes for the stage in the old hall; paid for the ceiling tile in the skating house; and donated to the installation of water works in the Legion Hall. Various donations to the school were made over the years and The Club has been one of the sponsors of the Athletic Award Banquet. In 1978 a "Welcome to Hay Lakes" sign was erected on the outskirts of the village, and to commemorate Alberta's 75th Anniversary the members donated towards the purchase of a special display case in the local Municipal Library. They have performed nonsense skits at different local functions such as anniversaries, talent nights, farewells and always participated in parades. Remember the kitchen band, barbershoppers, and fashion show? As one local fan once said: "Ask Circle S, they'll never see you stuck"!



Circle "S" Outing. L. to R., Back: Colleen Lachman, Elsie Moser, Gerry Drynan, Anne Aspell, Kate Pasula, Escort, Reva Schaffrick, Anne Thompson, Anne Willisko, Martha Nordin, Gola Barry, Doris Nordin, Mary Pyper, Gerty These, Lue Lindseth, Wanda Grahn, Elsie Zucht, Lena Sagert, Rita L'Heureux. Front: Bernice Leicht, Shirley Myers, Linda Pasula, Helen Baker, Hilda Reiter.

They were actively involved with the building of the new hall and contributed \$3600.00 in donations and debentures as well as providing many of the furnishings such as the vacuum cleaner, deep freeze, kitchen range and sink, cupboards and all dishes and kitchen equipment, tables, carpeting on stage, and tile for the kitchen floor.

On August 15, 1955 Hay Lakes held a Golden Jubilee celebration and Circle S members helped with the antique displays, set up a lunch booth in the Curling Rink and also took part in the giant parade.

Christmas was always a special time with Santa present at the children's party to pass out gifts and



Back Row: Teresa These, Bonnie and Laurie Lachman, Santa. Second Row, L. to R.: Kevin Pasula, Rory Rost, Donnie Pyper, Donald Arnston, Greg Drynan, Tammy Drynan, Lois May. Front Row: Joyce and June Schaffrick, Darcy Drynan in stroller, Glen Arnston, Debbie Leicht, Brent Rost, Bruce Leicht.

treats. The ladies also entertain their husbands and guests at a Christmas party each year. They have an outing each spring at which time they visit interesting places in Alberta. Some of these visits have been to the Sheritt Gordon Plant at Fort Saskatchewan, Rutherford House and Museum, Planetarium, Labatt's Brewery, Muttart's Conservatory, Stage West, the Alberta Government Telephone Tower, Fort Ed-

monton, the Parliament Buildings and Greenhouse in Edmonton as well as the Hanna Museum, College Heights and the Experimental Station at Lacombe. Many humorous incidents have happened on some of these excursions such as: arriving at Labatt's Brewery to have a police escort waiting for them. Unknown to them, one of the member's husbands, as a joke, had phoned a friend in the Police force and requested it. Certainly received the "V.P. treatment" that day! On their way to Fort Saskatchewan they had a flat tire only to find that car's spare had no air! Luckily one of the other cars had a tire that fit. All this activity was observed by several men working in a field nearby and after a considerable length of time came to investigate and then apologized for not coming to their assistance but they had assumed the ladies were having a picnic. Remember going "dutch-treat" at New Sarepta? And getting lost in the Alberta Government Telephone Tower.

In 1955 they held their first bazaar and bake sale in order to provide funds for the new Municipal Library. This has become an annual affair with all proceeds used for various community projects and this year's proceeds were donated to the History Book Committee. The Club's winter project is to stitch a quilt for the bazaar.

In 1971 they had a twenty-fifth Anniversary reunion to which all former members were invited. Approximately one hundred were able to attend and everyone enjoyed meeting old friends and reminiscing about "the good old days".

Members that have been in the Club twenty-five years receive an engraved locket. Thirty-five-year



Circle S Club. L. to R.: Anne Willisko, Anne Aspell, Gerty These, Pat Rost, Marlene Wahl, Margaret Arnston, Martha Nordin, Carol Grams.

members receive pins and become Honorary members, there being eight at present.

The Circle "S" Theme Song (tune of "Man on the Flying Trapeze"):

by Louise Nordin

Oh, Hubbies were happy, but now look forlorn
The ironings not done, his shirts are all torn;
Notices up in the pool room and store
Papa is griping and sore.
Oh, the baby needs changing and the bottles are cold.
Where have those safety pins gone?
Dishes still piled row on row near the sink
While the meetings go on and on.
So here's to our husbands, be patient, be kind
Aside from all joking, I'm sure you still find
No matter if houses are sometimes a mess
Oh, you can't do without Circle "S".

Hay Lakes Home and School Association

The organizational meeting was held on March 30, 1953. A film "You and Your Parents" was shown and then Mr. W. A. Kennedy, acting chairman, called the meeting to order. Miss Scotvold was appointed acting secretary. Mr. Kennedy introduced the organizer, Mrs. McNary of the Alberta Federation of Home and Schools, who spoke on "Home and School — its purpose and objectives". A short recess followed for informal discussion among those assembled. The meeting was then called to order. A motion to form a Home and School Association at Hay Lakes was seconded and carried. An election of officers followed. Honorary President Mr. C. H. Robinson was named by all. Associate President, Mr. O. H. Deutsch, principal of Hay Lakes School was named and approved by all. The others elected at that meeting were President: Mr. W. A. Kennedy, Vice President: Mrs. Sutherland, Secretary: Mrs. A. Louise Nordin, Treasurer: Mr. Fossen, Membership: Mr. George Roper, Social Convener: Mrs. C. McLean, Program Convener: Mrs. Mittelstadt. The meeting date was set for the first Monday of each month at the school at 8 P.M. The first year the paid membership was thirty-six.

The official opening of the new Hay Lakes School was held November 16, 1956. Each school district had a volunteer to write a history of that respective district: Canard — Mrs. R. Nordin, Sulitjelma — Mrs. Miller, Swan Hills — Mrs. Holmberg, Ellswick — Mrs. Pasula, Village — Mrs. Sware. Mr. Waterman united all these histories into one and presented it that day. The Home and School president presented its first four presidents with past-presidents pins.

At a Home and School meeting a ballot vote was taken to see if everyone would be in favor of support-

ing a library. The vote was in favor. Largely due to that support the municipal and school library were joined and a tea was held on February 1, 1957 to officially open the library in the old Grade two room. Two hundred and forty seven books plus sixteen book donations furnished the beginning of the new library. By June 1965 it had grown to 3320 books.

The local Home and School has supported many financial projects over the years and here are some examples: As a Centennial project in 1967 large dictionaries were purchased for the class rooms. Each year \$100.00 was given to the library for new books. A cheque for \$25.00 is presented to Grade twelve honor students each year. The resolution for the bursary states: Bursary be paid only to a Grade XII honor student having marks of eighty per cent or over. Any Hay Lakes district student is eligible even though attending school elsewhere. The applicant must be taking sufficient credits to lead to Senior Matriculation or a High School Diploma. The Bursary is to be paid only after enrolment is made in some advanced training. Helped with donations and volunteers to assist at the skating rink. Helped athletics with money donations for uniforms. Presented Graduates with a Graduation pin for some years, and now a composite is hung in the hallway for Graduation pictures each year.

Over the years the organization has brought many interesting speakers and films to the school. Speakers have included doctors, optometrists, health-unit nurses, school superintendents, school board members, traffic safety, citizenship officers, bankers, home economists, agriculturalists, social services, drug and alcoholic personnel, teachers, members of the Centennial committee, family counsellor, metrification personnel, workers with the mentally-retarded and learning-disability personnel, politicians, and Alberta Tuberculosis Association personnel.

During the 1970's the Alberta Federation of Home and School was not getting support from all the organizations in the province. A meeting in Calgary was called to decide the fate of the organization. Feelings were strong and the vote was to keep the Organization in operation or dissolve. The attendance was good and the vote was in favor of keeping the Home and School organization functioning with more input by all organizations in Alberta. When the Alberta Federation was experiencing "tough times", the pressure was also felt in our organization. Keeping the people interested and the membership up almost impossible. The executive saw a need for an organization to deal at times with issues concerning the school, and felt we had come a long way with the Home and School organization, and to now disband

seemed devastating. The executive members remained faithful and repeatedly held their positions through those "tough years" and held the organization together.

Many social events have been held during the twenty-eight years of the organization. The attendance showed that our Home and School Association has worked together to make them a success. Let's strive for a better understanding and more support in the years ahead.

The organization has had twenty presidents, namely, W. A. Kennedy, Johnny Sware, Rudolph Schmidt, Mrs. Anne M. Sware, John Holmberg, Rudolph Nordin, Lorne Harke, George Roper, Mrs. Louise Nordin, W. A. Harke, James Mullam, Ed Reinke, Chuck Twissell, James Gallaher, Tom Pelz, Ed A. Holdsworth, Mrs. Vivian Selin, Mrs. Faye Leicht, Ted Matson, and Mrs. Tillie Sych.

The present executive of the 1980-81 school year is Past President: Ted Matson, President: Mrs. Tillie Sych, Vice-President: Emily Loudon, Secretary: Delores Skaret, Treasurer: Jean Resch, Social Convener: Carol Skaret, Program Convener: Sharon Forth, Membership: Richard and Inet Knull and Publicity: Dene Grue. Also attending the executive meetings are Pat Truman, Hay Lakes Village Representative to the County of Camrose Board of Education, and Les Coykendahl, Hay Lakes Councillor and member of the County School Board.

The 1980-1981 Hay Lakes Home and School Association Executive strived to achieve their objectives by demonstrating their responsibilities to the following:

1. **Children** in their own school and all children everywhere.
2. **Parents** in their own school — members of their own association.
3. **Teachers** in their own school.
4. **Alberta Federation of Home and School Associations** — all over the Province.

In all of our efforts to provide the good life for our children we are constantly aware of our own limitations and inadequacies. In a task of this magnitude power above and beyond our own is essential. Prayer is one source of this power. The following prayer has been used by Home and School Association for more than half a century:

"Our Heavenly Father, we pray that our endeavours may at all times be guided by Thee. Give us knowledge that our thoughts may be well directed. Give us tolerance that we may respect the rights and views of others.

Imbue us with understanding and clear vision that we may always seek the highest good for our children, our homes and our schools. And grant us wisdom that we may ever choose the right".

Amen.

Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association

Dating from the earliest years of the Hay Lakes area all social and recreational functions were spontaneously sponsored by individuals or groups, often at a great cost of time, effort and expense. Following World War II the Legion along with Village Council, organized most of the entertainment. As the population grew, and with it the demands for a greater variety of recreational outlets, the need for an organization involving all residents of the village and surrounding district became evident.

The Hay Lakes Community Hall Association had been formed in 1965 to bring about the construction of a new community hall as the residents were no longer satisfied with coal heat and outdoor "plumbing." Several dedicated persons spear-headed the proceedings. Bingo, dances, calf and hog raffles, "project cattle", an auction sale, donations, and sale of debentures brought in \$10,609.33 towards the cost of construction. There was a lull in activity in 1968 when several key organizers left the area. It was at this time that the Hay Lakes Recreation Association was formed to assist in the work of the Hay Lakes Community Hall Association, besides trying to maintain a full recreation program.

The organizational meeting of the Hay Lakes Recreation Association was held in the Hay Lakes School on October 16, 1968 with John LaVesseur, County Recreation Director, in attendance. Officers elected were, George Roper — president; Ed Schoenknecht — vice-president; Pat Rost — secretary; Martha Nordin — treasurer; publicity personnel — Marg Arnston, Ruby Yoner and Ivar Lofgren.

The immediate concerns were programming and implementing a full schedule of recreation and social activities throughout the year and working with, and aiding the Community Hall Association in raising funds for a new building. Also a new skating rink and "change" house were needed and Centennial Park required much attention and improvement.

From 1969 to 1974 an annual Athletic Awards banquet and trophy night was held in the school gymnasium. The Recreation Association along with the Home and School Association and the Circle "S" Club, shared the expenses of this Awards night which honored the participating youth and their coaches.

Meanwhile the hall board proceeded with the building of a new hall in the spring of 1970. Excavating work was done, footings poured and the Schmidt Brothers laid the cement blocks in a one-day blitz. All remaining work was done by local labor supervised by Carl Nordin and Edgar Grahn. When work was completed that fall at a cost of \$22,000.00, only \$1,500.00 remained to be paid, thanks to the volunteer labor and the advanced fund raising. Most of the

furnishings for the kitchen and banquet room were provided by the Circle "S" Club.

The first function in the new hall was a bingo, dance and social evening. (This was held in December and had to be postponed one day due to a blizzard.) Two local orchestras — Stan Selin's and Reins Mittelstadt's — supplied the music.

The official opening was held on November 5, 1971 with ribbon cutting by Mayor William Yonier. A short program was emceed by Alf Arnston. A "history" presentation was given by Oscar Mallas, greetings from County Recreation supervisor Wayne Powell, as well as comments by other speakers. This was followed by a turkey supper and dance.

In order to take advantage of available government grants it was necessary to become a registered Society. The Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association became registered under the Societies Act in the autumn of 1970. The advantages of being registered were many — and proved more so in later years.

A new skating change house of cement blocks was erected in 1972, as well as new skating rink boards. The cost of \$8,400.00 was covered by fund-raising events and grants through the County program. This building again involved all local volunteer labor.

In 1972, the Recreation Association was approached by the Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club for assistance. A location near the Sports Grounds was provided and levelled. Also a loan for initial construction was given. These grounds were used until 1981.

A full recreational program was maintained throughout the year. Dedicated individuals gave of their time and talent as coaches, babysitters, whatever — as well as providing transportation when needed. The Recreation Association provided uniforms and equipment for hockey and ball teams and ice time in the Camrose arena was made available to enable the hockey teams to complete their schedules. All the while the Finance Committee kept the fund-raising pot boiling with a variety of events. The ladies of the Recreation Association formed four groups and catered to weddings, anniversaries and socials. This volunteer service remains a major factor in maintaining funds for the operation of the hall.

Meanwhile our recreational program expanded and diversified. Adult education courses such as ceramics, upholstery, keep-fit, welding and others were being requested so the need for an enlarged center offering a multi-use facility became apparent. A committee was set up to study and develop plans for an addition to the hall. John Bokenfohr, a contractor, was contacted and architect plans for a multi-complex were obtained.

On September 7, 1975, Sturgeon Erectors (John Bokenfohr) submitted a detailed cost estimate for two facilities, one costing \$130,000.00 plus and the other \$80,000.00. The building committee decided on the \$130,000.00 structure. A detailed regime was then submitted to the County Recreation Board for approval. If approved the structure would qualify for a \$65,000 grant. Prospects were bright!

A rising crescendo of fund-raising activities hit the district, highlighted by an auction sale and every type of social activity imaginable. Debentures were again sold in \$50.00 and \$100.00 denominations. These were redeemable at face value towards the rental of the proposed facility. The Village of Hay Lakes and the Circle "S" Club contributed thousands of dollars in this manner.

Planning accelerated. A public meeting was held on January 19, 1976 to discuss and finalize construction plans. Tenders were issued where necessary and every facet was covered. Sturgeon Erectors were hired as contractors, supervising the entire operation and providing skilled labor for vital stages of the construction.

The sod turning took place on March 14, 1976 and construction began in earnest. It was an intensive exercise co-ordinated by John Bokenfohr, with the building committee supplying a good number of local workers at all times. Oscar Mallas was our designated supervisor, keeping track of the hours of labor involved, machines used, etcetera, and maintaining the construction program in the absence of Mr. Bokenfohr. Such was our progress that on October 30, 1976 the official opening was held with a supper, program and dance being enjoyed by the entire community.

The project had been completed well within the budget, thanks to the splendid co-operation and labor of many, many people and the good honest work and direction of Sturgeon Erectors, Oscar Mallas and Carl Nordin. A total of 2771 hours of volunteer labor was donated towards the building. Many of the local ladies supplied lunch each day to the workers. This was a fine example of community endeavor — and everyone who took part may be justifiably proud.

Due to this effort we now have a facility which houses a fine community library, a well-used Senior Citizen's Center, a cultural wing with a ceramic kiln and a general facility which compliments any social or educational function.

The Association makes every effort to accommodate the recreational needs of this area. Members in the past have given countless hours of time and energy to create facilities and programmes which are available to the Hay Lakes community today.

The Hay Lakes Curling Club and the Senior Men's Fastball Team (Blue Knights) are now mem-

bers of the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association, and yet both are autonomous in operation. Anyone who has a desire to further the programmes or facilities in this community may do so simply by joining the association and promoting his ideas in a like manner to those already employed by the citizens of this district.

Many individuals have given the major part of their lives to promoting and operating recreational programs and in planning and building facilities for the community. By accepting both criticism and bouquets they have persevered.

Past-presidents of the Recreation Association have been: George Roper, 1968-1973; Allan Hein, 1974-1981. Past vice-presidents: Ed Schoenknecht, 1968-1969; Allan Hein, 1970-1973; Bill Harke, 1974-1981. Past treasurers: Martha Nordin, 1968-1978; Bernice Yurkoske — 1979; Donna Huebner, 1980-1981. Past secretaries: Pat Rost, 1968-1969; Gerty These, 1970-1973; Elaine Galenza — 1974; Pat Rost, 1975-1977; Veronica Galenza and Bernice Yurkoske — 1978; Marlene Wahl, 1979-1980; Emily Aspell, 1980-1981.

The present executive in 1982 includes: Bill Harke — President, Kevin Klonteig — Vice-President, Emily Aspell — Secretary, Donna Huebner — Treasurer. With the co-operation and help of residents in Hay Lakes and District they will strive to maintain and improve the total recreational life in the community for years to come.

History of the Hay Lakes Senior Citizen's Club (1976-1981)

The Hay Lakes Senior Citizen's Club was organized early in 1976, when the Hay Lakes Recreation Association decided to build an addition to the Community Hall.

The new section would include a Cultural Centre, the Municipal Library and a Senior Citizen's Centre.

The Sod Turning Ceremony took place on March 14th, 1976 and construction began March 15th.

Our first meetings to get organized were held in February at the Legion Hall, when our Club was incorporated into the Societies Act.

This enabled us to apply for a New Horizons Grant to furnish our Senior Citizen's Centre. The plan was to provide recreation for our members through various activities at our Centre.

At our February 4th meeting, 1976, we elected our first executive, who were: John Groeller — President, Henry Zucht — 1st Vice-president, Albert Werner — 2nd Vice-president, Elsie Zucht — Secretary, Ann Aspell — Assistant Secretary, Ed Wolter — Treasurer.

Within a few months we had forty members who



Sod turning for addition to Recreation Center. Elsie Zucht turning sod for Senior Citizen's wing, looking on are Oscar Schielke, Wayne Powell, Allan Hein and Bill Harke.

helped in many different ways. Those who were able helped with the construction work on the new building and the ladies provided the lunches for the building crew.

We received our New Horizon Grant in July; then we began shopping around for some furniture such as a pool table, tables and chairs, a games table and a shuffleboard. We also purchased a Kiln for Ceramics and a Loom for weaving in order to promote these programs.

We were fortunate to find a good-as-new pool table and also some sets of upholstered seats with tables. Lawrence Schoenknecht donated his truck and time to pick up these items from Mayerthorpe for our Club. Much volunteer work was done by our members to get our Centre finished in time for the Official Opening of the New Addition to the Hall in October, which was quite a gala affair.

During the four years our Centre has been in operation many features have been added for variety and more interesting programs.

Besides the various games, we also have card parties and bingo games for entertainment. When we received a set of six hundred scenic slides from the Alberta Government we purchased a slide projector, which provides many evenings of interesting viewing.

For outings, our Seniors have made some Bus Trips to interesting places such as Fort McMurray,

Heritage Park, etcetra, and exchange visits with some neighboring Senior Centres.

Once a year, we have a Valentine Tea and Bake Sale to raise money for the upkeep of our Centre, and when our ladies have made a quilt for a raffle.

We have a weekly income from lunches when we meet several times a week at our Centre.

Donations from our members provide lunches for the card parties, bingo games and social occasions, such as our annual Christmas party. Each month we celebrate our members' birthdays with a party. We had a special evening in honor of certain pioneer citizens, when Mr. Gordon Stromberg presented their gold medallions in commemoration of the seventy-fifth Anniversary.

We have a good collection of interesting books for Senior Citizens — a donation from the Alberta Government — which provide a variety of reading material for our members. We have also received a Facility Grant of five hundred dollars for 1981 which we plan to use for the purchase of a Movie Projector.

We have monthly visits from our District Nurse of the Camrose Health Unit, who brings films on various health problems. She also takes blood pressures and advises members when medical attention is needed.

History of the Hay Lakes and District Lions Club

as related by Alfred Arnston

The organizational meetings of the Hay Lakes and District Lions Club were held in January, 1981. Arthur Zerbin from the New Sarepta Lions Club, Joe Portas and Willie Chaney of the South Cooking Lake Lions Club, as well as several others helped to set up the organizational framework. The only member of our club who had previous experience as a "Lion" was James Hall, who had joined while he was a resident of Ontario, where he was born.

The following were registered as Charter Members: John Anderson, Alfred Arnston, Dennis Broen, Douglas Bigus, Albert Brown, Lawrence Busenius, Phillip Camire, Leslie Coykendall, Robert Early, Ewald Erickson, Carl Fuernkranz, Charles Giasson, James Hall, Arden Hartman, Allan Hein, Gerald Kreamer, Herbert Leicht, Harold Leicht, Victor Mearon, Otto Mittelstadt, Eldon Nordin, Lowell Perkin, Wilmer Radawetz, John Roper, Wayne Schwyer, Carl Selin, Gerald Trepmpner, William Webster, Henk Werkman and Byron Wall.

A "Charter Night" was held on the 14th of March, 1981. Henk Werkman was the "Charter Night" Chairman. Murray Corbin, of the Josephburg Club assisted with the installation of members and officers of the Club. Wilmer Radawetz was installed

as President; First Vice-President was Henk Werkman; Second Vice-President installed was John Anderson; while Jack Roper was elected Third Vice-President. Albert Brown was the first Secretary, but was replaced by James Hall when the former moved to Edmonton. Alfred Arnston was installed as Treasurer. The following members were installed as directors of the Club: Herbert Leicht, Ewald Erickson, Robert Early and Charles Giasson. Allan Hein was installed as "Tail Twister" and Otto Mittelstadt as "Lion Tamer". Supper was served before the installation of members and after that a large crowd enjoyed dancing.

The South Cooking Lake Lions club sponsored the Hay Lakes and District Lions Club and in that capacity one of their members has been "Guiding Lion". Hence Willie Chaney has attended nearly all the meetings of the Hay Lakes Club and in his absence Joe Portas has helped. After one year the Club is considered mature enough to be on its own completely.

Several members of the Hay Lakes Club helped with the Rodeo conducted by the South Cooking Lake Club and had an entry in the parade.

Since the Lions Club is a community organization, several projects were undertaken in 1981. For Canada Day, the Lions provided a pancake breakfast for the crowd attending the Hay Lakes Fastball Tournament, which was held on the week-end. Other fund raising projects during the year consisted of an auction, serving in a booth at the Camrose Fair, sponsoring a dance on the 28th of November, as well as a supper and dance with the "Emeralds" providing the music, held on the 22nd of January, 1982.

Over a thousand dollars has been contributed so far to provide picnic tables for the Hay Lakes Recreation Grounds, a donation to the Hay Lakes Curling Club and improvements to the Hay Lakes Children's Playground, as well as a refrigerator to the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association.

The Lions Clubs are also involved in welfare projects in the community; hence the Hay Lakes Club set up a committee headed by Carl Fuernkranz to donate at least one hundred dollars to victims of disasters. Neil Brodie, who lost his home and all its contents, was the first to receive aid. Next, Willie Chaney had a fire which completely destroyed his barn and hogs, so the Club provided a hundred dollar donation. Marilyn Armstrong had a fire which completely destroyed her barn and livestock and she also received aid in the form of a donation from the Lions Club.

The Hay Lakes and District Lions Club has meetings conducted according to rules set out in Lions International, with members throughout the world,

and in accordance with the constitution and by-laws of the organization. Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, and members of other clubs are invited to attend. We in return try to attend meetings of other clubs whenever possible.

Once a month we have supper meetings and Mrs. Doreen Wall has been doing the catering. Occasionally we have "Ladies' night", which means that members may bring their wives (or single chaps may bring their lady friend or friends, no limit as to the number), or other guests as well.

During the year the Club has added three new members, namely, Suljo Spahic, Robert Wilson and Gordon Lindseth.

The Hay Lakes and District Lions Club will be looking forward to another year of activities and the Club invites community input in all of its projects. Any help will always be appreciated.

Vasa Lodge

The Vasa Lodge was very active in the east Hay Lakes area with members from the village as well. Some of the charter members were the Charles Holmbergs, Anton Pearsons, J. A. Persons, Peter Feragens, E. P. Nordin, Oscar Grahns Sr., Pete Hanson, Ole Olafson and Oberg. Later the second generation carried on, namely, John Holmberg, Thor Johnson, Sture Johnson, Ole Swanson and many others.

They built their own hall near Third Miquelon Lake on land acquired from Amandus Johnson. This was in the vicinity where the old Branland school now sits on land owned by the East Hay Lakes Unifarm. The hall served as a place to hold their meetings and as well it was used for social gatherings and dances. Popular visiting musicians from the Edmonton Vasa Lodge were Lily (Erickson) Taylor and Bowstrom.

The Lodge carried a type of medical insurance, which the members paid into and received benefits when qualifying.

After the Vasa Lodge folded up the building was bought by Thor Johnson. It was dismantled and the lumber used to build his house.

The house is now occupied by the Lindquists.

The East Hay Lakes Cheery Chums Club was very active in the war years. It is covered by J. U. Erickson in another section of this book.

The Young People's Fellowship Club was a combination of Moravian and Lutheran young people. This is reported in the history of "Little" Martin Henkelman.

Swedish Canadian Society

In the spring of 1919 some thirty-five persons of

Swedish descent formed a branch of the Swedish Canadian Society of Alberta. Charles Holmberg was the first chairman with Oscar Waldemar Grahns serving as the Secretary-Treasurer.

They held regular meetings in the Pearson Hall and on several occasions held "Model Parliaments", which were very enthusiastically received.

North Star Young People

The North Star Young Peoples was a club organized in about 1920. They were active in the community north east of Hay Lakes. This club consisted of the young people of St. Joseph Church, mostly Swedes and Norwegians, and was comparable to our Luther League today. Pastor Ellingson was serving the church at the time.

The club was very active for several years. One of their projects was a book collection available to all members. In 1922 they purchased several new books by famous authors bringing their collection to some ninety books.

Community Club

In November, 1922 a Community Club was formed with the first elected officers being: President, George Davies; Vice-President, Charles Holmberg; Secretary-Treasurer, J. W. Morrison; Entertainment Committee Mrs. L. Pfrimmer, Mrs. L. Larsen and O. Olafson; Doorkeepers, Ed Peterson and Anton Person.

They were to hold meetings every Wednesday and anyone interested in the welfare of the community was invited to become a member.

The Community Club was very active during the next few years. They held lantern lectures with local people speaking and they also had films and guest speakers from the University of Alberta. Of special interest was a contest they sponsored in April 1924 in which the school children in each district were asked to write essays on "The Care of Milk and Cream from the Cow to the Creamery." A member of the University of Alberta Department of Extension judged the essays and also showed a film regarding the subject at a meeting. The top two essays were read by the pupils, the winners were: Rosalie Blakely and Findlay McLeod from Hay Lakes; Agda Miller and Alvin Pearson from Sulitjelma; Alpha Welda from Swan Hill. Later four Charlie Chaplin films were shown and greatly enjoyed.

Special days were always recognized such as Christmas parties, New Year's, St. Patrick's Day, Scottish night with appropriate numbers, Thanksgiving as well as Halloween parties and dances.

A special Box Social and Talent Night featuring

outside as well as local talent was held in the spring of 1924 with all proceeds to go towards a fund for building sidewalks in the Village. Admission was: Adults twenty-five cents; Children ten cents; more than \$50.00 was realized from this endeavor. Another special project was a spring clean-up bee around the Village. They also sponsored many tournaments such as chess, cribbage and whist. They also helped in the organization of the July 1 picnic and sports day held each year.

The club reorganized each fall and disbanded each spring with a social event. This was sometimes held outdoors such as the one held on the tennis court.

Chess

A chess club was formed in the late 1920's and several of the men enjoyed this competition. Standings were recorded in the local paper. One such recorded standing was Seeber 6, Grahn 3, Dawson 3, Morrison 2, and Bradbury 0.

Girls' Sunbeam Club

Very little is known about the Girls' Sunbeam Club, however it is recalled that this club was formed in the mid 1920's by girls of the Sulitjelma district. Their aims were to become good homemakers.

In the mid 1940's a similar club was formed in the Village of Hay Lakes by Etta Sware. The girls met in her home and were instructed in sewing, embroidery and knitting.

A girls' club called the "Happy Handful" was organized by Mrs. Larsen and Mrs. Gosnel in 1923-24. The girls met at the school after school hours once a week and were shown how to embroider

and hand sew. Later the items made were sold at a tea. The girls also played games at their meetings.

Canadian Girls in Training (C.G.I.T.) was organized around 1930 with Anna McCoy as leader, assisted by Nora McCoy. There were ten to twelve girls who attended.

4-H Clubs

The village had a 4-H girls' club two different times over the years. One was formed in the mid 1950's with local teachers, Marnie Gould, Joan Ratell and Jean Freeman as leaders. They met in the school and also in members' homes.

Then in the mid 1970's another club was formed by teacher Shirley Jensen and principal's wife Erna Luger.

These groups of girls were interested in learning cooking and sewing. Although neither of these clubs lasted very long, the girls involved received many hours of valuable instruction.

Teen Town

A club to help the young people of the community occupy idle time was organized by Bill and Myrna Francis during the mid 1960's. The young folk enjoyed many hours of fun and fellowship meeting in the school gym weekly. They also held teen dances in the Hay Lakes Hall to which guests were invited.

During the short time the group was in operation they prepared and delivered Christmas baskets to all senior citizens of the village. They also enjoyed a sleigh ride and singing Christmas carols.

The club disbanded when the Francis family left the area.



Skiers in 1931. Back Row: unknown, Justin Nordmoe, Johnny Johnson, Ted Larraine. L to R: H. Zricht, H. Bradke Sr., unknown, Herman Bradke, unknown, unknown, Elsie Zucht, Gordon Welda, Alpha Welda, unknown, unknown, Norman Welda. Front: unknown, unknown, Agnes and Emil Peterson, Mimi Nordmoe, and son Norman, Ken Bradke.



Early morning Interdenominational Church Service at Hay Lakes Homecoming and Alberta's 75th Anniversary. August 31, 1980.

Highlights of Hay Lakes and Area

Stories of Special Interest

Hay Lakes Homecoming and Alberta's 75th Anniversary

Approximately 1800 people thronged the streets of Hay Lakes on August 31, 1980, for the combined celebrations of Alberta's 75th Birthday and Hay Lakes Homecoming. Guests arrived from as far as Germany, Australia, Sweden, Inuvik, (N.W.T.), Nova Scotia, Quebec, British Columbia and many points throughout Alberta.

Due to the unsettled weather conditions, last minute plans changed the festivities from the Sports'

grounds to a mammoth tent which was erected on the street near the Recreation Center.

The early morning worshippers welcomed that tent as the morning dawned overcast. Rev. M. Bergman conducted the interdenominational church service assisted by members of the various churches in the district. Rev. R. Kemppainen delivered the sermon and also conducted the choir which was composed of singers from all the churches in the area.

Following the service, scrolls were presented to past and present residents of Hay Lakes who were seventy-five years of age or over. Anton Sware acted as emcee for the presentations.



Hay Lakes Homecoming Parade — August 31, 1980.

A pancake and sausage breakfast was served outdoors prior to the commencement of the parade.

The parade was led by a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, followed by forty colorful entries including the Barvarian Band and the Edmonton City Police Scottish Pipe Band.

During the afternoon the twelve-piece Barvarian Band provided a lively musical atmosphere which prompted several couples to dance on the street. Hundreds of people toured the Recreation Center where locally created handicrafts were displayed. The library, which housed a special collection of antiques, caused many folks to reminisce about the "olden days".

Various outdoor activities were enjoyed and included, horseshoes, log sawing, nail pounding, pillow fights and tug-of-war.

An entertaining program was held in the tent during the afternoon with local musicians, Ukrainian dancing and the reading of a poem paying tribute to the pioneers. Scrolls were then presented by



Blowing out the candles on the Alberta 75th Anniversary cake. August 31, 1980.

Wilhelmina Lutheran Church to the thirty-two families still farming on the original homesteads.

The oldest attending persons, David Busenius, who was nearly ninety years of age, and the visitor over seventy-five years of age who had travelled the farthest to be present, Mrs. Emilie Henschell of Vancouver, received corsages and were given the honor of making the first cut into the Anniversary cake. The eighty-pound cake was baked and decorated by Emily Loudon. Prior to the cutting of the cake all the children participated by coming on stage and blowing out the seventy-five candles.

Later in the day a barbecued beef supper was enjoyed along with music and further socializing. The warmth of friendships renewed that day and the fellowship generated by the Interdenominational worship service left an inner glow of happiness long to be recalled.

The event was founded by the Provincial Government 75th Anniversary grant with extra costs paid by the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association.

Good Old Days

When we were living those good old days,
They didn't seem so good-
We read by the light of the Kerosene lamp,
And heated our homes with wood.

We carried water up the hill,
To wash and cook and scrub;
And we took our baths beside the stove,
In a galvanized laundry tub.

I can still feel the old lye soap,
And feel the sting and hurt.
When some of it got into our eyes,
But it sure did get the dirt!

We waded through snow and ice and mud,
To get to the seat of learning.
With a pot-bellied stove that froze our backs,
While the fronts of us were burning.

We slept on old lumpy mattresses,
Sometimes three in a bed. (Hedvig, Veina and me)
If you were late you got the foot,
The early ones got the head.

We drank from a cup by a water pail,
On a bench where the teacher put it.
And whatever ailment any kid had,
The rest were sure to get it.

In winter, we milked in drafty barns,
While the wind whistled through the cracks;
And the swirling snow, while you were inside,
Filled up our fresh-made tracks.

A little house at the end of a patch,

Half hidden by brush and weeds,
In summer's heat and winter's cold,
Served our family needs.

Now you may look with envious eyes,
At these times, if you are twenty.
But I've been through those —

GOOD OLD DAYS,

And Once my friend, is plenty!
Hattie Ramsey (Lofgren)

The Emigrant or Colonist Car and Settlers

by **Thelma Movold**

These cars were often attached to the freight trains carrying the settlers' effects. Their few pieces of furniture and household goods were piled high in the rear end of the car and partitioned off. In the front end of the car were stalls for horses. Other stalls and pens were for cows and young stock. The centre of the car was for hay, grain and feed boxes. In some immigrant cars the man in charge of the livestock had his bunk also in the centre of the car. The families rode in passenger coaches. These were "special", third class, or less. The people had their own cooking utensils, bed clothes and wearing apparel in these coaches. Immigrants did not look for luxury, they looked for economy.

We admire our pioneers who came to this land and endured such hardships. They came from European countries to the United States or Eastern Canada, and on to Alberta, then called North-west Territories. Religious intolerance in many of the old lands and severe poverty urged the pioneers to seek new homes where the future might be brighter. Having heard from early settlers or relatives, they got the "America Fever" where there was a promise of free land. Early settlers told them where homesteads could be had in this land of "hope and glory". Wetaskiwin was the stopping point, and here the pioneers were met by settlers from early established communities. They were advised to go East where land was good. The transportation of their goods to their homesteads was very difficult due to countless mud holes, sloughs and poor wagon trails. Wetaskiwin became the nearest trading point for many years. A trip there meant days of travelling in wagons drawn by oxen, on horseback or on foot over the rough prairie trails.

District's Lost Child

by **Thelma Movold**

Many are the records in Alberta of young children becoming lost through wandering away from home. The Movold family records one such case.

The ending was happy, although this has not always been the case with children lost in the brush of our parkland belt.

The story concerns Eileen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Movold. Mrs. Movold had gone to pick berries one afternoon leaving two-year-old Eileen with her father. The little girl started after her mother, and Mr. Movold thought she had found her. It was growing dusk when Mrs. Movold returned without the child.

The alarmed parents solicited aid and a ready response was made by relatives and neighbors. Late at night Mr. Farley in Camrose was notified, and he, together with the Boy Scouts at hand and other town volunteers, hastened to the scene arriving towards morning. Many weary searchers were resting in the Movold yard.

In spite of the darkness Mr. Farley organized a search party of one hundred fifty to two hundred men and lads. Joining hands, the searchers started off to cover every foot of ground. About daybreak the tot was found unharmed and sound asleep in an altogether different direction to that which the parents had in mind. Her Uncle Martin was the searcher who spotted her first.

Early Events

by **Thelma Movold**

The early 1900's were frequently wet years. Water was everywhere and at freeze-up time Martin recalls skating from their home in Armena to Spokkeli and Areson Lakes. No one worried about skates getting dull. Spokkeli Lake was also the favorite swimming spot in summer. It was named after John E. Spokkeli, a Camrose oldtimer, who pastured cattle in that area during the summer. Spokkeli Lake has since decreased considerably in size. Miquelon Lake was also a favorite picnic and swimming spot then, as it still is. It too has decreased in size over the years.

Muskrats and beaver were plentiful, and hunting them brought extra cash for the young lads in the area.

Horse trading was often engaged in to match up a team in color, size and speed.

The hill on the Movold "80" acres was a favorite spot for skiing and ski jumping. Many a dangerous jump, one being the "somersault", was attempted by lads in the district, resulting in frequent injuries. After recovering, the injured ones were ready to join the competition again.

During the flu epidemic of 1918-'19; Martin's brother, Oscar, was hired to drive Dr. F. A. Nordbye of Camrose to attend to the sick. So many were the calls that both doctor and driver were frequently at the point of exhaustion.

Closet Skeletons

An interesting and unusual episode in the history of the old Skandia Cemetery is that it harbors a convicted murderer, his grave is located in the north-west corner of the cemetery.

In the late fall of 1901 the Northwest Mounted Police were travelling through the area on their way to Edmonton. Coming upon a farmstead just south-west of the present Village of Hay Lakes, they stopped for the night. The owner thinking they knew of his crime confessed to the murder of his brother. The man was taken to jail in Wetaskiwin where a court trial was held. However, the trial was dismissed on lack of evidence as the body of the victim could not be found.

This was in April of 1902, so the accused went home and while working with his stove pipe, on top of his house, was overcome by the fumes and fell off the house roof dead. Shortly after this happened the victim's body was found and the evidence was clear that he had been murdered. Thus fate cheated the gallows of the law.

Highlights From the Diary of Jonas Smith

The following are some of the highlights from the diary of Jonas Smith, beginning in 1903 and covering a period of one year. Jonas Smith was born in Bratford, England in 1872 and came to Canada in 1903. The memoirs include his brother, John Smith, who seemed to spend a lot of time making bread, and their experiences when they arrived in this country.

It begins on May twenty-third, 1903. Jonas writes: "Saw the Government Land Agent at Leduc who gave us information about land. Went to view land west of Leduc with three other men from the United States. The roads were very bad, had to wade up to our middle in swamps and muskeg, carried food on a pack horse. Went out four miles west of Strawberry Creek, a distance of thirty-two miles. The land agent gave up. The banks of Strawberry Creek were over two hundred feet high at some places and one could see coal cropping up all over. The land was heavily timbered, got back to Leduc the twenty-ninth of May."

May thirtieth — "Set out to see land east of Leduc, without a guide this time. Went with three Americans, had a rough time getting to vacant lots. Looked over a few sections, then located where we are now, SW 28-49-21-W4. The three Americans did not locate. The land is timbered in places, the rest is open ready for plowing. Got back to Leduc on June fourth, tired from exposure and walking through brush and swamps."

"Rested until June eighth, bought a team of horses, et cetera, set out for the homestead, fine

weather, camped out June ninth. Started out again, roads getting bad, got stuck in swamp, one of the horses fell over, got in a hole but we got him out, then carried everything to firm ground. Cut a road through the brush, camped out again, coyotes howled all night. June tenth started out again, made good progress and then got stuck again. Got out with the help of a long chain. Within a mile of the homestead stayed with a Norwegian named Martin Thompson. June eleventh cut a road from Thompsons to our own land. June twelfth got to homestead, put up a tent, picketed horses, had a look around. On June thirteenth dug a well. Good water at five feet, weather fine."

The rest of June was busy, a trip was made to Wetaskiwin for timber and another trip to Leduc to see the Land Agent and acquire the hay from the School Section. There was a great deal of rain and time was spent fencing and cutting logs. The black flies plagued them in the daytime and the mosquitoes at night. A shanty was built of logs with a sod roof.

In July more work was done on the house, filling cracks, making shelves and tables. It seems John was the cook and the diary often recorded him cooking ducks, rabbits or partridges, and every few days it seemed he was baking bread, once even without yeast, which was quite a feat.

The later part of the summer was spent building a stable from logs, also making a road, building a bridge across a creek and draining a slough to get hay. They did seem to have some time for rest and writing to relatives back home. In August they managed to cut and haul in five loads of hay, between all the showers. They got their milk and butter from Christisons. Later in September they put up a few more loads of hay and started cutting logs for a cow stable and hen house.

On September twenty-third they went to Wetaskiwin for provisions and bought a dozen hens on the way back and three days later had one egg. The first snow storm was October second. On October seventh John milked a cow for the first time and got six pints of milk. On October eighteenth Jonas set out on horseback to visit neighbours, Chattlebergs and Elliots. They continued to cut and scratch up more hay. October twenty-fourth was the beginning of a few warm days of Indian Summer.

November was spent cutting roads for fences, cutting firewood and finishing the buildings. On December first Thompson had dinner with them and Jonas went home with him to take lessons on how to trap, skin and stretch the skins of muskrats. They bought fifty-two pounds of beef from Mr. Elliot at five and a half cents a pound. Previously they had purchased seventeen and a half bushels of potatoes

from Olsons who lived one and a half miles from them. The price was \$3.50.

The continued to cut poles and make snake fences, and they also cut poles for the house Jonas planned to build. December twenty-fifth, Christmas Day, 1903 was a mild day. John spent the day washing clothes. On December twenty-seventh John went to Elliots for some onions and was given some plum duff (pudding) which they enjoyed immensely. On December twenty-eighth Jonas went to Christisons to look at timber. "They are going to get a permit to cut logs and poles."

The first half of January, 1904 was very mild. On January eleventh he went to John Browns and made a bargain for a cow in calf and a stack of hay. On January fifteenth he walked to Leduc in seven and a half hours in twenty below zero weather. On January twenty-first, Jonas set out for Strathcona with Christison for supplies and needed articles; it was a cold trip that took days.

February was cold, snowy and windy and on the fourth they drew the last of the hay from the stack they acquired from Browns. Jonas and John continued to cut and haul out poles.

On March the first it was thirty degrees below zero. However, it soon warmed up and the two brothers were again working on the logs for the house. March sixth was a fine day and Jonas went to Thompsons and Olsons. John was usually the one to go to the Post Office. For the remainder of March the nice days were spent putting up the house for Jonas. The logs were peeled and squared. March twenty-seventh

was a fine day and it is recorded by Jonas that he went to Sandbus and, later, on April the third, John visited Movalds.

Some time was spent putting up a wire fence, and on April ninth the first duck was sighted. On April the sixteenth John set a hen on eggs. On the following day the old grass on Jonas' site was burned and they began clearing the land. Later the same procedure was carried out on John's land. On April twenty-fifth, John and Jonas, together with their neighbors, began work to cut a shorter road to the Post Office.

The diary continues to April thirtieth and records all the hard work the first settlers went through to clear land and erect their log buildings. They cut each other's hair, did their own washing and mending, lived for the most part, at least at first, on wild ducks, rabbits, partridges and John's homemade bread. They were on good terms with their neighbours, for they needed each other.

Jonas Smith homesteaded on SW 28-49-21-W4. On August seventh, 1907, he applied for the patent on SE 28-49-21-W4. On January twenty-seventh, 1911 he married Olena Olson. They farmed this land until it was sold to Hilmer Grahn. They moved to Dryden, Ontario, where Olena passed away in 1919. Jonas Smith passed away in 1937.

This diary was sent from England by a daughter, Amy, to her niece, Carolyn MacArthur, of Kenora, Ontario.

Submitted by Carolyn MacArthur (granddaughter) to Alice Skalin (a niece of Jonas Smith).



George Roper Family. Through kindness of our neighbors in the surrounding community we were nominated as Farm Family for this area in 1978. This picture was taken on our day in Edmonton . . . windy as ever. L. to R.: Mountie in full dress; Alyson; Connie Brook; Jack and Jennifer; Linda McDonald; Andy Brook; Russ and Anne Roper; Premier Peter Lougheed; Bertha and George; Lt. Gov. R. Steinhauer and Mrs. Steinhauer and their aide-de-camp. Missing for the picture were Ken and Shirley; Randy and Lynn and Al McDonald.



Engine A5045 — Threshing on Zellers about 1915. W. M. Wilson on the right (on water tank) with Art Grundberg (owner of the oxen). Fellow on rack unknown.

Engine A5045 submitted by David Holdsworth

J. I. Case Traction Engine, serial No. A5045 was manufactured in 1904 by the J. I. Case Co., of Racine, Wisconsin, U.S.A. and was shipped to Alberta in 1904. It was purchased new by Mr. Harkman in 1905 and was fired by Mr. Munson on and off until about 1910. It was sold to W. M. Wilson and Anton Pearson of Hay Lakes, and was used for threshing, sawing lumber and occasionally for pulling stumps. The last use was accomplished by attaching a long cable with a hook on one end, the other end being secured to the draw bar of the engine. The hook would let the cable tighten on the stump and the more power applied to it, the tighter it would become and prevent it from slipping off. Occasionally a couple of feet of bark would slip off with the cable which would prevent the cable from tightening on the stump, and as soon as the power was applied, the cable would slip and the hook and cable would fly through the air, a hundred feet or more. The men hooking the cable had to stand well back in case it unhooked or slipped off, as they didn't want to be caught with a five-pound hook.

In 1921, the engine was sold to Carl Lyseng of Armena, who used it as a threshing engine until 1925. Mr. Lyseng relates one could put his watch to one ear and listen to the engine with the other and the watch would make more noise than the engine. He said, "I liked that engine as it ran so quiet".

In 1925 the 5045 was sold to the Swan Hill Threshing Co. of Hay Lakes. Members of the company were W. M. Wilson, C. J. Carlson, P. Busenius, Jonas Sandquist and Mr. Tingstead.

In 1926 or 1927 the company sold the outfit to C. J. Carlson, one of the members.

In 1928 my father rented the C. J. Carlson farm for one year when the Carlsons went back to Sweden for a well deserved holiday. We note the listing in the lease of 1928 gives mention of the 15-45 Case threshing engine. This is the same engine A5045. There is also mention of a Case thresher that went with the lease. My dad was employed to fire the engine for a number of years during threshing, the engineer had to be up early in the morning as he had to have steam by five a.m. That was the hour when he would blow the whistle as it was time for the bundle haulers to roll out of bed to feed and harness the horses, and to have breakfast and be ready to start threshing at six o'clock sharp.

C. J. Carlson used this engine until the late forties when it was replaced by a 1927 D. John Deere gas tractor. Engine A5045 was sold to Carl Nordin and was installed in the Hotel in Hay Lakes as a heating boiler. It was used up to 1980. It is remarkable that a steam engine gave over seventy-five years of service to man, when today you can scarcely get twenty years of service out of a modern tractor.

The once proud engine A5045 spends its lingering years, unwanted, in a dark room in the basement of the Hay Lakes hotel, stripped of its power train and its essentials as a threshing engine. With man's technology today, even walking on the moon, it is doubtful he could restore A5045 to its once proud self, belching smoke out across the prairie as a challenge to its power.



Boiler Inspection Certificate

AS REQUIRED BY THE BOILERS ACT OF ALBERTA
ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Cert. No. 33988

License Plate No. 821

Date of Inspection Sept. 21 Year 1925 District No. 7

I Hereby Certify that I have this day Inspected the Boiler herein described as
Boiler No. (A) 5045, also Valves, Fittings and Connections to same, and therefore authorize
A WORKING PRESSURE OF - 125 - POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH

Name of Owner *Swanhill Threshing Co.*
Type of Boiler *Loco Locomotive*
Built by *J. P. Bean*
Diam. of Shell or Drum *28"*
Thickness of Shell Plates *1/4"*
Type, Shell Longtl. Joint *D. R. Lap*
Thickness of Heads *3/8"*
Outside Diam. Furnace *ins.* Thickness *ins.*
Max. Pitch and Size of Stays *4 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 3/4"*
Hydrostatic Pressure *Bean* lbs. per sq. in.
Condition of Fittings *Good*

Location of Boiler *34-48-21-4*
Age *1904* Condition *Very fair*
Alberta Record No. *-*
Length *6* ft. *10* ins.
Min. Tensile Strength *55000* lbs. sq. in.
Efficiency *70%* Factor of Safety *5.5*
Type of Furnace *Loco*
No. of Tubes *36* Diam. *2"* Gauge *-*
Date Applied *-*

The following repairs are necessary and must be completed forthwith in accordance with The Alberta Boilers Act :

THE BOILERS ACT.—The Inspection Certificate shall be placed so as to be easily read, in a conspicuous place in the boiler room, or engine room of every stationary boiler, and shall be produced at any time by the owner or operator of any traction or portable boiler upon demand of an inspector or upon demand of a member of any police force. Any owner refusing or neglecting to post up or produce the Inspection Certificate shall be liable upon summary conviction thereof to a penalty of not less than \$10.00 and not more than \$25.00.

(Signed)

Robert Scott
Inspector.

Boiler Inspection Certificate for engine #A5045.

"Newcomers" Visit Waldums in 1905

One warm July day the family set out. Through bushes and thickets, along one crooked path they went until they met another path that was better, and then at last they came upon the track for two wheels. Suddenly their two miles of walking brought them in front of the place.

They looked at the little house of small round logs. Through its sod roof a black chimney stuck up, held upright by an iron wire fastened to each of the four log corners of the house. This was the dwelling place.

"Are there truly people living here?" queried Mother when she first saw it. No doubt most of the Swedish newcomers had wondered how people could truly live in such a small frugal cottage. But when the amicable housewife greeted them at the door with a hearty welcome and they stepped inside they saw otherwise.

That little hut was parted into two rooms. The first

was called the kitchen. It held a little iron stove, a little table and a chair, and shelves along the walls for dishes and household utensils. The entrance door was located on the west side and a little window set in the east wall. The low ceiling and the walls were covered with clean newspapers and over the shelves hung gingham curtains trimmed with light-colored stripes.

The other room which was a little bigger was called the dining-room, guest room and bedroom all in one. In the southeast corner stood a homemade bed of boards topped with a clean patchwork cover. In the northeast corner was the shelf and a clothes cupboard hidden by a colored overhanging. A Singer sewing machine stood in the southwest corner with the clockshelf fastened above. The dining table stood along the west wall. A little table in front of the window on the south side between the bed and the sewing machine was filled with all sorts of plants, among them a big myrtle. Along with some chairs,

OFFICIAL RECEIPT

APR-27-63

13377

A - (C)

120

FORM 17



GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS ACT
CERTIFICATION OF ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF PRESSURE VESSEL

NAME AND ADDRESS (ADVISE HEREON ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS)

CONTINENTAL HOTELS LIMITED
CARE GEORGE WEBBER
HAY LAKES ALBERTA

ACCOUNT NUMBER	SUB. CODE	S. AREA
5780C		9

Official Cash Register impression on this form indicates the vessel described below is registered in accordance with the provisions of the BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS ACT OF ALBERTA for the 1963/64 fiscal registration period.

NOTE: NO EXTRA CHARGE IS MADE FOR INSPECTION UNLESS SPECIAL INSPECTION IS REQUIRED.

TYPE AND LOCATION OF VESSEL (ADVISE HEREON ANY CHANGE OF LOCATION)

CO. CODE NUMBER

STEEL HEATING
HAY LAKES HOTEL

IMPORTANT

It is illegal to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any second hand pressure vessel unless the Chief Inspection Engineer has been notified and permission given. **SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR TRANSFER FORM**

This certificate should be retained by the owner or his agent for the examination of any authorized Inspection Engineer or Police Officer as proof of registration of the vessel described above for the 1963/64 registration period between April 1st, 1963 and March 31st, 1964.

VESSEL NO.	DIST.	CODE	HEATING SURFACE OR CUBIC CAPACITY	DATE OF NOTICE			CURRENT FEE	ARREARS	TOTAL
				DAY	MO.	YEAR			
① 5045	E	92	1640	01	04	63	7.50		7.50

DEPUTY

MINISTER

E. & O. E.

Boilers Certificate for Hay Lakes Hotel for the year 1963. Boiler #A5045.

that comprised the furniture. Overall rested the comfort of home which didn't exist in many bigger and modern dwellings.

After coffee was served and they chatted about various experiences, the host invited the guests to see the store. Father had already been there twice before. It was the second time that he was hidden by the operator to bring his family for this visit.

About a hundred meters distant they saw its door and window facing west. Alongside the front steps on a raised support of boards nailed together lay a couple of barrels and two measures of a liter's size having similar taps.

Inside were the shelves full of different kinds:

shoes, cloth, spats, combs, toothpicks, tobacco, snuff, pocket-knives, chocolate, candy, medicines such as "Peruna", "Kuriko", Minniard's Linament", "Painkiller", perfumes, hairbands, caps, shirts, overalls, hats, and a hundred different small things such as pins, pepper, inkpens and writing material up to the bigger necessities such as flour, salt, sugar and coffee.

On the hooks and nails in the ceiling and walls were hung roastpans, pots, milkpails, jugs, hay forks, spades, shovels and traps of different sizes.

The counter occupied the central position on the floor. One end held the scales while on the other end lay the rolls of wrapping paper. Under the counter

stood the barrels of dried apples, fresh apples, oranges, rice, sago, beans, peas, and boxes of raisins, prunes, peaches and pears. On the other side of the counter a row of kegs contained different sorts of nails.

Their host now explained the need for such a store:

The newcomers were all poor and money was lacking to pay in cash for what they required. Neither did they own any conveyance to travel some forty miles to Wetaskiwin nor the twenty-five miles to the English storekeeper by the lake, and besides, there they would have the problem of communicating in the English language. So they came here by foot with their butter and eggs and muskrat skins to trade for their coffee, sugar, tobacco, snuff, raisins, rice, salt and other provisions.

As time went, the newcomers increased in numbers and so did the number of pounds of butter traded in and the list of necessities grew longer and longer. So one day when Waldum arrived at the Englishman's store with his load of butter, it took the whole day to reload purchases to take back in exchange.

"I think I'll send you back with all my store!" exclaimed the Englishman. The result was that one day a short time later, he fixed a per cent wage for Mr. Waldum's sales to the newcomers.

And so it was that Mr. Waldum needed a store Swedish newcomers cut and hewed the slab-sided logs, and a Swedish newcomer constructed the building, measuring on the outside five meters by four and one-half meters (or sixteen feet eight inches by fourteen feet eight inches) with a six and one-half foot doorway height.

By degrees it go to be packed full. The customers' eyes became wide open with surprise as they saw the multitude of goods that was packed together in that little room.

Here the Swedish newcomers got to buy their needs. If there was something which the operator didn't have on hand, it was just to say so and on their next visit to Lundemo it would be there. For many years that store was known in the community for buying with Swedish pounds of butter, eggs and other things for furnishing the settlers with their daily needs.

(N.B. The writer of this article, the late Gerda (Hanson) Eriksson, later wrote that the Waldums had their house rebuilt in 1907. Thanks to Mr. William Zeller, who presently owns the Waldum farm, for verifying the measurements of the store which was so well built about 1905.)

Sunrise — Sunset

by Bernice (Bakken) Aldridge

It was the dawn of an era. Alberta was being

settled by people from all parts of Europe, the British Isles and the United States. Many arrived with little or no possessions. From morning till night they laboured, building log shacks, brushing their land, plowing with oxen and establishing homes. My parents left Norway in 1906.

The sails were red in the sunset,
As the ship sailed over the seas,
Away from their beloved homeland,
And their loving families.
Farther and farther they travelled,
From the land of the midnight sun,
With aching hearts and tear-dimmed eyes,
They did what had to be done.
They turned their eyes to the Great West,
The "promised land" big and wide.
With heavy hearts they smiled through tears
And faced the future with pride!

We can't ever imagine the homesickness, the loneliness and the insurmountable situations that faced the pioneers when they came to a strange country with limited possessions and less money! One wonders how they survived. My parents could not speak English but settled where there were others from the same home country. As we work and relax in our comfortable homes, with electricity, running water, central heating, television, microwave ovens, etcetera we can look back at our childhood days and call them the "good old days" when life was simple! I wouldn't say our parents felt that way at that time! Those years were grim and hard with unrelenting cold and lonely winters and cruel back-breaking work all the year round. With endless hardships facing them they had to learn to do everything for themselves. But I never did hear my parents say they regretted going through what they did.

But in spite of all this, we had a very happy family life indeed. There was an overwhelming eagerness, a "great to be alive" feeling in our hearts. We had fun times with our parents and saw humor in our daily life situations. Love and togetherness encircled us as we worked and played day by day. Singing and laughter made hard work lighter.

Dad sold a cow and bought an organ. This was enjoyed immensely by all of us through the years. Everyone played a bit and we enjoyed singing more than ever. It added so much to our happiness.

A big thick book from Norway,
With leather, brown and gold,
Graced our front room table.
Its silken pages told
The stories from the Bible.
Dad read to us each day.
How still we sat and listened!
With folded hands he'd pray.

Then we sang those dear old hymns
Our parents learned when young.
And implanted in our memory
These songs in our native tongue.

Pioneers were versatile people because they had to be. I remember Dad's large gnarled hands, how they could make very complicated things and do so very much hard work. But these same hands were very gentle too. He loved reading and every evening he would have a book in his hands. He discovered how to do things by following directions, but mostly he learned by "doing".

I remember Dad pounding away on an anvil, taking the red-hot iron from the forge and moulding it. Sometimes I turned the crank on the forge and I watched in wonder as the red-hot iron took new shapes.

Dad repaired all our shoes and repaired and made harness. At first he used an awl but soon purchased a "shoemaker" machine. I remember the pungent earthy smell of the leather and tar-coated thread. He had the iron shoe stand known as a "last" which he used for putting soles and heels on our shoes.

Dad also made wagons and sleighs. He did tin-smithing too. He was also a carpenter but was best at fine carpenter work and wood carving.

Dad had books on veterinary work and animal care. He became very good at it. This experience came in very handy on several occasions. One day Mother broke her ankle. It was very cold in the winter and there was no way to get a doctor. Dad set the bone.

When Dad needed help with business and legal documents he went to Mr. Pithouse, an Englishman in Hay Lakes. They became very close friends.

Dad and my brothers would hunt game and we really enjoyed the meat dishes Mother prepared. They also hunted animals for furs to supplement the income.

My mother was a wonderful homemaker. As soon as my sisters and I were old enough we all helped. There was an endless amount of chores to do, as almost everything was made, not bought.

I don't think anyone of our family can surpass Mother's cooking! I can still taste the delicious pies. Coconut-cream pie was her specialty, made with real cream of course. Her homemade bread had that wonderful aroma that wafted through the open windows and brought everyone in for a slice. I used to knead the dough for her when I was older and she added the ingredients. The pan was a huge round one and one batch would make "umpteen" loaves. Mother's flatbread was always made of whole wheat flour and was very thin and crisp. The lefsa was also thin and served in various ways.

When it was butter-churning time we were always around to help. It was made from thick sour cream. Just before it became butter, Mother would give us each a little dish of thick cream with a little brown sugar sprinkled over it. The butter was stored in crocks. We all loved the buttermilk. Sometimes Mother made a special type of cheese from the buttermilk.

We always had homemade cheese in the house. Mother would fill up a large oval copper boiler with milk. This was put on the stove in the morning. Rennet was added. This was heated slowly and stirred. The curds were removed. The whey boiled all day and was stirred regularly. Goodness knows what else she did to it but the cheese was ready by evening. This cheese was like the "Jet Ost" sold in specialty stores today. We called it "møs smør" or "prim ost". She made other cheeses from the curds which were also very delicious. Mother made "thick milk" and we had it every day in the summer.

Mother's hands were never idle. She had a large family to sew for. She used to get a huge bundle of remnants from Eaton's catalogue. Artfully she mixed and matched them making lovely outfits for us. There was an endless amount of darning and mending to do in the evenings. When she had an extra minute she was darning, knitting or crocheting. Mother did not find much time to read.

Mother washed raw yellow wool
And dried it in the sun.
It came out fluffy, soft and white.
Next carding had to be done.
Then she sat at the spinning wheel
And skillfully she spun,
Creating endless rolls of yarn.
Then when the work was done,
It was lamp-lighting time all over the land!
Soon supper was over and done.
Then she'd knit mitts, socks and sweaters
For each and every one.

Doing the laundry was a full day's work. Heating the water on the stove, sometimes melting snow, was a slow and tedious operation. The clothes were rubbed on the washboard and we all helped as soon as we were big enough. Next the white clothes were boiled in clean soapy water. In the wintertime drying was a problem.

Preserving perishable foods was a real problem. An old well with wooden cribbing was used to hang things in, such as cream and milk cans. Long stout ropes were used. Mother canned meat too, especially chicken. Meatballs were baked and stored in crocks. Melted fats was poured over them. Then the crock was put in a cool place. In later years the icehouse

was introduced. Thick walls with sawdust insulation were erected. In the late winter we got ice from St. Joseph Lake. It was cut in blocks and stored in the ice house. The ice lasted through the summer.

Dad built a smokehouse. Bacon was a popular food item in the summer as it kept very well. Dad dried cuts of beef too and they were wrapped in layers of cheese cloth and kept very well submerged in the oat bin.

Birthdays were special occasions, of course. I can see the whole family around the table — a huge platter of steaming waffles and hot homemade syrup and cream. Then there was the large pitcher of hot chocolate. Besides a big birthday cake there was a small heart-shaped cake for the “birthday person”. Sometimes there would be a nickle or dime in the cake and maybe a button or two!

Christmas time was a very special occasion in our house. Most of the decorations were homemade. We had coloured wax candles in little metal clipholders. There was a bit of tinsel too. But the tree was very beautiful to us. The candles were lit every night until after New Year’s.

There were many homemade goodies. On Christmas Eve the animals in the barn all got special treats too. The Christmas Story was read and songs were sung. We would make up little programs to have in the evenings. Special treats were apples, Jap oranges, mixed nuts and candies. Presents were limited in number and had more sentimental than monetary value.

We were all born at home. Sometimes there was a midwife but usually there was just our Aunt and our Dad there to deliver the babies. There must have been a great deal of courage in people’s hearts in those days to do things like this without any instruction.

As children, we were always happy when travellers arrived. Sometimes there were evangelists. Usually they would stay overnight. Often they would have a guitar and this made the music special to us. Often pedlars came, selling their wares. I remember a band of gypsies that asked for permission to camp until the rain was over. They were there for more than a week!

One old gentleman by the name of Mr. Holmsten used to come to our place because of sheer loneliness. He would arrive with his horse and buggy and enjoy a good meal. My folks were always kind to him. One time we four younger children were home alone when we saw Mr. Holmsten coming down the driveway. We decided to pretend no one was home so we went upstairs and hid under the beds. He came to the door, knocked and walked in, talking to himself and asking, “Anyone home?” He had a piece of cake and kept mumbling and talking to himself. After

looking around we heard him coming up the stairs. He found us and commented, “So you **are** home!”

“Cranky” Johnson was a pedlar who arrived at the farm regularly. I don’t know why he was called “Cranky”, as we always enjoyed his visits. He had a large assortment of ribbons, yard goods, ric rac, pins, face cream, you name it! I remember on one of his visits Clara spotted a pair of red silk stockings among his treasures. She bought them but I do not remember ever seeing her wear them!

The Rawleigh and Watkins Companies sent salesmen out regularly. They had good products and Mother always bought something from them. One of them, I believe his name was Mr. Hess, always gave us gum. So, needless to say, we looked forward to seeing him!

Dad had two bachelor friends by the name of Sutherland, that lived close to Edmonton. They came over occasionally on Sundays and sometimes bought horses. On one occasion, one of them asked me if he could take me home. After that, Mernille lived in constant fear that one day they would take me away!

I remember Dad’s cousin, Reverend Broen from Grand Forks, visiting us. He sang and played the guitar with us little ones and we will always have fond memories of him.

One day a couple of evangelists arrived at our house from Camrose. They stayed overnight. About two weeks before this we had all made a trip to Edmonton in our touring Model-T Ford, which was the first time for me. Mother bought a toothbrush for each of us. We all chose our own. Gladys picked a very large yellow brush. Now let’s go back to our overnight guests. When they got up next morning they washed at the washstand in the kitchen. One of them eyed our brushes hanging on the wall. He took the largest one and used it on his dental plate. We still tease Gladys about this.

When remembering the humour and pathos of pioneer days, horses come into my mind. They played a very important part in the lives of the pioneers. They were used for all the field work and transportation before tractors and cars invaded the country! We fondly remember all our horses, even their names. One very special horse was “Ben”. He was very big and tall and as gentle as a lamb. As little children we would climb up his back legs, holding on to his tail. We would all sit on him and he would walk around the yard, giving us a safe, gentle ride. We just could not make him run! I remember leading him as he would pull up the hay carrier on the stacker.

Then there was the little mare that Mother used with the buggy or cutter. She was Black Beauty. She was very smart, good to small children and certain adults, but could be very nasty to strangers. Once

Rev. Carlson was talking to Mother as she got into the cutter to go home from the Ladies' Aid meeting. He went up to Beauty to pet her nose. She grabbed him by the front of his coat and shook him. Mother felt very badly, but Rev. Carlson was not hurt! When the first grandchildren came along, they spent a great deal of time at the farm. Beauty took a special liking to Lewis. She would get down on her knees so he could get on and off. Beauty was great to ride when fetching the cattle. We could always open and close the gates without getting down because she co-operated so well.

Grant was a wall-eyed brown and white pinto, a very strange horse. He would chase us and we would climb up onto the straw stack. We thought this was very exciting!

Travelling with a team of horses was really a pleasure. We would drive many miles to Christmas concerts, church, etcetera, with a team and the bobsleigh. Sometimes we would tie a rope to the sled and hold onto the rope behind on skis.

Often our neighbour, Ed Pawloski, would come to the school with the team and sleigh to pick up his sisters and brothers. Of course we always got a ride. He had lively horses. On one occasion they turned the corner very quickly and the sleigh upset. We were all dumped out into the snowdrift. This was great fun for us!

Now comes the sad part of my horse stories. Dad had rented some land for pasture north of Miquelon Lake. The cattle and some horses were kept there all summer. There was water in the sloughs for them to drink. There was a muskeg that was fenced in. One summer we pastured two mares, Daisy and May, with their foals on this land. One Sunday morning, my brothers went out to make the regular rounds and check on the animals. They found the two mares standing in the swamp, in mire up past their bellies, and they were dead. The wire was cut. The mares had somehow warned the colts to keep out and they did, but they were running around crying for their mothers, very hungry and unhappy. The foals were taken home and raised on bottles. It still hurts to think of those mares suffering for days before they died. So, there was vandalism in the "good old days" too.

I think neighbours contributed a very special part in the lives of pioneers. They were always available in an emergency. Our neighbours to the south, John Pawloskis, were very interesting to us. They had a fantastic flower garden surrounded by blooming shrubs and trees. As for the vegetable garden, it contained every vegetable one could dream of. It was a special treat for us to visit these kind neighbourly people. We enjoyed playing with their children too.

Lunds were our closest neighbours living west of

us across the road. We were always thrilled when we were sent over to borrow a cup of sugar of whatever. Mrs. Lund always had cookies for us. We enjoyed picking berries in their yard as they had much more than they could use. Sometimes in later years we would bring the mail and Mr. Lund always had a chocolate bar for us. They were very gentle and caring people.

As little children, Mernille and I would walk east across the land to Feragens quite regularly to play with their children. Aunt Sophia was like a Grandma to us, as we never knew our own grandparents.

Coal oil lamps played an important part in the lives of the pioneers. They cast a golden glow about the room and probably were not the best for reading, but there was a cozy warmth, and the fascinating shadows cast by them could make a child's imagination run wild. The chimney was cleaned and the wick was trimmed regularly to get maximum light. The glass in these lamps sometimes had bubbles in it, along with other irregular marks that makes them stand out from the new replicas. A certain glass took on a mauve shade through the years and some actually turned purple. I was always fascinated by these lamps and have collected them for many years.

The magic of childhood on a farm, in the pioneer days, is something I will never forget. It's like a television screen flashing through the memory corner of my mind. Here are a few examples:

- Seeing my Mother sitting in her rocking chair, softly singing, usually to a child.
- Feeling the firm but gentle handclasp of Mother and Dad.
- Getting up very early and riding the horse for the cows; breathing the fresh air usually perfumed by wild flowers and other vegetation.
- Watching the sunrise as it made the dew sparkle like diamonds.
- Listening to the birds singing.
- Seeing little furry animals scurrying about.
- On one occasion watching two lynx sitting up in a tree!
- On another occasion, watching a red fox as it darted across my path.
- Getting up one morning and looking out after a very terrible rain storm; the sun smiling broadly on the destruction of the chicken house — dead chickens all over the yard, but with the optimism of children, we ran out and enjoyed wading in the puddles.
- Seeing tent caterpillars crawling all over — everywhere, a very depressing sight — all the leaves stripped off the trees — the walls a dark mass of crawling things!
- Having a toothache for days and going to the

Moravian Parsonage West of our place, and Mr. Shiel pulling my tooth and Haldis' tooth too. It really hurt as there was no freezing.

- Lying very still, in the soft grass, in the meadow, watching the scattered clouds float, changing shapes, drifting across the sky, giving me the feeling that I was actually floating.
- Picking wild flowers — what a gorgeous selection: daisies, golden rod, bluebells, violets, flowering herbs. What exquisite bouquets! There is no bouquet like one of wild flowers!
- Skiing across the field on nights when the moonlight was almost as bright as day.
- Going to school, usually across the land. We had a little path through the bushes. We would pretend that the winding trail was enchanted!

I do believe some of the magic has rubbed off on the grandchildren too. The old farm has always been a haven to all of us and the grandchildren spent their holidays out there every year. They still love going back.

Thanks to my dear parents, my whole family and all the pioneers and their children for giving us a life filled with the richness of a happy childhood and an unsurpassed heritage.

My story is dedicated to our children, grandchildren and all of the little ones of today. I hope it will help them to realize what life was like for their forefathers in those pioneer days.

The sun has set on the pioneers,
Most have gone, and others grown old;
But we have a glorious heritage
Of memories untold.

How quickly life flew by for them
After coming to this land.
In the endless sea of infinity,
One life is a grain of sand.

My Dad had a Norwegian saying:
"Hvad er livet?
Bare en pust i sivet!"
Translated:
What is one lifetime compared to infinity?
Just a breath of wind in the weeds.

Roads — Wilhelmina Area or East Hay Lakes

The homesteaders and settlers who took up land in this district shortly after the turn of the century experienced great difficulty with transportation due to the lack of roads. Heavy rain began to fall in the late summer of 1899 which continued for a period of eight or ten years resulting in lakes and sloughs being filled to overflow levels and creeks and rivers often reaching flood stage.

The first well-travelled trail was the Battleford Trail, used extensively by freighters to haul supplies by Red River cart from Fort Garry in Manitoba to Fort Edmonton. As the settlers moved in they developed a network of small trails between neighbors. These trails for the most part followed higher ground and open country as much as possible, thus avoiding sloughs and heavy brush.

As time went on the farmers began breaking the land and fencing their homesteads, resulting in the closure of many of the early original trails. This necessitated opening up many of the surveyed road allowances which was no easy task with horses, scrapers and hand labor. Brushing had to be done by hand.

Roads over the smaller sloughs were built by laying trees, brush and logs close together and covering them with three or four feet of clay and soil. This was impossible over the larger sloughs so roads were built around them. Where a bit of grading had to be done, a walking plow was used to turn the sod over which made it much easier to pick it up with a slip scraper or a fresno.

In the early years it became common practice for each farmer to spend a few days each year doing roadwork and the money so earned would be credited on the taxes owed. Some farmers worked off most of their tax bill in this manner.

These roads served the horse and buggy days quite well, but with the coming of the automobile the construction of better roads became necessary. The first highly graded roads in the district were built using caterpillar crawler tractors and elevating graders. At first, roads were smoothed down when they became rough by pulling a road drag behind three or four horses. This job was much simplified later with the invention of the motorized road grader.

Before the gravelling and paving of roads became general the motorist hardly ever left home unless he was reasonably sure that he would be able to get back again before it rained. Mudholes were very common especially during the spring break-up or rainy weather. At times the sticky clay and gumbo would cling and wrap around the wheels and under the fenders so it would be absolutely impossible to move the vehicle. The same has been known to happen to buggy and wagonwheels.

Forty or fifty years ago, when winter set in, the car was jacked up and set on blocks until spring came, for there was no way of clearing the snow off the roads. Today, with bull-dozers and snow ploughs, roads are kept open all winter. Today's motorists with modern automobiles and car heaters enjoy comfort that the first homesteaders could not even dream of.

Some Bachelor "Characters"

by Ivar Lofgren

I remember "Ante" Carlson had to come to the Hay Lakes district sometime between 1912-1915. Ante homesteaded north of Miquelon Lake, after coming from the Vilhelmina area in Sweden. Later Ante sold his homestead and became a carpenter, doing carpentry work for the people in the area. One day in the early 1920's when I was in Hay Lakes, Ante had told me that he had just bought a new car from Oscar Grahn, who was going to give him a one-hour driving lesson. When I got home that day my Mother was having a quilting bee, and I told everyone that Ante was going to come by and show off his new car. When Ante drove up the drive-way, all the ladies went out to wave and cheer. Ante got so excited that he pressed the gas pedal instead of the brake. The car shot forward so fast that he ran into the pole for the hay rack, and broke the radiator. The ladies went back into the house feeling a bit ashamed that they were partly responsible for the accident. Ante got out of the car and used every swear word in Swedish that he could think of, and then used every swear word he could think of in English. I remember that Ante had to pay \$12 to get the radiator fixed. Ante was well liked by all the people in the area, and on his Fiftieth birthday we had a big party for him at our place. In his later years, his sons and daughters had sent him money, and so he went back to Sweden to live the rest of his days.

I also remember Mr. Holmstein who lived in a small house where the Lions Camp at Miquelon Lake is now located. Holmstein had left Sweden for Holland or France where he had signed on as a helper on a sailing schooner that was sailing for New York. Halfway across the ocean there was a terrible storm. The captain told Holmstein to take down the mast. Holmstein refused. The captain pulled out his revolver and said, "Either you do it or I'll shoot." I suppose Holmstein must have taken down the mast. At New York, Holmstein left the schooner even though he had first signed on for a return trip. Holmstein travelled around the country, and during the 1885 Riel Rebellion, he was working west of Calgary. Later he went to Minnesota, where he began selling Adventist Bibles. Eventually (around 1918) he worked his way up to Canada and into the Hay Lakes area. He liked the people and the district, so he got permission to build his small house on land owned by Jonas Anderson. I believe that Holmstein was the only Seventh-Day Adventist in the area. He was a tinsmith by trade, and whenever he went to do some work for someone he would leave late on Friday. Since Adventists didn't work on Saturdays and since most of the other people didn't work on Sun-

days, Holmstein didn't have to begin working until Monday. This way he got a couple of days' board and room. He would get his mail in Kingman, and would buy his groceries in Hay Lakes. When he went for the mail or went to buy groceries he would make a two-day trip and stay at someone's place one night coming into town and one night before leaving town. Although Holmstein never had any schooling in English, he often helped people in the area to write the government so that they could get their pensions. After his horse, Fanny died, Holmstein had saved money to buy a new horse. One day he had crawled through the gate fence on his place, and had a heart attack and died. Some people found him lying on the ground.

One of the first persons I remember was Dick Peterson. His christian name was Edward. Dick was well liked by young and old alike. He had a great sense of humor. Every fall during the World Series he would tell about when he used to pitch for the New York Yankees, and that he pitched so well that everybody clapped and cheered, and that he often had to repeat the pitch three times. He said he had such a good style with his leg up and arm back, but, you know, he couldn't throw a ball ten feet. He often would be sitting down and would suddenly begin to slap his legs and laugh. People would ask him what had happened and he would say, "I just told myself a good joke." He lived in Camrose in later years. One time he had gone to the Ford garage to look at the small Ford tractors. The salesman, when seeing him come, thought that a good deal was going to be made. The salesman would ask Dick where he farmed and if he would like to buy a tractor to work in his fields. Dick would reply that he farmed with horses. But, you have to remember that Dick never farmed.

Edward Peterson was born in Hellefors, Sweden on February 23, 1886. He came to Winnipeg in 1904 and to Alberta in 1914. He settled in Hay Lakes where he had a draying business for several years. Later he went into carpentry trade until he moved to Camrose. After living there for a few years he moved to Camrose. After living there for a few years he moved to Edmonton where he passed away in 1966 at the age of 80.

The East Hay Lakes Saw Mill

submitted by Henry Pearson

The first saw mill in the East Hay Lakes district was operated by Anton Pearson, it was powered by a Case steam tractor 15 x 45 horse power. The year was about 1916 and the mill was set up at the Ed Norlander farm, north-west of third Miquelon Lake.

The farmers in the district would cut logs on

whatever open land that was in the vicinity and have them sawed into lumber at this mill. The men would board or bring their lunches and eat at the Norlander house. This was strictly a winter operation as the logs hauled by farm sleigh and the steam engine would have to be transported on the frost, and ice on Miquelon Lake. One spring when moving the equipment back to the Anton Pearson farmstead it broke through the ice on a slough. They waited till the ice melted as the depth of the water was only five feet. Long ropes were wrapped around the fly wheel and pulled by a team of horses, in this way it gradually crawled its way out of the slough.

Many of the houses built before the 1920 years got their lumber from this custom saw mill.

Ruth Alyson Roper

Alyson was born June 23rd 1959, the youngest child of George and Bertha Roper. All her primary and secondary education was received in Hay Lakes School where she combined academic and physical training or sports activities on a high standard. She excelled in track events and team sports, such as basketball and volleyball, and went on to zone, regional and provincial championship levels in several categories.

Enrolling at the University of Alberta in 1977 she was faced with choosing one team sport as only one is possible at the varsity level. She chose volleyball and put all her effort into her academic and volleyball life. Many social ties had to be forsaken. She made the University of Alberta team her first year, and was chosen to the Canadian National Jr. team. Setting her goal on the Olympics, she enrolled at the University of Ottawa, where the coach of the Canadian National team lived and coached, and where the competition

was tough in all aspects. She was chosen to the National Sr. team that year and has maintained a position there, competing in tournaments around the world and training in such places as Eastern and Western Europe, Mexico and Hawaii. These experiences occurred only after countless hours of rigorous training required to maintain national standards.

Alyson hopes to realize her dream of Olympic competition — God willing — plus graduation from university in her chosen profession.

She wishes to use the knowledge and skills she has learned to help young athletes attain their goals in life.

Her family are, and the community can be, proud of the standards she has maintained throughout her career. Bonne chance, Alyson!

Memories of Hay Lakes as a Child by Rosabella (Henschell) Slater

Those days in Hay Lakes were happy childhood days. We town children created our own entertainment, some mischievous but nothing destructive. Some of the children I recall, and to those I do not at this time, I apologize: Louise Larsen, now Mrs. Love of Calgary, Alberta; Dorothy and Eileen Gosnell; the Fisher children, Edmund lives in Hay Lakes; Dora Huard, Mrs. Petrie of Richmond, B.C.; Grace of Pfrimmer, deceased; also Grace Olafson; Hazel and Melford Larplas, Mrs. Gorlack of Rochester, Alberta and Melford lives in Westlock, Alta.; Wilfred Zelt, last known residence, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Johnny Holmberg, deceased; Margaret Hein, Portland, Oregon; Esther Hein, Mrs. Kellogg, Kamloops, B.C.; the Slater children: Ruth, Mrs. Chisholm of Nanaimo, B.C., Dorothy, Mrs. Hoving, Cumberland, B.C., Duncan of Vancouver, B.C., whom I married; Martha Kiel, Mrs. Nordin, Hay Lakes who joined the group in 1927; and many children from the neighboring farms were wonderful friends.

One April Fool's Day backfired. A group of town kids went to the school house the night before. We worked hard stacking some of the desks up towards the ceiling. The blackboard had the April Fool greeting. Our teacher, Mr. Samis, who kept cool, said, "Well, April Fool to you and whoever is responsible for this, get busy and put everything in order."

A big Halloween dance was held in the Hotel. Many adults came dressed in costume. One in particular scared the living daylights out of some children, including me. We would slide from one end of the bench to the other when the Devil came near with his fork; unmasking revealed he was Adam Hein. Concerts, dances and other entertainment were held in the Hotel.



Canadian National Senior Volleyball Team. Alyson Roper No. 11 — 1980.

We used to visit the Kreamers in their home where we would enjoy Mr. Kreamer playing the violin and could he play! My sister and I would go to Kreamers across the meadow to get cream in a Roger's Syrup pail for twenty-five cents. Now where would you get that in 1980?

This incident was forgotten until Wilfred Zelt reminded me of it a few years ago. My dad would repair the horns for phonographs (those antiques of today). He would blow into them to test them. One warm night mother was outside when dad blew the horn. She heard a neighbor remark, "What was that?" So the horn blowing was carried on in different areas of the village for about a year. Mr. Pfrimmer and Mr. Zelt were let in on the joke. The man who that had the Livery Barn got some horses and a few men with clubs to get that noisemaker. However, my dad would still blow the horn elsewhere in the village after mother and he escaped, undetected — enjoying their little joke as the town people couldn't figure out what was making that noise.

When the Railroad Station burned down one Sunday night, it was an awful sight to see. The coal burned for days.

One winter Johnny Holmberg and Duncan Slater built a slide for the bob-sled that my dad had built for the Slaters. A group of us younger children got together to enjoy that slide. We daredevils would pile up three high on the sled, much to the disgust of Johnny and Duncan.

One summer we had a dress-up parade and a show in our yard. Admission was a pin, nail, or what have you. We really had wonderful parents who came to see it. The instigators were the Slater children.

Hope this will recall to some Hay Lakers and ex-Hay Lakers the good times between the years of 1923-1927.

Recollections

L. Sagert

The quarter section that became our home in 1919 was NW 7-49-21-W4 located one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes, presently neighbouring Leo Kiel's. The farm contained a one-room, two-storey house with sleeping quarters in the attic. A log barn with a loft for hay, room for two horses and two cows was the only other building on the place. Farming equipment consisted of a hand plough, a set of harrows, a buggy and a wagon. More equipment was acquired as time went by. Neighbors were kind and lent us machinery the first two years. A well was dug



Local girl Ilene Miller being congratulated by Van Varner of New York, senior staff editor of Guideposts magazine. Ilene's manuscript was fourth, among the top ten chosen from 2300 submissions. She was the only finalist from Canada and received a \$2500.00 scholarship — 1979.

by hand and a pasture area was fenced for the livestock.

About half of our quarter section was under water every spring until the late summer. It was possible to make hay around the edges but the hay was coarse and about fifty percent foxtail. In dry years all the hay could be harvested. The rest of the farm consisted of heavy stands of willows and poplar trees with a few patches of buck brush. The lighter areas were cleared and put under cultivation first and so a few acres of arable land were scattered here and there. A log cow barn with a straw roof, a chicken coop and a granary were added the first year.

The heavier wooded areas were cleared with the aid of a team and a hired hand. Brush was piled, the logs being saved for future construction and firewood. The brush piles were burned, the land was broken up and roots had to be picked and piled and burned. Clearing land proved to be back-breaking labor and only a few acres were added at a time. For several years hard labor was rewarded by good yields of high quality weed-free grain. We were fortunate that this area was hail-free most of the time. Drought was a problem in the early thirties. Early frost in the fall was a major problem. Prices of farm production in the thirties proved disastrous to most farmers, but we always managed to have plenty to eat. Clothing the family was more difficult.

Much of the area around Hay Lakes (as the name implies), consisted of Little Hay Lake (east) and a series of small lakes to the northeast, north and northwest. Haying was an erratic business. During

wet years the greater portion of these lakes was flooded and areas seeded to tame grass were drowned out. The Hay Lakes Drainage District was formed. A deep main ditch drained Little Hay Lake into the Battle River near Camrose. Smaller, shallower ditches linked the western, north and northeast lakes to the main ditch in Little Hay Lake. The main ditch was dug by dragline and the smaller ditches were dug by horses and scraper. This drainage system worked well for a few years, but it proved a rather expensive undertaking. Grass grew in the ditches, some of which silted up and required expensive maintenance from time to time. If a farmer had about eighty acres in the drainage system, the drainage tax levied would equal his school and municipal tax. Hay prices varied from \$5.00 to \$12.00 per ton depending on whether hay was scarce or plentiful. The Dirty Thirties made things rough as expenses were fixed but hay was cheaper if it could be sold at all.

The haying season usually began in early July with mowing, raking and sometimes curing in small piles that had been topped by hand to facilitate rain runoff. A sweep and stacker could be worked directly from the windrows. Some people just had a sweep and hauled the hay to a central area and pitched up on the stack by hand. Some smaller hay-farmers simply used a hay rack and wagon to haul it home and stack it near feeding areas for the winter. With the coming of more power machinery, the hay was usually baled from the windrows and the bales stacked.

In the earlier years the hay was allowed to cure in the stacks until fall when it was baled and hauled to market. Baling was a community undertaking. The baler moved from place to place until the hay was all baled. A skeleton baling crew usually consisted of two men on the stack, one feeding the baler, one man tying the bales, one pushing the wires from the opposite side and one man piling bales.

Additional men required more cooks in the kitchen. Evenings were usually spent playing cards (high, low, jack and game), telling stories and making jokes. Some of the boys found time to compose a baling song which was sung with great gusto at baling parties at the end of the season. One tune sung to the tune of Barney Google went something like this in German:

Oh! Mr. Kiel, Wir balin heut nicht viel
Der Baler ist ya heut verbosst
Es war gewiss beim Mr. Rost
Oh! Mr. Kiel, Wir balin heut nicht viel
Oh! Mr. Kiel, Wir balin heut nicht viel
Der koch ist heute romm gerennt
Und hat das Essen angebrennt
Oh! Mr. Kiel, Wir balin heut nicht viel.

Translated: Mr. Kiel, we're not baling much to-day, because the baler broke down at Mr. Rost's place. (Mr. Emil Kiel owned the baler and the breakdown occurred at August Rost's.) Second verse: Mr. Kiel, we're not baling much today because the cook was running around and burned the food. You can see that baling hay was not only work but was also a social event.

Later the bales were loaded onto a hayrack and bobsled and hauled to Hay Lakes where it was weighed in the elevator and then loaded into grain cars. It was a quite common sight to see four teams of loaded bales on their way to town. Passing or meeting such a set of teams on the road caused many an upset. The loaded teams had right-of-way. One always stopped and helped if anybody got into difficulties.

The early balers were horse-powered machines. A team of horses went round and round. The horses completed one round while the baler plunger made two strokes. The man feeding the baler forced the hay into the plunger chamber by placing his foot on the hay and forcing down with all his weight when the plunger made the back stroke. Care had to be taken to withdraw the leg before the plunger made its forward stroke. In spite of this very dangerous situation I never heard of anyone having his leg amputated in this way, but there were many close calls.

The local bar played an important part during the hay hauling season in winter. This was where all the teamsters met to quench their thirst after loading their dusty bales into grain cars. Here east, west, south and north met and exchanged their views on many things. The teams were tied to the various hitching posts that were scattered around the village and covered with blankets in the cold weather or were lodged in the local livery stable if they had travelled a considerable distance. The bar closed at ten o'clock. Then the weary workers got on their teams and headed for home. Very often the teams were tied to the hayrack in front and the drivers collected on one rack. Tunes in harmony filled the quiet winter night accompanied by the squeak, squeak of the horses' hoof beats on the frozen snow. The exuberance of the singing was in direct proportion to the amount of alcohol that had been consumed.

Harvest time was perhaps the most anxious period in the life of the farmer. Now that the hail season had passed, would the early frosts stay away until the grain could be cut? Would an early snow flatten the grain and make cutting more difficult? Would the yield be good and would the price be right? When the wheat fields started to turn a golden brown it was time to oil up the binder and mend the canvasses.

The six-foot binder was usually pulled by three

horses. Grain was stooked in a row with stooks facing north-west to prevent the wind from blowing them over and for maximum drying effect. A good stooker could keep up to a six-foot binder if the yield was average.

After the grain was dry the sheaves were hauled to a central area where they were stacked in circular stacks. There were few threshing machines so threshing continued into late November.

The first threshing machine I can remember was a hand-fed type. The bundles were tossed onto a platform. The twine was cut by hand and a canvas elevated the bundles into the cylinder. The source of power was a stationary engine. In later years the farmers in our area formed a company and bought a Case steam engine and a 32-inch Case separator. Painted on the separator in several conspicuous places was the official name "12 x 24 B.S. Co." (Twelve by Twenty Four, Bee Ess Company). One of the local yokels had come up with this name as a fitting description. This area would no longer have to wait until everybody else had finished threshing!

To operate a threshing crew there was a need to find up to twelve bundle teams and two field pitchers, two or three grain teams depending on the length of the haul, a steam engine, a fireman, a team to haul water, wood or coal, and a separator man. The cord wood was usually prepared the previous winter. The average farmer required about two to three cords for each season. Some of the steam outfits used coal which was hauled from Dinant by team. The hay loft usually provided sleeping quarters for the men at night.

The kitchen had to be well organized too. Some of the cooks followed the crew from one place to the next. The crews worked hard, the food was good and the camaraderie was great. The evenings were spent by playing cards, telling stories and planning for the next day.

The engineer was a signal man. Six o'clock, breakfast, one long blast; a long blast at noon told the cooks that hungry men were on their way to the kitchen; a long blast at one o'clock warned all the men that work had begun; and another long blast at eight signalled supper time. A late bundle team was signalled by a short blast, "Stop loading and come to the machine, we're waiting." Two short blasts signalled the grain team to hurry. Three blasts told the water boy to hurry with the water tank. A series of short blasts signalled an emergency. Fire was the emergency most dreaded and always a threat. The steam engine while in operation would eject sparks from the smoke stack in spite of the heavy screen that capped it. Tinder dry conditions added to the hazard. It was not uncommon to see a wisp of smoke coming

from a load of bundles where a flying spark had landed. The machine was always set so that the wind direction was from the engine to the separator. This facilitated the disposal of the straw and dust that was coming from the blower of the separator and so the possibilities of a fire were very real. The shower of sparks that became visible at night, the puffing action of the steam engine, the roar of the separator with its whirling wheels and belts, the rumbling of the blower as it blew the straw into a huge pile are memorable impressions for the experienced. The huge piles of straw dotting the landscape served as the feeding ground and sleeping quarters for the young livestock and horses during the winter. These strawpiles formed an excellent place for sledding. In the spring the straw that remained was usually burned. A blazing strawpile lighting up the night was quite a grand spectacle.

The threshing season was usually followed by a threshing party. Everyone appeared in his Sunday best. Several kegs of beer kept the people in the proper mood. Sometimes a little home brew from unknown sources made its appearance and jolted the more hardy souls into a festive mood. There was square dancing, singing, games and plenty of good food. Parties started early and lasted until the wee hours of the morning. This was a fitting climax to the fall season.

After threshing was completed, we usually hauled a load of wheat to the Camrose mill and exchanged it for enough flour to last the winter. A load of coal was hauled from Dinant by team to provide fuel for the winter.

A large vegetable garden was essential to every home. Every farm had a hot house to start the cabbage, cauliflower and tomatoes. Peas, beans, carrots, beets, turnips, lettuce, cucumbers, corn and tomatoes were grown. The peas and corn were canned or dried. Beets, beans and cauliflower were pickled in vinegar. Carrots, turnips and potatoes were stored in a cellar under the house or in an outside cellar. Cabbages were cut up and made into sauerkraut in a large earthenware crock or wooded barrel and later packed into sealed containers and stored in a cool place. The beet-tops and cabbage leaves were fed to the cows and pigs.

Usually in the late fall a beef and a pig were slaughtered to provide meat. A neighbor took half of each since storage of large quantities of meat posed a problem. The bacon was cured in brine and then smoked in a smoke house to preserve it. The fat was rendered into lard and stored for baking. Waste fats were rendered, then placed in a large cast-iron kettle outside. Lye was added and the mixture brought to a slow boil. The mixture was set to cool and form into a

solid which was cut into suitable squares and used as laundry soap. Some of the beef and pork was ground into hamburger and sausage. Some people had ice stored in layers of sawdust to insulate it from the summer heat. The ice was usually cut at Joseph Lake in wintertime and hauled home and packed with plenty of saw dust. Ice cream from real cream was made in a hand-cranked freezer or in a lard pail twirled back and forth by hand and formed the basis of many farm picnics and outings. "Ah! The taste of homemade ice cream!"

Our nearest neighbor was the Emil Diewert family, residing where Leo Kiel now lives. Nathan Diewert, the oldest son, taught me how to hunt and trap weasel and muskrat and how to make a slingshot. Snowshoe rabbits made a good target in the late fall as they turned white and could be spotted easily. Ruffed grouse, prairie chicken and ducks were plentiful and provided many a meal. Every boy had a trapline in winter. Snowshoe rabbit was worth ten to twenty-five cents, weasel fifty to \$1.00, muskrat twenty-five to \$1.00, badger \$3.00 to \$8.00, and coyote \$3.00 to \$5.00. During the summer months the boys earned their spending money by snaring, trapping and shooting gophers. Shooting them with a 22-rifle wasn't too effective since the gopher ended up dead in the hole — no tail. The Municipalities paid one to two cents per tail in order to keep the gopher population under control. To properly de-tail a gopher one placed the left foot on the dead gopher and grasped the tail in the middle with the right hand. A quick jerk would remove the tail from the tailbone. The tails were then stored in tobacco cans until sold. Many times the collection was counted in order to keep track of one's financial situation.

Neighbors were always willing to help in time of an emergency. Very often unexpected company arrived which made it necessary to borrow a loaf of bread, a cup of sugar, a pound of butter, or a slab of bacon. Machinery, tools and labor were often exchanged. Sometimes the emergencies were more serious. I remember when I was about eight years old, my father was away from home doing carpenter work near Edmonton. My mother and a hired hand were hitching the team to the wagon (one horse was a real bronco) in order to deliver the cream to the station. My mother was holding the bronco by the bridle while the hired hand was hooking up the traces. The bronco became frightened and bolted. The team ran over my mother and the wagon wheel passed over her head inflicting a severe scalp wound. My sister Antonia and I who were in the wagon box, managed to jump off and were unhurt, but mother was seriously hurt. Mrs. Diewert, who was out in her garden, witnessed the accident and came running over and

administered all the first aid she knew. The nearest medical help was at Camrose or Edmonton. A car was obtained and my mother was rushed to Edmonton, where she remained in the hospital for several weeks. We were very thankful for kind neighbors who helped us with chores and house work.

Medical attention was non-existent in Hay Lakes during the early twenties. In the early thirties medical teams consisting of a doctor and a nurse visited the school to vaccinate against smallpox. Later a doctor opened an office in the Hay Lakes Hotel, Dr. Fuller (not sure) and later Dr. Masacot. Dental help was also non-existent. I remember the first time I developed a toothache — I was about in Grade three. A molar had a hole in it and was aching badly. Mr. Scheel, the Moravian minister, had taken a crash dental course when he served as a missionary in Alaska. My mother took me to the parsonage at the Moravian church where Rev. Scheel sat me on a chair and looked me over. "This one tooth, a temporary one will have to come out, but it is easy; just like picking strawberries," he assured me, "and that molar has to come out." Rev. Scheel took his little black bag and put it on a chair beside me. I wasn't exactly enthused by what I saw: a large shiny, wicked looking pliers! I must have panicked and made a beeline for the door, down the front steps and around the church with Rev. Scheel in hot pursuit. He caught me the second time round the church and dragged me screaming and kicking back to the house. Rev. Scheel became downright nasty at this point and threatened to sit on me and pull the tooth if I didn't cooperate. I finally decided that the "jig was up" and let him pull the little tooth first which wasn't too bad. The molar was a little tougher but Rev. Scheel managed it — all without anaesthetic. I was glad to get back home and go to bed nursing the gap in my teeth. My pride was hurt too. I should have been able to outrun Rev. Scheel. I hadn't practiced enough! Since then, I have never felt too comfortable in a dentist chair.

The John Pawloske family lived one mile north of us. There were three boys, Edward (Eddie), Otto and Hugo and three girls, Violet, Ida and Elsie. Mr. Pawloske was an ardent gardener and experimented with different fruit trees, flowers and vegetables. Mrs. Pawloske made the best poppy seed bread that I had ever tasted. Edward was about the same age as I and so we became very close friends. I remember very vividly one winter evening; Edward and I were returning from a long pool session at Hay Lakes. It was near midnight and a strong north-west wind had turned into a howling blizzard. We decided to return home via the railway tracks. We were plodding along in the darkness facing the blizzard when we suddenly felt a rumbling behind us. My gosh! A train! I

jumped right, Ed jumped left, and the train went between us. Neither knew whether the other had made it. Only the rumble of the wheels, then pitch darkness. "Hey Ed! Are you alright?" A faint voice came out of the darkness, "Geë Whizz, Lorne, that was close!" We weren't expecting a train at this time of the night and hadn't even noticed the headlight of the train in the heavy snowfall. We had escaped by the skin of our teeth!

One year Ed and I went threshing out west at McLeans and Heinzs. Ed was intent on impressing one of the cooks so he brought along his best clothes and would change into these after work. One night while he was entertaining the ladies, one of the boys hid Ed's work clothes. The next day Ed was much admired by the whole crew as he pitched bundles dressed in his Sunday best. He found his work clothes among his blankets on the weekend. However, Ed had the last laugh. His strategy had worked and he married the girl he had tried so hard to impress.

The Fred Henkleman family lived north of our farm, now Wilmar Harke's place. The boys were Gus, Albert and Arthur and the girls were Antonia and Adina. Arthur and Adina were about my age and although their land was located in the New Sarepta Rural district they attended the Hay Lakes school. Fred Henkleman had a large flock of sheep. We spent many hours watching the ewes and the little lambs play. Sheep shearing time was also quite fascinating. We also saw the wool carded into neat little squares for making quilts. We were fascinated by the spinning wheel that stood in one corner of the living room and watched with awe as the wool was spun into yarn. This yarn supplied the material for our mittens, toques, scarves and sweaters. The family later moved to McBride, B.C. and so we lost very close friends.

We always looked forward to the special holidays, Christmas, Easter and the First of July. My sister and I sang in the choir and attended the Christmas programs in the Moravian church at New Sarepta. Sunday school pupils recited, sang songs and acted out the Christmas story. Special selections by the choir were augmented by numbers on stringed instruments. In the corner at the front of the church stood a Christmas tree twenty feet high all decorated with tinsel and shiny baubles and real wax candles. Under the tree were piled the bags of candy and nuts to be distributed at the end of the program. The climax was the lighting of candles accompanied by the singing of "Oh! Christmas Tree." An adult member of the congregation sat in the front row and kept an eye on the burning candles. Candles in dangerous areas were extinguished or moved to safer places.

Every school had a Christmas concert. Care was

taken to schedule these so that one could attend some of the neighboring concerts. Starting in the middle of November, two periods at the end of the school day were usually set aside for the practice of plays, reading and songs. Humour seemed to be the main aim of the program. Names had been exchanged so there was a surprise gift for everyone. Rural schools erected a small stage at one end of the school. Parents had supplied sheets for curtains. The crowds were large and enthusiastic. Next day the school concert was discussed, criticized and analyzed at great length. The worn out, frazzled teacher usually nursed her shattered nerves back to normal with some understanding friends, glad that it was all over, but nevertheless worth all the effort. As schools increased in size, Christmas concerts became rare and were usually very local in nature, if held at all.

Easter programs at church were usually held in the afternoon. An Easter egg was handed to each Sunday school pupil. The Easter program in the schools was not nearly as elaborate as the Christmas program. Parents were seldom invited. It was around Easter time that often a late freeze would turn all the water in the lakes and ponds from the spring runoff into one grand skating rink. We could skate east and west for many miles.



The Viscount Alexander Governor General of Canada investing Carl Hanson with the Distinguished Flying Cross. July, 1946.

My Memories of Hay Lakes Between 1921 and 1927

by Hazel (Larplas) Gerlach

When I think about Hay Lakes so many memories crowd through my mind.

I can still see the shabby interior of the one-roomed school with an honor roll done up in colored chalk on the side blackboard. Sometimes my name was on it, sometimes not.

I remember my devastating disappointment when Mr. Gimroy sent me home on my first day at Hay Lakes school because I was under seven years of age. Due to the heavy enrollment (50 to 60 pupils for one teacher) this was the rule. However, I was not a beginner. I had already been to school for three months the previous fall and had finished my first reader. My father went to the school board (McLeod, Pithouse, and Kreamer, if I remember correctly) and they agreed that if I returned to school on trial and could keep up to the rest of the Grade ones, I could stay. I not only kept up but by fall I was in Grade three and my new teacher was George Davies. I remember him very well. He told us not to eat until we were full — just till our hunger was satisfied.

My memory of Mr. McKinnon is very vague but Earl Samis stands out very clearly. I can see him with his one arm, playing basketball and redirecting some of the passes with his head like they do in soccer. Mr. Tivey was a very good teacher but he threatened to resign at Christmas if he didn't get more pay. Unfortunately he left and Mr. McKitrick was brought out of retirement to waste the balance of the year for us. I was in Grade eight with Departmental exams to write. We were given a copy of the course of studies and having had no previous experience in gathering our own material, all of us except Steve Kohut were completely lost. He was a little more mature, studied hard on his own, and managed to pass the finals. The rest of us failed miserably. Mr. Kilpatrick came in 1927 but school no sooner got started than it was closed again on account of a polio epidemic. By the time it reopened we had moved away.

I remember the lake just behind the Pithouse farmyard. We used to gather there to skate and slide on the ice. One summer a dredging machine moved in. The lake was drained and soon became a hay meadow. However there was a slough blocking off the street going north between Larsen's store and the Post Office and if the snow didn't get too deep to be scraped off we'd use that. The boys built rafts to float on it in the summer. Hay Lake's child population was definitely top heavy in girls. The only boys I can remember were the Fishers, Wildred Zelt, Lawrence Schlender and my brother Milford. In my age group alone, not counting those both bigger and smaller,

there were at least a dozen girls — Louise Larsen, Dora Huard, Dorothy Gosnell, Mary Gammon, Rosa and Helene Henschell, Elsie and Eda Fisher, Ruth and Dorothy Slater, May Algeo, Grace Olafson, Grace Pfrimmer, and I'm sure there were more.

I think of the many times I went with Dora Huard to visit her grandmother Blakely. One occasion stands out. It was a lovely warm evening and we had come in an open car. Suddenly the sky darkened and a summer storm was almost upon us. Dora and I were in the back seat and Mr. Huard, driving like mad over the bumps, told us that if we didn't hang on tight the back seat might fall off. We just barely managed to get home before the rain.

I remember a rope skipping contest in the yard beside Gosnell's house. We kept score on the wall. The numbers stood out very clearly on the white siding. And then Mr. Gosnell came home. His usual mild manner was more than just a little bit ruffled and Dorothy looked stricken. I think we helped in the clean-up operation, but I'm not sure.

Hay Lakes streets used to have the stickiest mud of any place I know and one could call it sheer luck to manage a crossing without losing at least one rubber. Finally the "powers that be" built a walkway two planks wide and flush with the street from Gosnells to Larsen's corner and from Schlenders to the hotel. Muddy wheels passing over it left an awful mess but at least our feet didn't sink out of sight.

Back in the 1920's grocery stores didn't sell fresh milk and much of the time it was my job, with a lard or syrup pail in hand, to fetch milk from Grahns, Lechelts, Chris Heins or Goos. Going to Thor Grahns or Lechelts was especially interesting because I'd get to play with the baby — Lloyd at Grahns and Ella at Lechelts. When Grahns had their second child and called her Hazel, I was sure they'd named her after me.

We came close to having a baby in our own family in 1923. On the evening of March 31, my mother sent my brother and me to Nelsons to spend the night with Ella, while Mrs. Nelson stayed at our place. Although this was a very unusual turn of events, Ella kept us so busy with fun and games that I had no time to worry about what might be going on at our house. I was so naive that even though I was eight, I had never noticed the bump under my mother's apron and even if I had, I'd only have thought she was getting fat. The next day was Easter Sunday (also April Fool's Day). My mother had gone into labor two weeks early and it wasn't till well on into the day that it became clear that professional help was essential. The doctors in Camrose all seemed to be out somewhere celebrating Easter. Finally Dr. Lamb was located but the big question was transportation.

Spring break-up had made the road impassable for cars. The speeder was the only solution but even the Camrose section foreman in charge of the keys to the speeder shed, was difficult to locate. The doctor finally arrived in time to save my mother but the baby was dead.

Hay Lakes had no church in the twenties and if we didn't always have a minister available to hold services in the school, we always had Sunday School. Rev. Shields was the first minister I knew. I can still see him with frost on his collar and wiping the steam off his glasses after travelling in the cold in a horse drawn cutter all the way from the Moravian Church manse east of New Sarepta. When Slaters moved to Hay Lakes, Mr. Slater, the first manager of the newly built creamery, took charge of the Sunday School, and later when the congregation of the German Lutheran Church west of Hay Lakes bought the Holmberg house for their pastor, Rev. Goos, the village had a resident minister and services every Sunday in the school.

The first warm Sunday in spring always found the sun-loving citizens heading for the railroad tracks. It was the only dry place for a leisurely walk in the fresh air. The place most fascinating to us "kids" was the huge culvert south of the station. We'd go there often to watch the spring run-off gushing through. One time when Louise Larsen and I were there (it was a little later after the low spots were dry) we heard noise and laughter coming from the big drainage ditch running through Kreamer's meadow — it was so deep in one place that a child could stand up in it without being seen. Anyway, we decided to investigate. My brother saw us coming and knowing what a tattle-tale I was, convinced the others to order us away. However, the secret that they were smoking down there finally came out anyway, and I was spared the scorn of being the informer.

With Wilfred in the group, cigarettes from Zelt's confectionery counter had been easily available. Apparently my brother tried his hand at supplying the matches. Although he managed to sneak into the house while mother was out, he hadn't taken into consideration the fact that there were some big cracks between the boards in our outhouse. It was a great place to sit and watch what was going on in other back yards. Anyway my mother saw him and knew from his furtive behavior that he was up to something. Hurrying back to the house she went straight to the tin matchbox hanging on the wall. Sure enough, it was nearly empty. Milford went to bed early that night, without supper. He suffered the same punishment once when he spent his Sunday School collection on candy and I felt badly because I was the one who had squealed.

Having to do dishes was, to me, the ultimate in punishment. Not only did we have no dishwashing detergents to cut the grease but we had to go easy on the water. Every pailful had to be carried either from the well at the station or from the town pump just across the street south of the Post Office. We caught rain water for bathing and washing clothes. In winter we melted snow.

It's a fact that what one doesn't have, one doesn't miss (providing of course, that everybody else is in the same boat). We had no running water, sewer, labor saving appliances or thermostatically controlled heat and we coped quite well. However we had gotten used to electric lights and when Oscar Grahn shut down his light plant, the evenings became pretty gloomy. The first evening I came home for supper to find the coal oil lamp back on the table again, I cried. However Mr. Lechelt soon came to our rescue and all was well again.

Except for the silent movies which came to Hay Lakes quite regularly, especially in summer, we kids pretty well had to make our own entertainment. Loud speaker radios didn't come to this area till around 1926 or '27 and few people had them. Earlier I had seen a crystal set at Slaters. Only two people could listen at a time through earphones. We didn't have a gramophone, as many people did, but when Abigail Bergen came to town to teach music lessons my father bought an organ hoping that I'd learn to make my own music. However, Abigail only stayed a few months. At fifty cents per student per week, she couldn't afford to stay any longer.

As I think back, so many pictures flash through my mind — my father in light shirt and dark sleevelets sitting on the edge of the sidewalk in front of the pool hall on a hot summer day when business was slack — Ropers hauling milk to the creamery with horses and wagon — Lily Pithouse riding through town on her saddle pony — smiling faces behind the counter at Larsen's store, Ethel Nelson, Olga Schmidt, and I also see Florence Talbot. She's off her bookkeeper's stool seeking refreshment in the candy bin. I see blue jazz garters on display at the store. I wanted them so badly to go with my blue silk stockings and the new voile dress my mother had made especially for the Diamond Jubilee celebration to be held at the new picnic grounds. I see Ferdinand Henschell in a white skull cap standing over the hot fire in his blacksmith's forge — Louie Huard setting up McCormick Deering binders (that was before Herman Lechelt took over the agency). I see Gosnells running to catch the train, her with her coat flapping and him with Alene on his arm and a suitcase in his hand. There was always something fascinating about the train with its panting steam engine and the myste-

ries of travel. I used to meet the train often. In fact at one time it was part of my job. I was a reporter for the Hay Lakes Times and I was there to find out the wheres and the whys of the comings and goings. My reward was eight cents an inch measured vertically down the printed column. I see the anxiety on Ruth Slater's face as the two of us pace back and forth in front of the Hay Lakes Times office, afraid to go in and confess to Mr. Samis (our teacher as well as Times editor) that we were the ones who cracked the globe as a result of our fooling around when we were sweeping the school. (The kids all took turns at janitor work.) Incidentally, we never got up enough nerve to tell.

I can see us out for a Sunday drive in our open sided Ford. A sudden shower comes up and we park in the shelter of a grove of trees to keep the driving rain from blowing in on us. We only used the car in the summer and the condition of the roads discouraged any speedy traffic. Actually the country trails — two single tracks separated by grassy turf — were usually the least bumpy. Even the highway out from Edmonton was rough and ungravelled and it hadn't yet reached Hay Lakes by the time we left. We met it somewhere out past Joseph Lake.

Although in numbers the population of Hay Lakes didn't vary much between 1921 and 1927 (perhaps a hundred people more or less) there were many changes during that time. Of the people who were there when we arrived, only Fishers, Larsens, Blooms, Grahns, Sikstroms, and Charlie and John at the Chinese restaurant were still there when we left. Some of those who left before us were Gammons (from the post office) Coxes, Ed Peterson (the drayman), Nelsons, Olafsons (carpenter), Holmbergs, Werners (hardware store manager) Zelts, Huards, Gosnells and Henschells. Others both came and went during this period — Slaters, Pfrimmers and Comers (station agents), Algeos (relief section man), Neil McLeods, Pearsons (who built the first hotel) Broens (livery barn), Morrisons, and of course the school teachers.

Late-comers who were still there when we left were: Schlenders (meat market), Goos (pastor), Carl Bergs (lumber yard), Lechelts (implement dealer), Mrs. Schmidt, Rosenthals, Ogilvies, Bradburys, Dumonts, Chris Heins, Jim Carberry, Kiels (hotel), Dawsons (section foreman).

I know there must be a few I've left out but after all, it's sixty years since 1921 and although a great deal is remembered, much is forgotten.

Hay Lakes averaged a fire a year while we were there — the bank, Cox's, the post office, and the station, and if I'm not mistaken, the livery barn burned down twice. When the post office burned,

someone came banging on our door and we understood them to say the pool hall was on fire. What a panic! We ran around in circles trying to find our clothes in the dark. Finally someone had the presence of mind to look out. Although our view was obstructed, we saw the red glow in the sky to the east. At least the pool hall was safe — for then at least.

Apparently it wasn't too long after we left that the place really did burn down, the house and the pool hall as well as the Chris Hein store next to it. I'm glad I wasn't there to see it.

Reminiscing the By-Gone Days

by Anna Lofgren

Thoughts often go back to those days when life moved at such a different pace than it does today. There was so much work that had to be done, and with none of the modern conveniences that we enjoy today, everything was done by the sweat of your brow and the strength of your back. But in spite of all this, you always had time to give your neighbor a hand when the need arose. On many occasions I remember that when a neighbor became ill, you went over and assisted with the work and looked after the children. I can recall when work-bees were organized to take off the crop when a neighbor became ill. On one occasion, the men of the district erected a barn for a neighbor before the cold weather set in.

In those days nearly all our food was produced from the land. Every farmer had a herd of cows; this supplied the family with milk, cream, butter and cheese. Cream was sold to the local creamery; in those days selling cream was the main source of income for most families.

We planted a large garden and potato field (it seemed large to us as youngsters); we would help Mother and Dad dig fifty to sixty sacks of potatoes in the fall.

The woods yielded abundant crops of wild berries, raspberries, cranberries and saskatoons. I can recall Mother canning a hundred and fifty quarts of raspberries in the summer. All our vegetables were canned, as there was no refrigeration then. So in the fall the old dirt cellar was brimming with shelves of canned fruits, pickles and vegetables, and the potato bin was heaped. We were thus prepared for the long cold winter (somehow the winters seemed so much longer and colder than now).

Then my father would bring a load of wheat to the mill in Camrose by wagon and team to be made into flour, cereal and bran. This would last us until the following year. There was no time for idle hands during the winter months, for then the old spinning wheel and carders were brought down from the attic. The humming of Mother's spinning wheel was a

familiar sound during the winter evenings. Beautiful soft yarns were the result, later to be knit into warm mittens and stockings. In later years the women of our district spun the wool yarn and dyed it in beautiful colors, then wove it into beautiful woolen blankets, some of which I still have in my possession.

Then there was the carding of wool for making warm quilts. How well I remember those quilts, the tops being fashioned from pieces of discarded garments, the best parts to be made into quilt patches, and the rest formed into strips for the homemade woven mats on the floor.

The men had their winter work also. After morning chores they went to the woods to cut the year's supply of wood. Remember that wood was the only source of heating our homes. It would sometimes take several weeks first to cut and then haul the wood home with horses and sleighs. Then came the day of the "wood-sawing bee" when several of the neighbors came over to assist with this big project. Then I remember my father spending many days splitting that big pile of wood by hand.

Then there was the hauling of ice from a nearby slough for our "ice house". The ice was cut into big blocks and hauled home to be placed and then covered with sawdust in this building. This was our "refrigeration" for the summer months.

As youngsters we also had our duties. In the morning we helped with the milking, then separated the milk in the old cream separator (turned by hand), then we fed the calves, pigs and chickens. We took the cows a couple of miles to their pasture, came back home for breakfast, and then got ready for school. Believe me, nobody made any allowance for us arriving late for school.

We were home after school and again to our chores carrying wood and water for the next day's supply. We milked the cows again, all by hand, as there were no milking machines in those days. But we were quite professional at the job by this time, as we had to learn to milk cows before we were old enough to start school.

Often the women assisted with the work of the fields. Haying time was a co-operative effort of the entire family, old and young alike.

I cannot remember that we grumbled about having to help with the work. It was our way of life; we had grown up with a sense of responsibility that these tasks had to be done. When our parents had gone away for the day, we would be quite proud that we had all the chores finished by the time they arrived home. As a youngster I recall that when Mother had gone away, we would always cook a big batch of candy. I don't know why but we always did. The old

cookstove was a massive production of black steel and perhaps a bit of white enamel, and at one end a reservoir held the heated water for washing dishes. Somehow the homemade bread tasted so much better than that made in our modern electric ovens.

In those days, many of the social activities centred around the church with its various organizations. There were no telephones, so communication with your neighbor was by travelling on foot, by horseback, or with horse and buggy, and in the winter by sleigh.

One of the most cherished memories from my childhood was that of the "Julotta" Christmas service. On Christmas morning we would get up at five o'clock. How well I remember walking with my mother and father in the dark of early morning. On approaching the church we could hear the tinkling of sleigh bells and the "screeching" of sleigh runners over the crisp hard snow as our neighbors travelled to church by sleigh. (The church was located on our farm, so we had a short distance to walk.) The church was lit up with candles in every window and the beautifully decorated Christmas tree glistened. I, being filled with awe and wonder, was so jubilant that once more Christmas had come. Certainly we felt the presence of God very near, and in spite of hardships, we had so much to be thankful for!

Then I can remember those sad times when the "grim reaper" came to call his own. With sad and heavy hearts the neighbors rallied together. Two of our neighbors, Mr. John Person and Mr. Oscar Swanlund, were the "casket makers". These were finely made from homemade lumber, each board being carefully selected, then assembled and finished with an outside cover of black sateen fabric. While the caskets were being made, another work-bee of men was busy at the cemetery digging the grave.

The women assisted also with the draping of the casket, and finishing the inside with beautiful white satin. Altogether, a work of art and ingenuity, the effort and love of a combined neighborly spirit.

As I remember those by-gone years, what a contrast it is to see the changes that have taken place, and hand. We have made many new friends there and are looking forward to the day when we can call Hay Lakes "our home" and donate our time to the community.

Jensen, Nels and Phil **by Nels and Phil Jensen**

I, Nels Jensen am the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Jensen Sr. of the Clover Lawn district. I did a lot of trading in the village of Hay Lakes. My wife, Phil (Cowan) Jensen used to go to Hay Lakes too in the

1920's. Her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Cowan of the Bittern Lakes district did most of their trading there and hauled their cream to the creamery in Hay Lakes.

In about 1935 and later, I had a sawing outfit consisting of a Model T Ford engine and a circular saw mounted on a frame on a bob sleigh. I sawed wood for many people as they used to haul home large piles of rails in the late fall and winter to be sawed up into blocks for cook stoves and heating. Some wood was green and was split and piled up to dry while the dry wood was for immediate use.

I generally had one man with me and with the farmers would get neighbors to help and exchange work with them. A crew of five or six men were needed, one to do the sawing, one to handle the blocks and three or four on the rails. Sometimes the rails were more like logs, being about six to eight inches in diameter and if green, were quite heavy. If there had been a snow storm the pile would have a lot of snow on it so our mitts and clothes would get a bit wet. It was a very noisy and cold job at times. Our ears would ring for hours after the job was done.

This outfit was pulled around to the farmers with a team of horses and sometimes the job would last for a couple of days. The charge was thirty-five cents per hour and the extra man would get twenty-five cents per hour. Later the brush cutters came, so sometimes there were roots left on the rails. Some of the people I sawed wood for, were Ropers, Mrs. Kinghorn, Knopps, Meketsells, Jack Schurek and others.

In the 1920's we used to go to dances in Hay Lakes which were held in the dining room of the Hotel. The piano was placed in the centre of the room and we danced around it. A French girl played the piano.

There was a basket social at one of the dances and some baskets sold for \$15.00 to \$20.00. In those days that was a lot of money. Someone would know whose basket it was and also knew who was anxious to get it so rivals would bid it up. Many good times were had at Hay Lakes.

We used to trap a few rats and sell them to Ed or Marquis Bloom who owned a store in Hay Lakes, so we had enough money to go to the dance. The Blooms were very obliging people.

I also remember hauling bales tied with baling wire to Hay Lakes for Joe Kelly and Ed Furlong. The bales weighed about one hundred pounds. This was all done during the winter months. They had been put up on section 19-48-22-W4, so it was a trip of about ten miles across Big Hay Lakes. It was shipped by rail out of town.

Reminiscences

by Jenny (Kiel) Berendt

Tom Hudson disguised himself as a traveller and,

after registering for a room he asked John Werner to take his suitcase to his room. Poor Mr. Werner had quite a struggle as he could hardly lift it but finally managed to get it upstairs. No one ever did tell him that Tom had filled the suitcase full of rocks!

Roads were terrible when it rained and Hay Lakes was well known for its sticky clay. The worst trip we ever made was to attend Jim Carberry's funeral in Edmonton. It had rained steadily for days but as Emil was to be pallbearer we started out at six o'clock that morning. By the time we got to Julius Sagert's the wheels were so covered with clay that they could no longer turn. The only solution was to take off the wheels and dig out the mud. How bad Emil felt when he saw all the other cars go by and knew we could never get to Edmonton in time but hopefully our other friends would be able to do so. Finally we were on our way again and just before we got to the Cooking Lake Highway — there were all the other cars, stuck just like we had been! None of us got to the funeral.

One of the regular hotel customers had a tendency to imbibe more freely than he should so Emil would make him leave, but invariably he would go out the front door and back in again through the side door, cheerfully saying: "Here we are again, Mr. Kiel!"

The highlight of each day was the arrival of the passenger train. People would go to the station just to see who was arriving or leaving and, also, you'd catch up on the news while waiting. Dan Schweitzer was one of the most faithful and, of course, Norm Ogilvie, the postmaster, as all mail was dispatched and received by the Canadian National Railroad.

Like most of the ladies at that time, I listened to "Ma Perkins" and "Guiding Light" on the radio every afternoon and also crocheted for pastime. What lengthy discussions Mrs. Ogilvie and I would get into about our favorite Soap Opera characters.

One of the men travelling with the Horse Auction that came to town one fall had a problem. He was over seven feet tall and had to stoop when going through doorways. The first thing he requested when registering for a room was for a bed without a solid footboard so his feet could extend beyond the end. Someone was playing the piano that evening so he wanted me to dance with him. It was like dancing against a blank wall; my nose was level with his belt buckle!

The Hansen girls, Tilly and Auslaug, were well-known for their dressmaking ability. Each year Tilly would spend a week with us and do all our sewing. We never bought patterns in those days — you merely told her what you wanted, gave her lots of newspapers so she could draft her own patterns and the results were always perfect. You'd swear she could

make something out of nothing as there never seemed to be any material left over, every bit was used. Whenever she asked Martha what kind of pattern she wanted, it was usually the same answer: "A big skirt and a big collar."

We often visited with the Wegners and Wensels at New Sarepta. One time our car wouldn't start so we took Wegner's car in order to go home. We got stuck in a mud hole so we put a chain in front and Martha and I were going to pull the car out. After much effort, Emil suddenly called: "Whoa!" We thought the car was out but Emil said "You'd better stop because you **almost** had the chain off the ground." Laughing, we left the car and walked home along the railroad track.

Hay Lakes had quite a reputation for being an ideal area for hunting ducks, geese, pheasants, et cetera so the hunting season was always a very busy time at the hotel. We used to have one couple come from Winnipeg, together with two couples from Edmonton, every second year, and they would stay for a week. Believe me, those ladies could shoot every bit as well as the men.

Chris Hein boarded with us for quite some time and this was when he was in the process of fabricating his building board. He would mix up all sorts of concoctions and then bake the samples in our kitchen stove — the aroma was not always the best, to say the least!

One of Henry Landsman's elevator patrons had been partying all night so he asked if he could sleep off the effects in the office. Sobriety was instant when he was startled out of his sleep to find a bear peering at his face; it was merely Lawrence Schlender and his "pet" bear.

Certain husbands were in the habit of having occasional week-end poker sessions. Eventually this was more than one of the wives could stand so with the use of a ladder, she got up on the roof and put a washtub over the chimney. It wasn't long before these renowned gentlemen were hurrying from the smoke-filled shack.

Poem given to Nathan Diewart to recite one Christmas in an Italian dialect (as recalled by Mr. Davies)

Christmas Time

Chreesmas time is very funny
I no feel dis way before
I gone out an spend da money
Till I no got any more
Just blowed a dollar an a half for Rosa
A dollar an a half for buy a ring
An for her I no supposa
She goin to give me anything.

Chreesmas make your heart so tender
Like a snowball when it melts
I no care how much I spenda
Jus for pleasin someone else.

I don't want her give me notin
I gonna make dis present free
Just becausa Rosa told me
She goin to marry wit a me.

Chreesmas time is very funny
I no feel dis way before
I gone out an spend da money
Till I no got anymore.

Communication Gap

Do you remember —

When a union usually meant holy wedlock.
When pickets formed a nice fence around a cottage.
When joints were cooked in the oven and not smoked behind buildings.
When the only thing hooked was grandma's rug.
When you cooked in the pot and not smoked it.
When grass was the green stuff on the lawn.
When scabs helped a wound to heal.
When yellow meant a colour not a coward.
When rock was a stone and roll was a little bun.
When sponges were used in the bathtub not on the street corners looking for a handout.

I Remember

by Emil Schultz

Looking back at the years gone by I remember the time I was staying with my sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel, at the Hay Lakes Hotel. I think it was the year 1932 in winter time which was quite cold. There were no trucks or cars like now. Most everything was hauled by horses and wagon or sleigh.

On a cold day in winter, Mr. John Kohut came to town to do his business. When that was done he tied the horses to the hitching rail and came into the hotel to have a beer which was the usual custom in those days. There he met with friends and stayed longer than he intended. The horses in the meantime worked themselves loose somehow and galloped through town for home. Someone came to the hotel and said "John your horses just galloped through town". John got excited and wanted to run after them. I told him I had a car beside the hotel and we'd start it up and go after the horses. He said O.K., so I got on some warm clothes and went out with him. I told him we'd have to put hot water in the radiator to warm up the motor first as there was no such thing as anti-freeze or Multi-grade oil. It was just number 30 or 40 oil and the old cars would get very hard to start. Well, I had him cranking for quite a while with no result. The

cars in those days did not have self-starters. I said to him, "John, if you will give me a push it may start!" So he pushed and pushed but the car was so stiff that he couldn't push it fast enough to start. And all at once he said to me, "Just how in hell you think I gonna catch mine horses pushing your damned old Ford" and he left me sitting in the middle of the road and took off on foot after his horses. But it turned out all right. When he got home his horses were home and his wife had unhooked them and put them in the barn with no damage done.

There was another incident which might be of interest to some of you, especially to some of you old timers. This happened in early Pioneer days.

Mr. John Mittelstadt thought he should have a car as quite a few farmers in the district now owned one. So he and his wife went to Leduc to buy a car. He was always a great talker and never listened to what the car dealer told him about the car or how to operate it. He bought it and the dealer took him for a little drive but again Mittelstadt was doing most of the talking. So, they filled the gas tank for him and he and his wife took off for home. To explain about the Model-T Ford; it had three pedals on the floor. First was the clutch or the low gear pedal which you had to press down to go in low gear. Then there was the next centre pedal for reverse and the brake pedal. For high gear there was a handle on the left which, when you put it straight up and down, it was in neutral. Forward it was high, and backward it was an emergency brake.

On the way home he forgot what they had told him and kept pressing on the low pedal and drove all the twenty miles in low gear at about five miles per hour. When he got home his foot was so tired he could hardly walk. He even forgot how to stop the car, so after making a few rounds around the yard hollering "Whoa, whoa!" he drove up the woodpile and the car finally stopped. That was the beginning and finish of his driving career. He never drove the car again and it sat in the yard for years. Finally he sold it to Emil Lachman.

Here is how I met my wife: It was the year of 1938, at threshing time. I had been up north for the Northern Alberta Railways but I'd get laid off in late summer and then go harvesting. That year I went back to Hay Lakes, which was my old home town. Got a job with the Lachman Brothers threshing outfit as a field pitcher.

I was told that Emil Lachmans had a pretty nice hired girl. When we came to Emil Lachmans for dinner Mrs. Lachman dared this girl to put a rib bone from a hot roast down the back of my shirt collar. That bone was hot, let me tell you! I gave a yell and she took off on the outside and me after her. I caught



Emil and Mary Schultz on their wedding day. Sept. 20, 1940.

up to her and picked her up and carried her to the big cattle watering tank and was about to throw her in when she put both her arms around my neck and hung on, and then gave me a big kiss. I never did put her in the tank and so our romance started. Her name was Mary Fitzel and in September, 1940 we were married. We have now celebrated forty-one years of happily married life.

We have three children. Deanna and Susan, our daughters, live in Edmonton and our son, Robert, lives in Tsawwassen, British Columbia. We also have four grandchildren.

Life on the Boardwalks of Downtown Hay Lakes and at Canard School About 50 Years Ago

by H. L. (Lorne) Mittelstadt

I remember as a young child, living in Hay Lakes

with my parents Gus and Emma, brother Gary and sister Vi. Our house was on main street next to the International Harvester Dealership. Vi was born there. The lot is now vacant except for the farm equipment parked in it. There was a room upstairs in the house full of glass storage batteries for electricity generated by a noisy power plant in the back yard. Many people had a barn in the back yard, to keep a cow for milk or for a horse to pull a buggy if they didn't own a car.

Uncle Emil Mittelstadt boarded with us when he was working at Larson's General Store across the street. There was another store owned by Chris Hein and a poolroom and barber shop owned by a Mr. Prieb, between our house and Graham's Garage. The store and poolroom burned down one night causing a great deal of excitement. We children were carried away in our night clothes to another house from which we could watch the flames. Water was carried in buckets to splash on our house to keep it from catching fire that night. It burned down many years later after we moved away. Later the ashes and debris were cleared away and shale surfaced tennis courts were built there. On another lot on main street there were horseshoe pits in summer and skating rinks in winter. The towns people were no slouches as far as recreation was concerned in those days.

Where the Fire Hall now stands was the town hitching-post where the farmers tied up their teams of horses. The young boys' favorite pastimes in winter was to hitch their sleds to the rear of the farmers' sleighs and ride to the edge of town. Sometimes the rope would get stuck and we couldn't get our sled loose until we were a long way out of town. Once I thought I'd lose my sled down the pit of the grain elevator when I couldn't get my sled loose from a farmer's sleigh hauling grain. Another pastime was to crawl under the wooden sidewalk in front of the beer parlor to retrieve money which patrons dropped through the cracks as they stumbled out the door. The cracks between the planks also made it difficult to ride our tricycles because the wheels would get stuck in them. Whenever we got a nickle to buy an ice cream cone or treat we held on very tightly lest on the way to the store we drop it through a crack in the sidewalk, where it was too low to crawl under it to get it back.

Sometimes we would go to the slaughter house to watch and the butcher would cut the cows teats off and throw them at us to scare us away. They hauled water to the slaughter house in barrels on a stoneboat drawn by a horse named Dick. One day when Dick didn't want to go, John Lovas, who was driving him; got a hot potato from the pot on the stove in the house and put it under Dick's tail and shouted, "Go Dick."

Dick took off like a shot and after that whenever someone said, "Go Dick" the horse would take off like mad. John was also a professional musician who had come from Austria recently and later led the Hay Lakes band for many years.

Other activities in town that provided entertainment for the street urchins was watching the big icehouse behind the hotel being filled with blocks of ice and covered with sawdust to keep it from melting. We also watched with great interest the cesspool being emptied and hauled away in a honey wagon consisting of barrels on a stone boat. (Different barrels and stone boat than the one used by the slaughterhouse.)

Our family had moved to the farm by the time I started school at Canard 3½ miles west of Hay Lakes on a high hill that was cut down to build Highway 21. Our teachers there were Miss Louise Roper, Miss Irna Graunke and Art Middlestead who taught the High School classes in a converted double garage on Bill Wesenberg's farmyard. I remember taking typing with about 15 girls and on one typewriter. One day when one of the teachers was sick Fred Wesenberg came to school to be the relief teacher. It was winter and he wanted a ride down the hill on the long bob sleigh. Two of the boys put him between them and they were given a big push to start them off real well. The sled was intentionally steered over a small ski jump half way down the hill which gave them a real wild ride and sent them all flying with a big thump when they came back to earth. The children all chuckled while poor Fred hobbled back into the school house a little shaken up but all in one piece and never asked for another ride.

Whenever the school wanted to visit another school to play ball or compete in races and jumping, etc. at a Field Meet we all brought a nickle to pay for the gas for a farm truck to take us there. School buses were unheard of in our area and we did a great deal of walking. Even a bicycle was hard work to ride on the soft dirt roads. How I missed the wooden sidewalks then, even with the big cracks.

Country Child by Irmgard Samoil

In the early 1940's, I spent my summer holidays on my grandparents' farm at Hay Lakes, thirty-five miles southeast of Edmonton, Alberta. My grandparents had immigrated from Germany to the area in 1910 to take up a homestead there.

The farm! How I remember the farm! The Alberta prairie, dotted with poplar and willow, hay meadows and pot-like sloughs, was the perfect setting for the imagination of a young child.

The rolling landscape reached out like a giant

beckoning to me from the distant hill. Here in the dense willows, the Easter Bunny made his home. The pronounced "caw!" of the crow startled me as I stopped to take a closer look. Crack! The beaver had heard me as I pushed my way through the tall grass surrounding the slough. The ducks answered in a monotone "quack", as though to say, "I told you so". I searched the meadow for flowers and found some Indian Paintbrushes and Bluebells. Back at the farmhouse, I put them in an old glass jar which I promptly placed on the kitchen table. That night, tired, but too excited to sleep, I watched the "northern lights" from my upstairs window. These strange lights pulsated and flickered secret messages as white platinum waves changed to blue and yellow and soon I fell asleep.

Breakfast on the farm was an experience. By the time the sun was up, I was enjoying thick oatmeal and cream sweet back bacon and "bacha" (fried biscuit dough) dripping with homemade strawberry jam. Pocket-cheeked, like a squirrel, I packed it all away until the button on my waistband could bear no more.

Down at the barn the cows filed through the narrow door and took up their stalls separated by wooden beams. A pair of "kickers" hung on a nail on the 2 x 4 in case "Annie" gave some trouble. The cow's tail was usually tied to her leg if the mosquitoes were bad. The cats waited patiently for some milk. One cat preferred to take his portion in a squirt straight from the cow.

Feeding the calves was a dramatic moment! four pails and four calves; it looked easy. More often than not, two heads competed for the same pail. In the shuffle, the milk from one pail was lost to the ground. The third calf consumed his portion in greedy haste, while calf number four nudged and bullied his way to join the struggle between the first two.

Our footprints traced a path through the morning dew as grandfather and I made our way to the pig's pen. I unlatched the door on the long grey shed and as we entered mice scattered here and there to my delight! Oat chop was mixed with water and milk in the troughs behind the wooden fence. Squeels and screeches made conversation impossible as the ravished hogs forged their way "through" their breakfast.

The chickens demonstrated better manners. Each bird minded his business, seriously pecking at the wheat strewn over the hard ground. Collecting the eggs, which was one of my chores, wasn't as easy. More often than I'd hope I would have to pull a sitting hen by the leg or tail to get her off her nest in order to avoid her sharp aggressive beak.

While grandfather fed the cattle and cleaned the

barns, "Tippy" and I passed the time sliding down the haystack. It was a delightful way to end the morning.

Locked in the land were many secrets of yesterday. The cow path criss-crossed the old Indian trail which fifty years ago wound its way across the yard. Indian graves and artifacts of stone were found near the farmhouse. These acres which now yielded "bumper" oat crops had at one time served as the buffalo hunting grounds to a primitive civilization. My favorite story was the one my mother told about her and my uncle as youngsters: "Each of us would take a buffalo's skull and have a buffalo fight: first one down was a dead buffalo".

A lesson in evolution was to be gained by visiting the root cellar where the vegetables were stored over the winter. This was "Alice-in-Wonderland" territory with the exception of lizards and frogs claiming occupancy. I lowered myself with caution down the four-rung ladder to avoid these prehistoric descendants. I stayed close to grandfather who was busy filling a gunny sack with potatoes and carrots to take back to the house.

Every summer a multitude of gophers presented a problem. The cattle would step in the holes and trip. The pesky rodent took his share of the grain too. Since water was cheaper and safer than poison, grandfather attempted to control their numbers by drowning them out. After many buckets of water, the fat rodent peered, skin wet, through the hole. "Peep!" Bang! A blow to the skull and that was the end of it. The first time I witnessed this procedure I hid and shouted "Gossie" (German dialect for grandfather) and added "peep". From that day on grandfather adopted a new name. "Gossie-Peep".

If it was Saturday, grandmother and I would drive to town in the Model A Ford. The three and one-half miles over a bumpy dirt road took about twenty minutes. Visions of double chocolate ice cream cones occupied my mind as we neared the village. I recounted the dimes and nickles to reassure myself I had enough money.

The first stop was at the creamery. A man in a white smock would take a mouthful of cream from a dipper from one of the cream cans, swish it around and spit it out. I assumed the cream tasted badly; then to my surprise, the accountant handed grandmother a check and we were on our way to mainstreet.

Mainstreet was two blocks long. It began 200 yards east of the C.N.R. station. Here at the corner, the hotel dominated the architecture of the village. The two-story white plaster structure housed a restaurant and "beer parlor". Many trades, cattle sales and various business transactions were finalized over

a bottle of beer. Next door at the Chinese restaurant is where my friends and I bought our ice cream.

The post office, no more than 10' x 12' resembled a jail from an early American Western movie. Important mail, such as the Eaton's Catalogue or a letter from the city would be delivered here.

I said my "goodbye" to grandmother at the general store. I made my way back to Charley's for ice cream. Sometimes I would meet a friend, and after consuming several "double-headers", we would promenade along the wooden sidewalk taking in the activities of a busy Saturday afternoon. If I was alone, the hardware store at the end of town was a good place to pass the time. To get there, one would have to pass the pool room and barbershop. The door was always open. I would steal a quick glance into the darkness where all that was visible was the reflection from a large brass spittoon. A few steps farther past the one-pump gas station, a high unpainted wooden fence followed the boardwalk for a few hundred yards and ended at the hardware store. Behind the fence, heavy work horses waited patiently

hitched to wagons or buggies for their master's return.

The hardware store was the "five and dime" of the prairies. Cooking utensils, washing machines, binder-twine, kerosene, artificial flowers, fishing equipment and china were a few of the items. I liked to look at the china figurines and imagine I was one of them. The large white clock over the counter reminded me it was time to start back to the Ford parked at the grocery store. Cardboard boxes filled with groceries were already loaded in the rumble seat of the coupe. Grandmother and I were on our way back to the farm in time for the milking.

Grandmother's Tea — A Unique Birthday Remembrance

In the fall of 1943, Alpha McLean invited several of the friends of her deceased Mother (Mrs. Jacob (nee Anna Strand) Welda) to an afternoon tea, in memory of her Mother's birthday, November 5. Among the friends of the first tea were Mrs. Ole Movald, Mrs. Thor Grue, Mrs. Cornelius Grue,



Grandmother's Tea at the McLean home in November 1962. In doorway: Gunda Wells, Tony Brunken, Milly Johnson, Alpha McLean, Olga Olson. Back Row, L. to R.: Inga Broen, Mrs. M. Dahl, Mrs. C. Radke, Mary Busenius, Mrs. P. Feragen, Christine Forsen, Signe Malmo, Anna Lofgren, Wilhelmina McLeod, Anna Henschell, Mrs. M. Kaulitzke, Edeline Lofgren. Center Row: Wilhelmina Mittelstadt, Hilda Hanson, Essie Blakely, Wilhelmina Hintz, Emilie Schmidt, Mrs. C. Sollid, Mrs. Blomander, Agnes Rosendall, Christine Wilson, Lillian Anderson, Louise Webster, Mrs. E. Carlstrom, Frieda Busenius. Front Row: Lillian Pithouse, Violet Tober, Margaret Leicht, Mrs. J. Gosnell, Rosina Sagert, Lily Muir, Mrs. Radtke, Augusta Rost.

Mrs. Robert McLeod, Mrs. John Lofgren and Mrs. John Sware. Some brought their needles and scissors, thinking they were going to a quilting party.

They all seemed to enjoy that afternoon so much that the event was continued year after years with more and more Grandmothers coming. Now, thirty-seven years later, Alpha still has her "Annual Grandmother's Tea," the first Saturday in November. Depending on the weather and road conditions the number of Grandmothers varies, but they all seem to enjoy their afternoon of singing, reading poems, and visiting over a cup of coffee.

No record of attendance was taken in the first years of the "tea". At one of the teas, Mrs. McLean was presented with a guest book from the attending ladies. In 1959, twenty-seven guests registered; in 1961, thirty-four attended; by 1981, forty-three registered which shows how a birthday remembrance to a beloved Mother from a loving daughter, blossomed and grew year after year.

Did you know?

The first news recorded here was under *Little Hay Lake* in March, 1910. Then in October, 1913 it was *Hay Lake*, and then later on March 3, 1921 it was known as *Hay Lakes*.

An interesting note was that the Railway Station always remained as Hay Lake and the Post Offices as Hay Lakes, thus causing numerous examples of confusion as to the location, whether 45 miles south or 300 miles north of Edmonton.

The following excerpts are news items as recorded in the Camrose Canadian from 1910 — 1932:

April, 1910 — The Canadian National Railway Company has been corresponding with Mr. Pithouse about getting a townsite on his land, perhaps because it is the most beautiful place in Canada.

June, 1911 — Some boys of this neighborhood dug out eight young coyotes Tuesday night. Obert Kelstad bought them and intends to start a coyote ranch.

May 14, 1912 — Lars Maland is now constructing a boat which will be placed on Little Hay Lake.

October, 1913 — Some Edmonton people passed through here last week and stated that around Hay Lake was the most beautiful country they had seen and could not be surpassed for mixed farming anywhere in the world.

November, 1913 — The Chief Game Guardian from Edmonton was around last week trapping rat trappers who had been out before the season opened. Tommy and Oscar Movold have purchased a new Renfrew self-starting gasoline engine.

Ferdinand Henschell, inventor and mechanic, is back

from Chicago where he sold his last machine patent at a high figure.

December, 1913 — Prime rats at .15/\$. What will the government give for summer caught rats around here?

July 16, 1914 — on front page: Correspondent for Hay Lakes and New Sarepta sends Interesting Information: The crops are in fine condition this summer. The heavy rains of the last month have drowned out some spots in the fields, but this is negligible quantity. The increase in acreage is small; not more than ten percent. The reason for this is that this community is more given up to cattle raising and due to the wooded nature of the country, breaking of soil is a very slow process. The main crop around here has always been oats. Next to that in proportion comes barley, and last of all with hardly any appreciable acreage is wheat. Most of the farmers do not sow wheat at all. As to breaking, not much has been done so far, as the heavy rains held up work. Most of the farmers however intend to break some. In all, about 500 acres would be a fair estimate.

I am glad you asked about mixed farming. The farmers are not going in more for mixed farming here, for the simple reason that they have from the beginning of the settlement paid more attention to cattle, hogs, garden produce etc., then to grain. Very little grain is sold from this district. Whatever is raised as a rule is used for fattening hogs. Does it pay? One of our farmers, Mr. A. Harke, who has always made much of dairying and raising hogs, sold last year about \$500.00 worth of hogs. Cream sent to the Edmonton City Dairy via Camrose, nets him during the summer about six dollars a week and in the winter about half that. I should judge he makes at least about \$300.00 from that source. This may not be a large amount, but when it is considered that farming here is not carried on, on a large scale the figures are sufficient to warrant a good income from a small outlay.

Nearly all farmers of quarter and half section farms keep from twenty to thirty head of cattle. From six to ten head of these are dairy cows. A large number now ship cream and these claim their income from the same number of cows has been exactly doubled since they made and sold their own butter.

This country, close as it is to Edmonton markets and with direct access to the city by the CNR line, is bound to become to a large extent a dairying country. Most of the settlers have not been here more than ten years, the average being eight and maximum fifteen and yet although nearly all were beginners in farming, with nothing but a homestead and perhaps a team of horses and a spare cow

- to his credit, on the average are worth \$8000.00, not a bad record for eight years with no cash to begin with. This was done through mixed farming.
- October 15, 1914 — A party of surveyors have been sent out by the CNR to lay out several additional blocks for the townsite of Hay Lake.
- December, 1914 — Farmers have reported cattle and sheep are disappearing from their pasture and grazing land. Mr. Stellmacher lost his entire flock of fourteen sheep.
- The mystery has recently been cleared up by the police when three local residents were arrested. They had apparently been supplying local butchers with cheap meat.
- April 22, 1915 — Mr. Pithouse, Justice of Peace, has decided to open a summer home for vacationists on the lake shore. For this purpose he will build an addition of five rooms to his already capacious house, and for those who prefer camp life several two room shacks will be built near the water. The resort will be removed only three minutes from the station, which in turn will not be more than an hour from Edmonton or Camrose.
- July 29, 1915 — Drebert and Kretchman ordered a new 28 inch cylinder Case thresher with self feeder and blower.
- October 15, 1915 — Brick chimneys are now being built in many of the farmers homes. The danger of fires this winter will be greatly lessened.
- October 28, 1915 — Large crops of potatoes are reported. Miller brothers have over 1,000 bushels. Most of the farmers will hold at present prices.
- December 15, 1915 — Mr. Chettleburgh will reach the good age of eighty next month and he still manages to farm without assistance.
- May 11, 1916 — Messrs. Larsen and Gosnel have put up two bridges, thus making one road nearly passable. They put a good example before the other business men of Hay Lake as there are numerous mud holes that need fixing.
- June 8, 1916 — F. Henschell, the inventor, holds a patent on a house cleaning machine for which a U.S. firm offered \$1200.00, but was refused.
- June 29, 1916 — So much stock and grain is coming to Hay Lake lately the CNR can't supply the necessary cars.
- July 13, 1916 — A book agent passed through here stating that books have gone up in price on account of the war. Luckily for the country, people have old Bibles just as good as new.
- March 29, 1917 — There will be a necktie social in the Thordenskjold school house. The ladies will be so kind as to bring a necktie and a lunch basket. The envelope containing the former will be sold in place of basket. The proceeds will be used for an organ for the school.
- November 1, 1917 — Potatoes are plentiful and are being shipped at .48 /\$ a bushel.
- February 7, 1918 — Joe Kreamer recently got \$18.75 per ton for two carloads of baled hay.
- March 21, 1918 — Real estate is on the boom here just now. Many farms are about to change hands through private treaty.
- March 28, 1918 — Mr. P. Selin has sold his farm. The price we hear was \$27.00 per acre.
- May 16, 1918 — A dance was held at Hay Lake on May 9th for the boys who have been called up for service.
- July 4, 1918 — After many years of waiting the Leduc road is finally being opened up so as to connect with the Hay Lake trail.
- May 23, 1919 — Mr. C. Miller purchased two cows at a cost of \$120.00 each.
- June 12, 1919 — The cut worm has done considerable damage and some crops have been resown.
- July 26, 1919 — A local resident has been driving his car so fast through town lately we wonder if a speed limit should be enforced. Maybe he is training to be a race car driver.
- August 7, 1919 — The first tractor has made its appearance in this district with a purchase made by Martin Thompson last week.
- September 4, 1919 — E. Cousins of Camrose has taken over operation of the U.F.A. elevator but is unable to bring his family here as we have no school for his school age children. Are we content to let our children grow up ignoramuses? Surely we must have a school for the future of Hay Lake as well as for the sake of the education of the children.
- October 9, 1919 — The best report of oats was 73 bushels per acre by Hilmer Grahn.
- November 6, 1919 — Forty-four loads of grain were received at the elevator last week, close to 3,000 bushels.
- November 22, 1919 — Hilmer Sikstrom sold coyote hides at \$20.00 a piece.
- January 15, 1920 — Mr. Larsen has purchased a lantern slide movie machine. Everyone is anxious to know what the first play is to be.
- March 3, 1921 — Our evenings in Hay Lakes are never dull as long as the "moonshine" holds out.
- March 17, 1921 — We are now celebrating "dog days" in Hay Lakes, or, at least the dogs are. Several evenings the town and district mongrels have sung their vespers and orisons to the deep disgust of the local population. A few more rifles would relieve the situation.
- May 5, 1921 — Our little metropolis shows further

signs of civilization. We walk on sidewalks here now.

February 9, 1922 — Several loads of pressed hay have been shipped from Hay Lakes during the past few weeks. Thus we uphold our name.

April 6, 1922 — There will be an oyster supper banquet held in the Scandinavian church. The proceeds will go to the "Save the Russian children fund."

May 11, 1922 — To the farmers joy, the price of eggs, butter, grain, etc. are on the rise. High time!

July 13, 1922 — Herman Weisenberg purchased two purebred hogs.

July 4, 1923 — Roadwork is still going on in the different parts of this district and the old brush trails of a few years ago are being rapidly forgotten.

September 20, 1923 — The boxing fans of our district have been nobly suppressing their excitement in anticipation of the Dempsey-Firpo fight during the past week. The report of the fight was caught by radio and passed on by telephone to various interested ones.

January 31, 1924 — J. W. Morrison has added two stages of amplification to his single tube radio receiving set and is now picking up many of the far away stations in Canada and the United States.

April 9, 1925 — The Hay Lakes Hay Company hay shed is now completed and is rapidly being filled with hay. It has a capacity of thirty-five cars.

August 6, 1925 — We are glad to hear that the highway from Edmonton to Camrose will go through Hay Lakes and that work has already started on this road.

August 3, 1932 — The Hay Lake airport was a center of attraction last week. Pilots from Calgary took up passengers. Many insisted on stunts and thrills and pilots obliged. J. Welda declares he is through flying.

October 5, 1932 — Airplane passengers were "taken up" for one cent a pound last week.

A True Soap Story

by Olga Schultz

Several years back the Canadian World Relief sent pleas to congregations for ladies to make soap which was to be shipped to Winnipeg and then distributed to various "World Relief" areas.

A number of our ladies decided to help with the project. Anne Aspell and Mary Berkholtz were to come to the home of Olga Schultz one afternoon to make a few batches of soap.

We used wooden plum and peach boxes, lined with paper and cloths, to pour the soap mixture into, to harden. One mix to a box.

Well, we started and had two boxes poured when the power went off for the afternoon, so no stove.

But all was not lost. Grandma Schmidt still had her wood and coal stove so we piled the crock, wooden spoons, lye, fat in jars and tins (some already melted) some borax, and boxes all into our big wooden wheelbarrow and hauled it over to Mother's place.

There we started over again and made several more batches with some extra advice from "mom" and what started out as a disappointing situation turned out well in the end. So did the soap!



Walter Busenius has served in the community as Scoutmaster for 22 years — 1960-1982. Part of this period he was Commissioner for the Wild Rose District. He attended a number of Provincial, National and World Jamborees as Troop Leader. Among the many medals he received was the Lambs Award in 1976, the highest award for Scouting in the Lutheran Churches and the Medal of Merit from National Headquarters in 1979.

Carol Sware Works at it.

Central Supply and Services' Carol Sware is Edmonton's Mother of the Year, named earlier this month by Alderman Bettie Hewes.

Ald. Hewes said Carol, who is a polio victim, is an example to other mothers who are disabled as well as being an inspiration to all in this year of the disabled. Carol's husband Rodger, a Drafting Supervisor with Edmonton Power, is also a victim of polio.

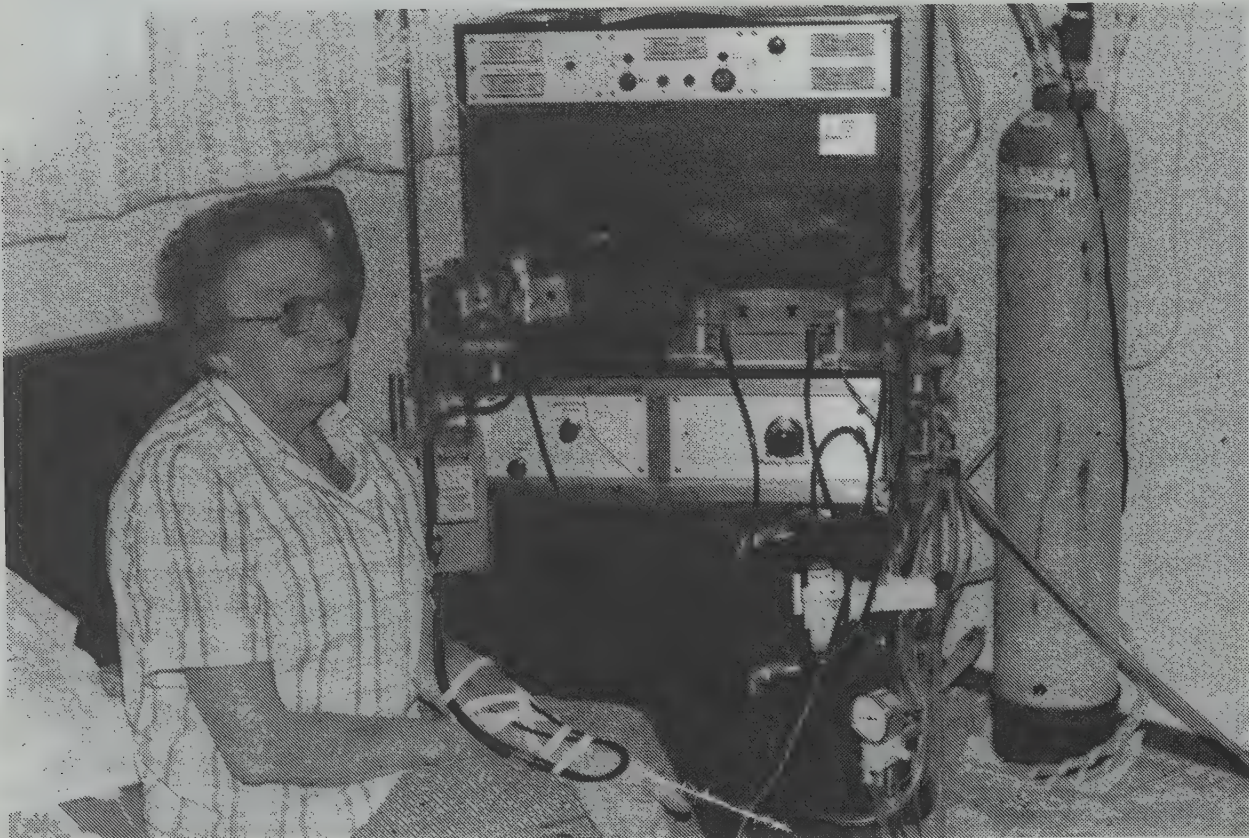
Carol is an Inventory Analyst with CS&S. She is also president of the Sherwood Park minor league

Carol Sware works at it



Mother of the Year Carol Sware and her family.

Home Dialysis appreciated



and is well known in her community for driving neighborhood children to hockey and baseball games and offering assistance to many of the disabled people in her area.

"Even if you are disabled you owe something to your community," says Carol. "Your children are benefitting and you're obligated to give something back to the community."

Home Dialysis Appreciated from the Camrose Booster March 10, 1981

Mrs. Oscar Mallas of Camrose is one of 120 Albertans and 3000 Canadians who are dependent on an artificial kidney machine. For seven years she has required dialysis several times a week. At first, she had to drive to Edmonton twice a week to go on the artificial kidney machine for eight hour periods. After six months, she was able to loan a home dialysis unit from the government. It, as well as all the supplies, were supplied to her at no cost. "This was wonderful," she said, and her husband agreed.

Having the machine at home allows for more convenience and flexibility. Firstly, the drive to and from Edmonton is eliminated. But more important is

the fact that she can go on the machine more often for shorter periods. She usually spends three hours three times a week on it. However, she lives a rather busy life with community involvements, too, so she sometimes changes her dialysis schedule to fit around other events.

Mrs. Mallas and her husband were required to take six weeks of training on the care and operation of the home dialysis unit. While Mrs. Mallas is on it for three hour periods, it takes an additional two hours each time for care and maintenance.

Mrs. Mallas is therefore very dependent on her husband. "If he were to become ill and go to hospital," she said, "we'd have to call for emergency help — and that would not be easy." The patient cannot manage the dialysis treatment alone because of the possibility of fainting during the procedure.

How does the dialysis unit work? Stated in oversimplified and very basic terms, the patient's blood flows through the machine where it is filtered and washed and then returned, purified, to the patient. It does, artificially, the work of a normal kidney.

Obituary translated from a Swedish newspaper

A large funeral procession travelled on the 31st of October, 1922, from Lundemo, Alberta to Wilhelmina Lutheran church to follow young Erik August Hanson to his last resting place. A severe lung inflammation ended his life of only nineteen years.

The funeral sermon on the topic, "All flesh is grass" was given by Pastor Ellingson from Camrose. A similar message on the topic, "Brother and Sisters in Bethany" was preached by Mr. Axel Eriksson of Hughenden, Alberta. A song was sung at the service, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus", by the sister and brother-in-law of the deceased, Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Ericksson of Czar, Alberta. The poem given below was read at the service by Mr. Andrew Olson. Pastor Ellingson conducted the committal service after which the solemnity was concluded with a song by Axel Selin.

The deceased leaves to mourn three sisters, his foster parents, and one foster sister, as well as many relatives and friends.

"At Erik Hanson's open grave
Well many tears do fall.
Yet one should not weep, he only has
Gone into the Father's blissful home.

God called, and he went satisfied
From earth's life's strife and joys
Of youth's pleasurable years.
With the stretcher stood a big crowd
Of sisters, relatives and friends,
In their eyes glisten sorrow's tears
And their hearts are devoid of a friend.
But the severest strike is to the pair, they
Who tenderly raised him.
Weep not, in advance only he has gone,
One day you are called to follow."

(N.B. Is there a reader of these lines who knows exactly where Erik's grave is in the Wilhelmina churchyard?)

Hay Lakes Child Shot in the Head; She Will Recover

Gladys Broen, twelve years old, whose parents reside in the Hay Lakes district north of Camrose, was seriously wounded in the head on Monday evening, when her little sister, seven years old, accidentally discharged a .22 rifle, the bullet entering the girl's head.

The accident occurred at the supper hour. An older brother had been out shooting and after entering the house placed the gun in a corner of the room where the evening meal was being eaten. The child

took the gun up and pulled the trigger, the shot entering at the back of her sister's head.

The stricken child was rushed to St. Mary's hospital, Camrose, where Dr. W. H. Craig ascertained by an X-Ray exposure that the bullet had passed through the skull and lodged a half-inch deep in the brain, severing a large artery. A very delicate operation followed in which the skull was opened and the bullet successfully removed. The girl is conscious and making favorable progress and it is expected that she will fully recover.

This medical feat happened in August, 1925 and although Gladys lost her sight, she was told by specialists in Vancouver in 1959 that they would not have been able to do more with over thirty years of medical advancement.

Gladys, now Mrs. J. Helmar Anderson, resides in Camrose. She has raised a family and is a very capable person, doing all her own housework. An accomplishment she can be very proud of is being able to knit lovely doilies many of which are seen in the homes of friends around the district.

General Interest Pictures



Daily chores — filling the kitchen wood box. L. to R.: Carl Nordin, Oliver and Chester Grue — 1919.



Gus Henschel and neighbor sawing wood.



Hauling firewood — snow-less winter — early 1930's. Trevor Roper.

PUBLIC RATE \$1.50		PRIVATE RATE \$2.00	
Camrose, Alta., <i>March 31st</i> 1911			
<i>Master of Erickson</i>			
<i>Vindens</i>			
To Camrose Municipal Hospital Dr.			
Admitted <i>March 17th</i>		Discharged <i>March 31st</i>	
Public Rate	<i>at 90 cents per day (14 days)</i>	12	60
Private Rate			
Maternity Rate			
Use of Operating Room			
Dressings		2	00
Medicine			40
Examinations			
Special			
<i>Received with thanks for</i>		Total	14 60
<i>J. M. Erickson</i>			15.00

All accounts must be settled before leaving the hospital, either by cash or note.

Camrose Municipal Hospital Receipt of 1911. 90¢ per day.



Selin sawmill 1920's.

Pledge. Wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her so long as ye both shall live? "I WILL."	Marriage Certificate
	I Herely Certify that on the <u>13</u> day of <u>October</u> 190<u>6</u> the Rite of HOLY MATRIMONY was solemnized by me, by authority of License between <u>Henry George Lithouse</u> of the Township of <u>No 49</u> in the County of <u>Range 21</u> Province of <u>Alberta</u> Dominion of Canada, and <u>Lillian Walton</u> of the <u>Town of Sheraton</u> in the County of <u>Hampshire</u> Province of <u>England</u> and Dominion aforesaid.
Pledge. Wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou love him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live? "I WILL."	Witness my hand at <u>Leduc</u> this <u>13</u> day of <u>October</u> 190<u>6</u>. In Presence of <u>Harry H. Fisher</u> <u>Wm. H. Shepherd</u> <u>Wm. H. Shepherd</u> <u>Mrs. Lda. Shepherd</u> <u>Wm. H. Shepherd</u> <u>Wm. H. Shepherd</u> <u>Officiating Minister.</u> No. _____ Registered at <u>Wetaskin</u>

The OIL and GAS ROYALTIES DIVIDEND ACT



AN ACT TO ENABLE CITIZENS OF ALBERTA TO PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY IN THE
BENEFITS ACCRUING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OIL AND GAS RESOURCES
OF ALBERTA

\$17.50

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION DIVIDEND 1958

As an Alberta Citizen you are entitled to a Citizens
Participation Dividend of \$17.50 for the calendar year 1958
if

You are a CANADIAN CITIZEN or a BRITISH SUBJECT
and if

You are of the full age of twenty-one years
and if

You are presently a resident of Alberta
and if

You have been a resident of Alberta for the immediately preceding two years and for a total of not less than ten years.

A RESIDENT means a person who has in Alberta a principal place of abode to which he returns daily except for occasional absences not in excess of six months in any one year.

Military personnel, students and religious missionaries whose principal place of abode is and has been in Alberta but whose duties or studies required them to be absent from the Province for periods in excess of six months in any one year and who are now residing in the Province, will be considered to be eligible upon satisfactory proof being provided as to the necessity of such absence or absences. A letter or certificate from a military commanding officer, an official of a school, college or university, or the Head of a Religious Order will be considered as satisfactory evidence.

YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO:

- (1) Complete, in all particulars one copy of Application Form "A" which is attached hereto.
- (2) Send completed application Form "A" to the:—

CITIZENS DIVIDEND BRANCH,
Legislative Buildings,
EDMONTON, Alberta.

The following Special Application Forms may be obtained at the Citizens Dividend Branch:

- (1) Form "B" for those persons who are physically incapacitated or who live in isolated areas and as a result cannot appear personally before a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public or Commissioner for Oaths.
- (2) Form "C" for incapacitated persons where a Trustee has been appointed to Act for the incapacitated person under:
 - (a) The Blind Persons Act (Canada), or
 - (b) The Old Age Assistance Act (Canada), or
 - (c) The Old Age Security Act (Canada), or
 - (d) The Disabled Persons Pension Act, or
 - (e) The Disabled Persons Act (Canada).
- (3) Form "D" for persons who wish to act as Trustee for incapacitated citizens when the person is not a Trustee appointed under any Act or Court Order. Such person may be a relative of the incapacitated citizen or any responsible person.

The Public Trustee will act on behalf of mentally incapacitated persons who are in Provincial Institutions.

Additional copies of Form "A" are available at:

1. The Citizens Dividend Branch.
2. Any Treasury Branch or Treasury Branch Agent.
3. The Secretary Treasurer's office in any Municipality, Town or Village.

The 1958 Citizens Dividend will be paid by cheque mailed to your address in due course upon approval of your application.

No application will be considered if delivered or mailed after December 31, 1958.

1958
PRINTED BY L. S. WALL, PRINTER TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY



Cornelius Grue — Rawleigh salesman.

Anniversary Pictures



65th Wedding Anniversaries



Ferdinand and Renata 1980



Karl and Emelia Heinz 1952

60th Wedding Anniversaries



Ed and Christine Bittner 1971



Carl and Elin Carlson 1954



Ferdinand and Renata Busenius 1975.



William and Anna Henschell 1968



August and Emily Huebner 1972



W. Trevor and Winnifred Roper 1968



Irven and Alice Budd 1981



Mike and Mary Lickoch 1981



John and Marit Palm 1967



Julius and Theophilia Grams 1976

50th Wedding Anniversaries



Harry and Mary Sych 1978



Hans and Hilda Arntson, 1966.



Chris and Emma Lachman 1979



Mikkel and Olava Bakken 1956



Sam and Rosalie Berkholtz 1961



Carl and Elin Carlson 1944



George and Hazel Davies 1980



Johnny and Babs Erickson 1979



Algot and Annie Eliason 1979



Rudolph and Emilia Fisher 1962



Ole and Sofia Feragen 1950



Arnold and Elsie Handke 1974



Martin and Elsie Hirsch 1980



Michael and Sophie Famulak 1977



Charles and Britha Holmberg 1957



August and Emily Huebner 1962



Gus and Jessie Henschell 1972



Basil and Birdie Lind 1969



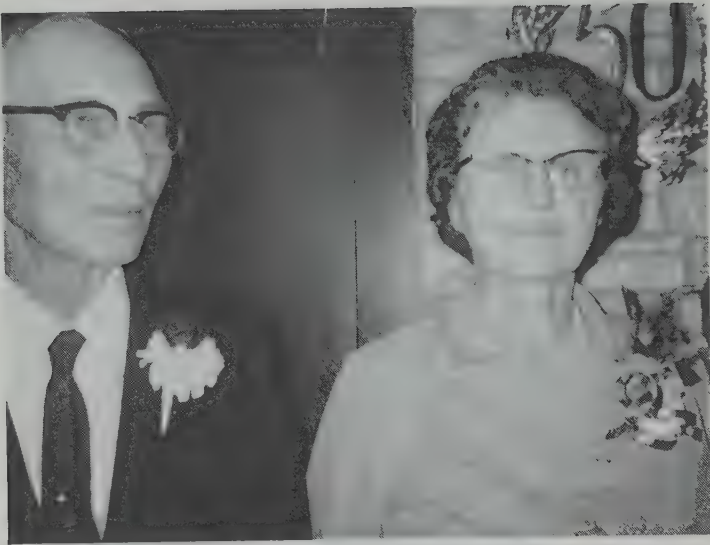
Adolph and Martha Huebner 1971



Nels and Phil Jensen 1980



Emil and Adele Lachman 1976



Chris and Emma Lachman 1969



Charles and Annie Meketsel 1966



John and Margaret Leicht 1961



Harry and Annie Marusak 1960



Roy and Lena McLean 1959



Emil and Bertha Nickel 1968



Emanuel and Hulda Roth 1977



W. Trevor and Winnifred Roper 1958



John and Lydia Pawloske 1961



John and Johanna Sware 1949.



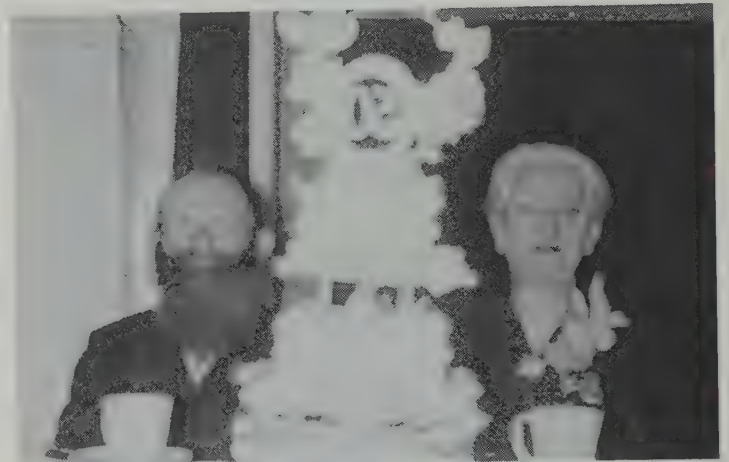
William and Pearl Sych 1978



Walter and Hildur Selin 1971



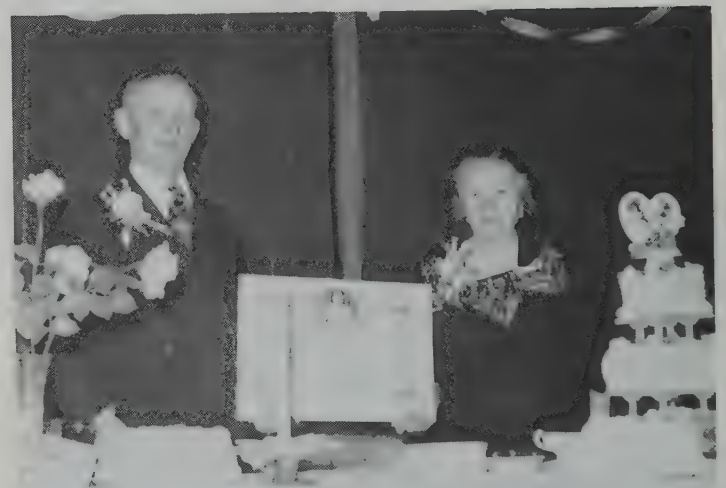
Axel and Agata Selin 1941



Herman and Maria Schubert 1954



Yngve and Alice Sikstrom 1970



Nick and Antonia Sapelak 1960



Ed and Olga Wolter 1979



Bill and Maria Wesenberg 1977



John and Justina Zucht 1936



Bill and Gertie Werner 1978



William and Maria Malik 1977



John and Anna Radtke 1962



Gottlieb and Emma Schmidt 1959



Fred and Caroline Rubis 1975



Martin and Sarah Henkelman 1980



Erling and Reidun Nordin 1980



Andrew and Theresa Hamula 1949



John and Marit Palm 1957



John and Vendla Grahn 1931



Carl and Helene Lechelt 1955



Frank and Doris Famulak 1981



Gus and Hilda Wahl 1981



Dave and Nathalie Busenius 1967



Julius and Theophilia Grams 1966



Anton and Thea Pearson 1962



Harry and Mary Sych 1968



Ludwig and Karoline Kopf 1951



Gus and Mary Bachor 1972

5 Generations



L. to R., Back: Emma Bittner, Rudolph Newman with his second wife Stefanie, Martha Hiebner nee Newman, Roy Hiebner. Front: Cindy and Rosie Hiebner.



L. to R., Back: Mrs. Fred Buss, Mrs. William Brunken. Front: Mrs. Mary Busenius, Wayne Buss, Mrs. Julius Sagert.



L. to R.: Frieda McLeod, Doris Henschell, Anna Henschell, Lyle Henschell holding daughter Emilie — 1978.



L. to R.: Ron Schoenknecht holding Cindy, Doris Schoenknecht, Dagmar Hermanitz, Aliva Sikstrom — 1973.



Back: Grace Ford holding Michael Soderstrom, Sandra Soderstrom holding Stephen. Front: Ann Rice, Mrs. McLeod.



L. to R.: Anna Radtke, Leokadia Lachman, Eileen Burnside, Judy Windsor and five year old Jennifer Windsor.



Back: Lydia Lachman and Dennis. Front: Mrs. Auguste Rost, Ms. Bonnie Lachman holding Shane Lachman.



Part of the army training.

Veterans

World War I Veterans

Berry, Reg	Ladell, George
Falconer, A. C.	Ladell, Harold
Grahn, Oscar	McLeod, Neil
Hein, Adam	Movold, Art
Helgren, Emil	Roper, W. Trevor
Hendrickson, Martin	Sikstrom, Arvid
Holdsworth, Maurice	Sikstrom, Yngve
Johnson, Nestor	Selin, Oscar
Ladell, Ambrose	Thompson, Leo
Ladell, Arthur	

World War II (1939-1945)

Arnston, Alfred	Davidson, Carsten
*Arnston, Florne	Douglas, Mac
Berkholtz, Jack	Enders, Leon
Berkholtz, Paul	Feragen, Clarence
Berkholtz, Robert	Feragen, Edwin
Berkholtz, Ted	Feragen, George
Bittner, Paul	Feragen, John
Blomander, Allan	Feragen, Vern

Fisher, Arthur
 Frederick, Leo
 Galenza, Edward
 Galenza, Stanley
 Galenza, Victor
 Grahn, Arthur
 Grahn, Ida
 Grahn, J. Oscar
 Grahn, Ted
 Grams, Herb
 Grams, Lawrence
 Grams, Lloyd
 Grieves, George
 Grommers, Eric
 Grue, Norman
 Halsmith, Walter
 *Hamula, Isidore
 Hamula, Michael
 Hanson, Carl
 Hanson, Vera
 Heald, Ralph

Heinz, Clarence
 Heinz, Ernest
 Hintz, Alex
 Hirsch, Alphonse
 Hirsch, Henry
 Hirsch, (Lippert) Levi
 Huebner, Arnold
 Johnson, John
 Johnson, Neil
 Johnson, Verner
 Kennedy, William
 Kiel, William
 Knopp, Helmuth
 Knopp, Leonard
 Lechelt, Ervin
 Lechelt, Hilbert
 Lickoch, Bernard
 Lickoch, Steve
 Likness, Selmer
 Lyle, Johnnie
 Mack, George

Matson, Alex
McCoy, Vern
*Milroy, William
Mitro, Dorothy
Mitro, John
Mittelstadt, Edmund
Mittelstadt, Theodore
Moren, Manfred
Morrison, Doug
Morrison, Don
Morrison, Ab
Morrison, J. W.
Moser, Camille
*Movold, Gilbert
Mullan, James
Nalesnik, Henry
Nalesnik, Mike
Naslund, Alvin
Naslund, Stanley
Nomeland, Inar
Nordin, Carl

Nordin, Rudolph
Nordin, Verner
Norlander, Albin
Norlander, Harold
Ogilvie, Glen
Olafson, James
*Palm, Edwin
Palm, Peter
Paquette, James
Pasula, Frank
Paul, Bill
Pawloske, Otto
Pearson, Alfred
Person, Albin
Person, Alver
Prier, Robert
Radawetz, Michael
Radawetz, Peter
Roberts, Stanley
Roper, George

Roper, W. Trevor
Roth, E. B.
Roth, Helmuth
Sagert, Lawrence
Schaffrick, Arthur
Schaffrick, Henry
Schlender, Lawrence
Schultz, Herman
Sich, Mike
Schweitzer, Paul
Sikstrom, Clifford
Sikstrom, Harold
Sikstrom, Harry
Sikstrom, Willard
*Smith, Arthur
Smith, Carl
*Smith, Paul
Soch, Arthur
Starcheski, Louie
Sundin, Rodney

Swanlund, Angnar
Swanlund, Verner
Sware, Clarence
Sych, Henry
These, Bruno
Thompson, Ella
Thompson, Ken
Thompson, Lloyd
Thompson, Margaret
Thompson, Rudolph
Tober, Ted
Tober, Walter
Trelenberg, Dan
Tullis, Wally
Waterman, Benjamin
Webster, Leslie
Welda, Gordon
Wesenberg, Fred
Willisko, Dave
Willisko, Leonard
Willisko, Stanley

*Indicates men who were killed in service.

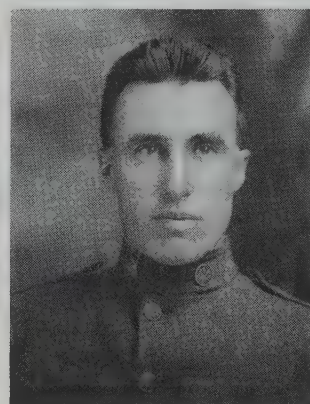
World War I Veterans



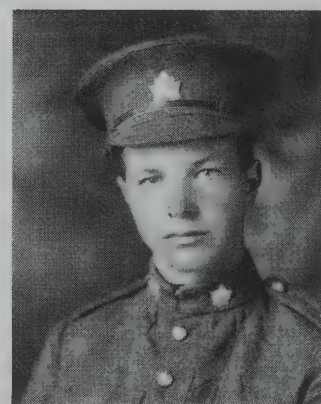
Reg Berry



A. C. Falconer



Oscar Grahm



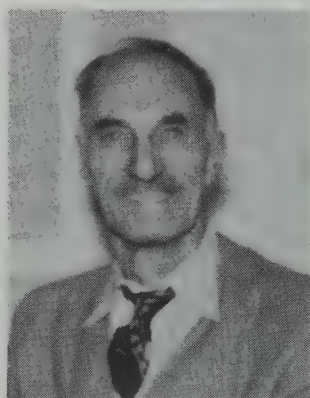
Adam Hein



Emil Helgren



Martin Hendrickson



Maurice Holdsworth



Nestor Johnson



Ambrose Ladell



Arthur Ladell



George Ladell



Neil McLeod



Art Movold



W. Trevor Roper



Arvid Sikstrom



Yngve Sikstrom



Oscar Selin



Leo Thompson

World War II Veterans



Alfred Arnston



Florne Arnston



Jack Berkholtz



Paul Berkholtz



Robert Berkholtz



Ted Berkholtz



Paul Bittner



Allan Blomander



Carsten Davidson



Mac Douglas



Leon Enders



Edwin Feragen



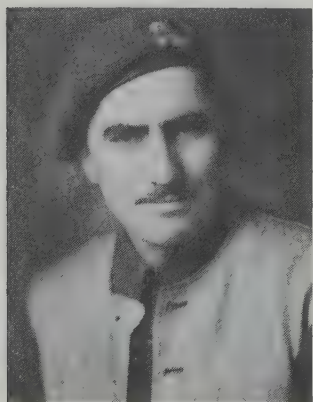
George Feragen



John Feragen



Vern Feragen



Arthur Fisher



Leo Frederick



Edward Galenza



Art Grahn



Stanley and Victor Galenza



Ida Grahm



J. Oscar Grahm



Ted Grahm



Herb Grams



Lawrence Grams



Lloyd Grams



Eric Grommers



Norman Grue



Walter Halsmith



Isidore Hamula



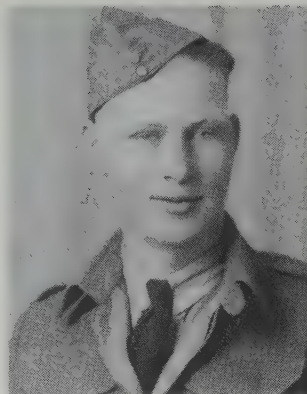
Michael Hamula



Clarence Heinz



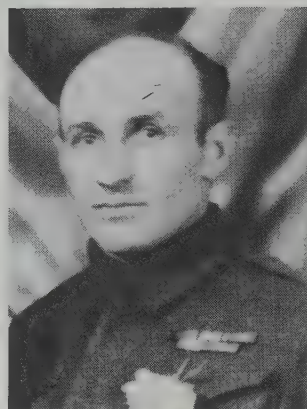
Carl and Vera (Burnley) Hanson



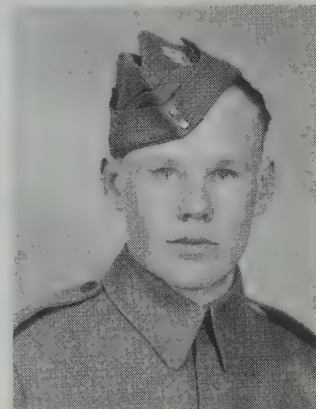
Ernest Heinz



Alex Hintz



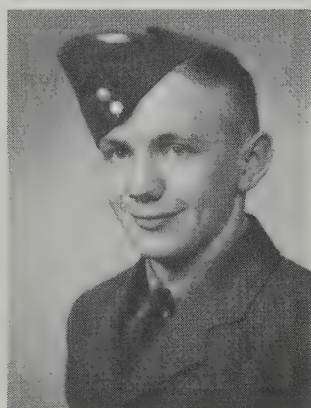
Alphonse Hirsch



Henry Hirsch



Levi (Lippert) Hirsch



Arnold Huebner



John Johnson



Neil Johnson



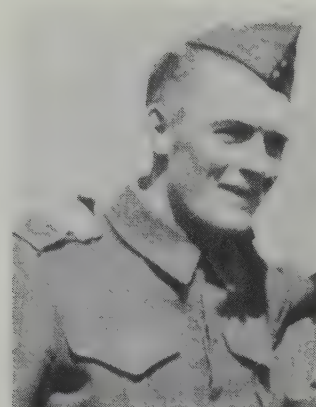
Verner Johnson



William Kiel



Leonard Knopp



Ervin Lechelt



Hilbert Lechelt



Bernard Lickoch



Steve Lickoch



Selmer Likness



Johnnie Lyle



George Mack



Alex Matson



Vern McCoy



William Milroy



Dorothy Mitro



John Mitro



Edmund Mittelstadt



Theodore Mittelstadt



Manfred Moren



Doug Morrison



Don Morrison



Ab Morrison



J. W. Morrison



Camille Moser



Gilbert Movold



James Mullan



Henry Nalesnik



Mike Nalesnik



Alvin Naslund



Stanley Naslund



Inar Nomeland



Carl Nordin



Rudolph Nordin



Verner Nordin



Albin Norlander



Harold Norlander



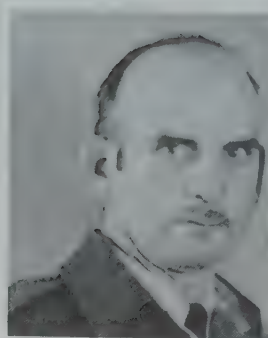
Glen Ogilvie



Edwin Palm



Peter Palm



James Paquette



Frank Pasula



Bill Paul



Otto Pawloske (World War II and Korean War)



Alfred Pearson



Albin Person



Alver Person



Robert Prier



Michael Radawetz



Peter Radawetz



George and W. Trevor Roper



E. B. and Helmuth Roth



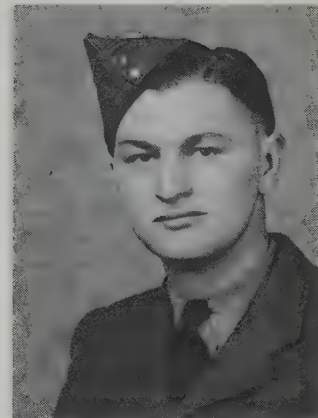
Lawrence Sagert



Arthur Schaffrick



Henry Schaffrick



Herma Schultz



Paul Schweitzer



Mike Sich



Clifford and Harold Sikstrom



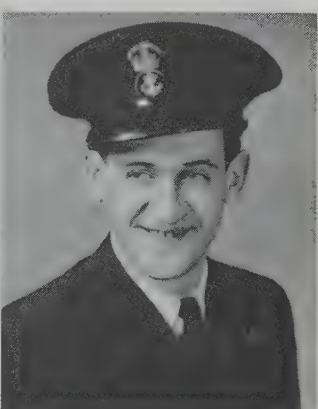
Harry Sikstrom



Willard Sikstrom



Art Smith



Carl Smith



Paul Smith



Arthur Soch



Louie Starcheski



Rodney Sundin



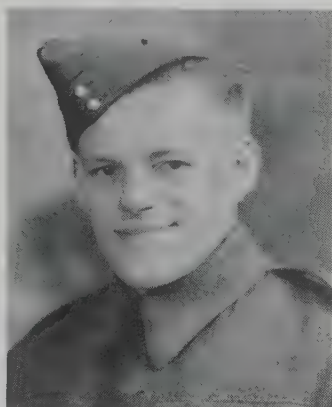
Angnar Swanlund



Verner Swanlund



Clarence Sware



Henry Sych



Bruno These



Ella Thompson



Ken Thompson



Lloyd Thompson



Margaret Thompson



Ted Tober



Dan Trelenberg



Wally Tullis



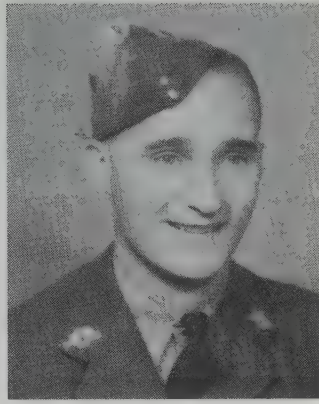
Leslie Webster



Gordon Welda



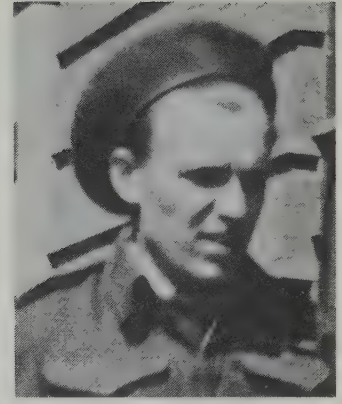
Fred Wesenberg



Dave Willisko



Leonard Willisko



Stanley Willisko

Hay Lakes Branch #201 Royal Canadian Legion

The Hay Lakes Branch #201 Royal Canadian Legion came into being on the 28th day of May, 1946. A general meeting of service personnel was held in the Hay Lakes Community Hall that evening with some thirty potential members present. A formal application for our charter was made with twelve members signing the document. These charter members were: George E. Roper; Wally M. Tullis; Henry Schaffrick; Art Fisher; Herbert Porter; Norman Porter; Harry Sikstrom; Stanley Galenza; Frank Pasula; Jim Pacquette; Art Schaffrick; James Olafson.

George Roper was the first president; Wally Tullis was vice-president and Henry Schaffrick was secretary-treasurer.



Hay Lakes Legion Carnival Queen — 1955. L. to R.: Gwen Cooper, Patsy Sych (queen), Jean Dahl, Maryann Magarell.

The Legion became an active community organization immediately. A Memorial Cairn was erected and dedicated the same year. Plans for a Legion Hall were put in motion — with fund raising committees and planning groups for the building and future activities. It was decided to have one major money raising event each year and it was a two day carnival and dance program that was very successfully operated from 1946 to 1960. Complementing the carnival was a “Queen” contest which became the heart of the affair, the winner always receiving gifts and an all expense free day in the city for herself and her attendants.

The Legion sponsored baseball and hockey teams, supplying all uniforms, bats, balls, hockey sticks, etcetera for three years. Misuse and wilful destruction of equipment caused the Legion to cancel this help on a direct basis, but it continued to back all athletic programs in the community. A Grand Challenge Trophy for annual competition was given to the Curling Club in 1947.

A scholarship award for academic proficiency was made annually to the Hay Lakes High School to be given a student in Grade nine.

Money for Christmas treats for the children in the Hay Lakes School and also Canard, Sulitjelma and Swan Hill schools, was donated in 1947.

Plans for a Memorial Gate at the Recreation Grounds were discussed and construction was done in 1948. Paul Schweitzer trucked all sand, gravel and cement necessary.

Mike Sich was appointed Legion representative on the town planning committee, an important organization in those days.

The Legion purchased a Butler Hut to be set up as our hall, in 1948. Difficulties in fitting the building to the cement foundation erected, caused them to never use it, and subsequently sell it at a loss. In 1949 W. Seipert was hired to supervise constuction of the hall. Materials were purchased from Beaver Lumber. Labor was nearly all voluntary. Once the shell was up,

Carl Nordin was placed in charge of further work and materials to be used. Regular work days and nights, amid all the regular activities of the community, soon brought the building to the point where the members held their first meeting in the new hall on Thursday, December 8, 1949. This was a "red letter day" in our local. Finishing work continued until completed in 1950.

Throughout the years the Legion purchased much of the equipment used to flood both rinks, lights for the skating rink, donated towards the school projector, managed the Hay Lakes hall, held regular Bingo nights, helped pay for upkeep of the rink, and was instrumental in obtaining the present recreational sports grounds.

In 1955, Alberta's Golden Jubilee, the Memorial Cairn was moved to its present site. This occasion was marked by parade and ceremony with Alberta Command representatives present, flag raising ceremony being performed by W. T. Roper with Last Post and Reveille being blown by George Roper.

The Legion Hall was used for many purposes. It was rented by the School for a short while, by Canadian Exploration Co. during our "oil" boom, was used by Scouts, Cubs, Brownies and Guides as their meeting base, was a most conveniently sized building for meetings, parties and social gathering for many years.

This branch held a curling "spiel every year, inviting rinks from surrounding communities for a one day session of curling and socializing capped by a "bean feed" prepared initially by Mrs. Kinghorn, and followed each year with the beans prepared in the same manner. Our branch was invited to similar functions at other branches, and took part in Legion play-downs for several years.

The first full Memorial Day service with parade, church service and cenotaph service was held in 1954 — the first of many to follow. It is noted with deep regret that these services have not been held since the branch ceased to operate its charter. Our modern society seems to have little time to "Remember" — at least without a great deal of prodding.

During our active years the Legion took a full part in town planning, recreational planning, community organizing for all occasions, supplied medical help for needy persons such as: crutches, wheel chairs, etcetera and maintained an active liaison with the Provincial and Federal commands.

As the years passed and many of our staunch members moved on to other fields, it became too much of a task for the few members remaining to carry on a branch worthy of the name. The closing of this branch, even though the charter may be re-activated at any time, was a sad day for many. The

closing out ceremony was performed on February 28, 1974. Alberta Command president Jack Chapman was present to reward several of those members attending with twenty-five year pins and past president pins. They were Carl Nordin, Camille Moser, Alf Arnston, Harry Baker, George Roper and Rudolph Nordin who was unable to be present at the time. Dominion Command now holds the charter, which can be re-instated any time there is a demand for it from this area.



Hay Lakes Legion gave up Charter, Feb. 28, 1974. Ex-presidents and 25 year members. L. to R.: George Roper, Alf Arnston, Carl Nordin, Jack Chapman, Harry Baker, Camille Moser.

Twice during the years of operation the legion records were almost completely destroyed by fire. The first time was when the home of the secretary was demolished and nothing was saved — for family or otherwise. Then a few years later Vern's General Store burned down, again with all the records to that date. Thus accurate details are non-existent for many years of operation.

We of the Legion are proud of what we accomplished during those years. We know the town has put the hall to good use in past years and hopefully will continue to do so. But somewhere in the back of the minds of those who were part and parcel of bringing No. 201 Branch into being is the hope that one day there will be sufficient interest by qualified members to ask for our charter back and once again have the Legion flag waving over our hall.

To those who supported us during the years we all say "Thank you" and may the traditions of the Royal Canadian Legion ever be manifest in the memories of the people of the district.

Executive Roll #201 Branch Royal Canadian Legion 1946-74

Date	President	Vice-President	Secretary-Treasurer
1946	George Roper	Wally Tullis	Henry Schaffrick
1947	Wally Tullis	George Roper	Mike Sich
1948	George Roper	Ralph Heald	Rudolph Nordin
1949	George Roper	Carl Nordin	Wally Tullis
1950	Mike Sich	Rudolph Nordin	Stanley Roberts
1951	Alfred Arnston	George Roper	Stanley Roberts
1952	William A. Kennedy	Vern Nordin	George Roper
1953	Vern Nordin	Ted Grah	George Roper
1954	Ted Grah	Carl Nordin	Benjamin Waterman
1955	Carl Nordin	George Grieves	Rudolph Nordin
1956	George Grieves	Vern Nordin	Alfred Arnston
1957	Vern Nordin	Camille Moser	James Mullan
1958	Camille Moser	George Mack	James Mullan
1959	George Mack	Jack Eckert	Unknown
1960	Jack Eckert	George Roper	Unknown
1961	George Roper	Records unavailable	(Fire)
1962	Henry Fester	Records unavailable	(Fire)
1963 to 1973	Unavailable . . .		
1974	Harry Baker	George Roper	Alfred Arnston

E. Edvard Harlander
Signature of Registrant

 **CANADA REGISTRATION BOARD.**

This certificate must always be carried upon the person of the registrant

NUMBER 118 273 46

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
Eric Edvard Harlander
residing at *Powell River*
who was duly registered for the national purposes
of Canada this *22nd* day of *June*, 1918
Alfred Arnston
Deputy Registrar

Registration for World War One 1918

Registration for World War I — 1918.



The Queen and I wish you God-speed,
and a safe return to your homes and dear
ones.

A grateful Mother Country is proud of your
splendid services characterized by unsurpassed
devotion and courage.

Mrs. Alma Carlson
Signature of Registrant

DOMINION OF CANADA
NATIONAL REGISTRATION REGULATIONS, 1940
REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

This certificate must always be carried upon the person of the registrant.

Electoral District No. 216 *Camrose* (Name)
Polling Division No. 25 *Hay Lakes* (Name if any)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
Mrs. Alma Carlson
residing at *Hay Lakes, Alta.*
was duly registered under the above-mentioned
Regulations this *30* day of *Dec.*, 1943
P. M. Hay Lakes
Deputy Registrar

Registration for World War Two 1943

Registration for World War II — 1943.

George R. I.

Note from King George. Given to each soldier on boat when
they were on way home — 1919.



Dedication of Cenotaph. L. to R.: Walter Halsmith, Hilbert Lechelt, Clifford Sikstrom, Rev. Stelter, Floyd Baker M.L.A., and Wally Tullis.

I Remember the War by Carl Eric Hanson

The years leading up to the Holocaust — Anschluss — Sudetenland — the take-over of Czechoslovakia and finally the invasion of Poland by Germany.

I was on the farm (home) and going to school at Hay Lakes. I was sixteen years old when war was declared in 1939. At every opportunity we had our ears glued to the radio to the steady stream of news-bulletins from the capital cities of Europe. It was a heady experience for an impressionable youth. How I longed to enlist and get on with it.

I remember the fall of 1939; we were threshing at Swares and a car drove up. Hilbert Lechelt had enlisted in the army and had come to visit us. He was in uniform. My, was I impressed!

Threshing was over and I went back to school.

Time went by; the war continued. The big sea-battle involving the German pocket battleship Graf-Spee took place. The spring of 1940 saw the invasion of Denmark and Norway, then in May, Holland, Belgium and France. The Battle of Britain commenced.

In the fall of 1940 a new ingredient was brought onto the local scene. The British Empire Air Training Plan had been implemented and the sky over Hay Lakes was filled with airplanes, Tiger Moths they were called; they flew out of Edmonton. I was determined to enlist in the Air Force.

A year went by, more and more local boys enlisted; I became impatient. Finally I turned eighteen years old. Bert, my brother, took Army training that year. I remember thinking that unless I moved quickly I would be left out of it all.

After much persuasion Mother reluctantly gave her consent to my enlisting. I got recommendations from Oscar Grahn and Einar Broen. I filled out my application to enlist in the Royal Canadian Air Force in Edmonton.

As I had not taken all the subjects to complete Senior Matriculation I was sent to qualify for Pilot training. We were very enthusiastic, I remember.

By early December, 1941, I graduated from Glenora High and was ready to encounter my next adventure.

Shortly after arriving in Bournemouth, England, one unnerving thing was when "Lord Haw-Haw" spoke over the German radio welcoming the Canadian Contingent that had just arrived in Bournemouth and promising us good treatment as prisoners or a decent funeral when we were killed.

While each mission has special memories when many who went were missing, and many were killed, space will not permit detailed narration.



Hay Lakes Memorial Dedication Parade on Canada Day, 1946.

Family Histories



W. T. Roper in front of stables at Rushy Lake Ranch. (Roper Homestead) 1910.

People, Stories and Events



Maurice Charles Holdsworth with his five step children in his 1916 Ford, taken in 1928. L. to R.: Helen, Al, Harold, Maurice, Ada, Betty.

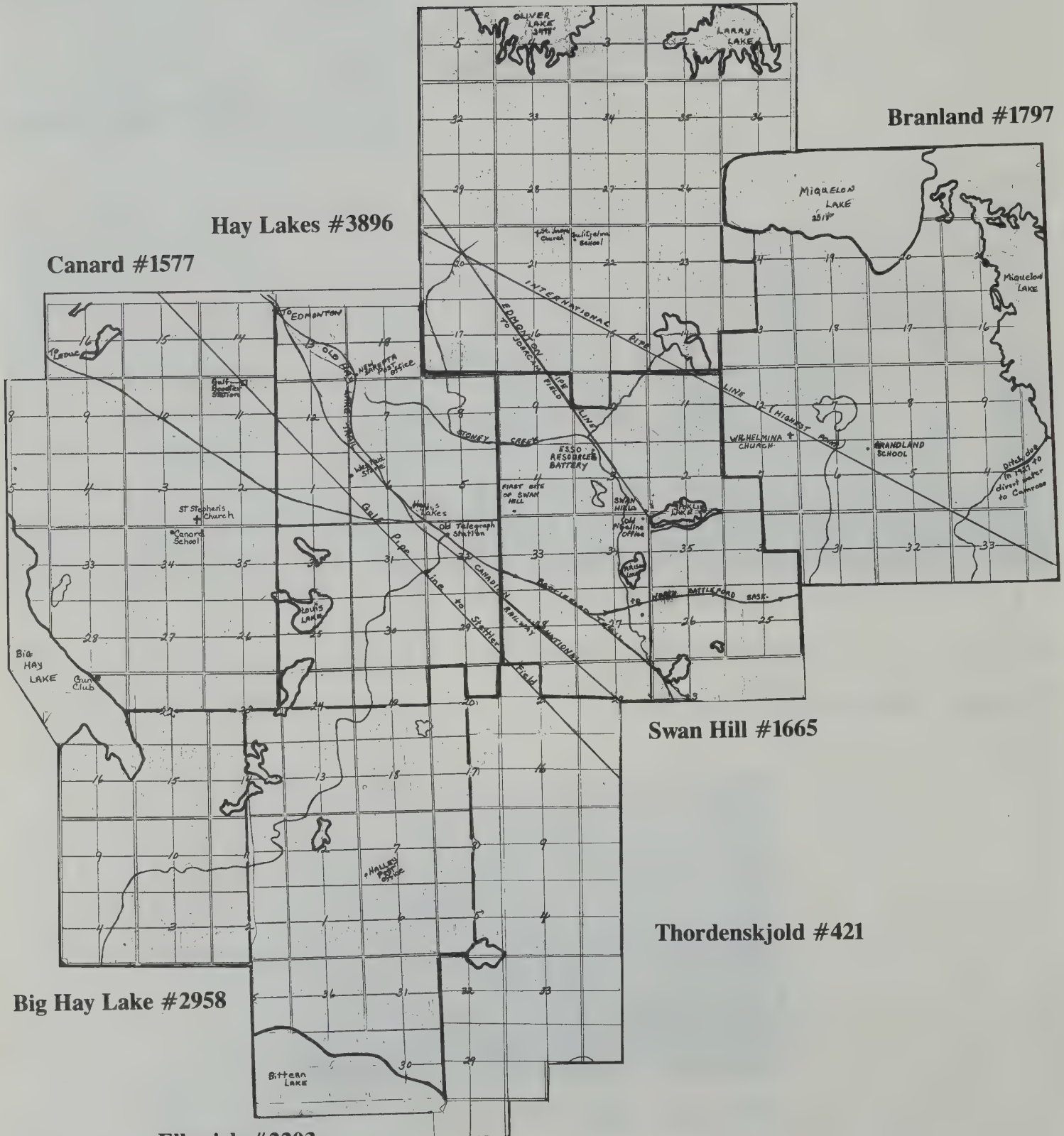
School Districts of the Hay Lakes

Sulitjelma #1611

Branland #1797

Hay Lakes #3896

Canard #1577



Swan Hill #1665

Thordenskjold #421

Big Hay Lake #2958

Ellswick #2203

A Picture is Worth 1000 Words

Transportation



Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel and Martha, in their first car 1921.



Ole Feragen's winter transportation.



Bertha and Edna Anderson leaving for Ellswick School with "Flossie" and the cart.



Robert Knopp's first team. L. to R.: Bertha (mother), Leonard, Robert, unknown, Helmut Knopp.



Charles McLean putting on his boots to go for help on main road from Hay Lakes to Camrose. (New 1940 Ford car).



Hay Lakes roads in 1935.



Art Movold enjoying a thresher's lunch on running board of Martin's Model A car. Child? Likely Wayne — 1941.



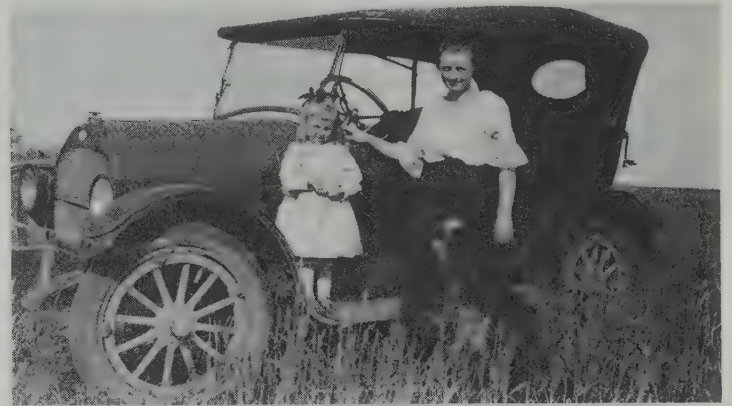
Rolfe Welda and the 1917 Model T Ford.



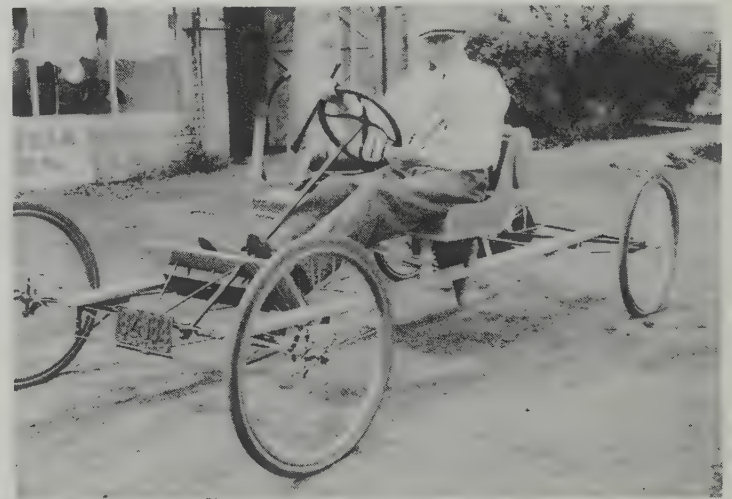
Simon Grue and Rolfe Welda getting the Model T ready for a hunting trip to Whitecourt.



W. T. Roper and his trophies of a hunt late 1920's.



Emma Lachman and daughter Lydia in 1923 Overland Car.



Chris Hein (storekeeper) driving home built motor car, in front of Grahn's garage, July 1929. In upper right hand corner is Charles Lechelt.



Young people from east Hay Lakes, bound for Banff — 1927.



Mr. and Mrs. John Palm on their homestead 1913 or 1914.



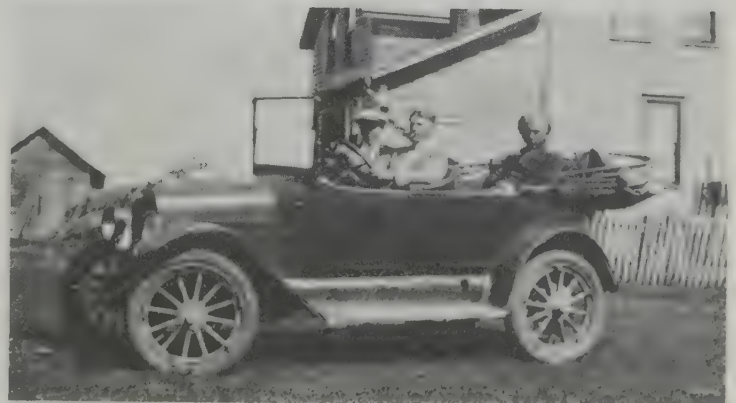
Helen and Peter Galenza. Picture taken, spring of 1933.



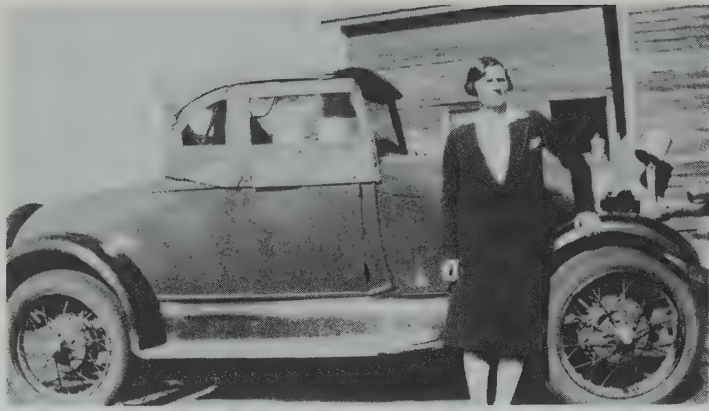
C. Lachman family (1931) Essex Car.



Art Middlestead in his almost new 1936 coupe.



Emil Lachman in back seat of his Maxwell car, with the Tiel boys in the front — 1927.



Karoline Kopf 1930. A 1928 Ford Model A. Roadster.



Opening the road for Jacob Welda's funeral April 2, 1951. Near St. Joseph Church.



Oscar Mallas on 1918 Harley Davidson twin-motor motorcycle. Bought in 1933 for \$25.00 in running condition.



The Old Trail into Hay Lakes, buildings and elevators in background — 1920's.

Buildings



1912 — Log home of W. T. Roper. W. T. Roper, M. R. Ladler, Margaret, Trevor in old carriage.



Pumping water with Dog Wheel on the Gottlieb Schmidt farm.



E. P. Nordin home with Mrs. Nordin and Verner 1922.



Anton Sware barn under construction — 1927.



The August Lachman home built in 1914.



E. P. Nordin standing beside first hip-roofed barn in the area — 1912.



The Karl Heinz home built in 1908.



Carl C. Lechelt home built about 1910 by Frank Hodgson.



The Harald Person Homestead — 1910.



Jonas Helgren on his homestead with his sons Ole left and Emil right. Note hay hook against barn — 1912 or 1913.



John Lofgren Sr. and homestead.



Anton Pearson farm home. Built — 1917.



Mr. Gustav Edvall with his second wife Lina holding Linea. Standing Right: Fredolph and Fanny. Taken on their farm where Bill Webster now lives.



Picture taken at the Erik Hanson home. The wedding of Peter and Hilda Hanson — 1914.



Otto Lachman getting water from well.



1921 Mrs. Annie Gerzanich and Sam standing behind parents George and Mary Sych.

A. Schoenknecht W. Schoenknecht I. Sych			
20	S. Holmer R. Newman E. Bittner W. Hodge E. Jantz	21	O. Hendrickson A. Olson G. Olson
	J. Bittner E. Bittner		Kain M. Schneider A. Wegner Standard Hog Farms Ltd.
			C. Kelstad P. Schweitzer W. Buban
			C. Kelstad A. Moe L. Hendrickson
17	J. Grams N. Grams	16	A. Boe E. Hendrickson A. Moe N. Moe
	A. Olson O. Hendrickson M. Hendrickson		N. Gullickson A. Broen 80 E. Roth H. Grams M. Gullickson A. Broen 80 E. Knopp
	H. Hendrickson L. Hendrickson C. Grams E. Kartz		G. Hendrickson Roble A. Stavne J. Miller C. Miller
8	H. Hendrickson R. Young E. Kartz	9	G. Hendrickson Roble A. Stavne J. Miller C. Miller
	O. Anderson G. Hendrickson		Bronken G.E. Hendrickson Rudd Z. Tchir D. Fetzner
	G. Hendrickson N. Smith H. Hendrickson M. Hendrickson R. Skaret		G. Hendrickson Rudd Z. Tchir W. Tchir R. Schuurmann Standard Hog Farms Ltd.
5	W. Moore J. Moore Smith Clinic B. Harp	4	H. Mortenson E. Nelson W. Moore J. Moore N. Moore
			A. Moe M. Hendrickson A. Wickland W. Wickland D. Fetzner
	E.C. Roper H. Roper I. Budd G. Budd		C. Andreasson H.O. Grahn T. Grahn L. Grahn
	C. Andreasson T. Grahn L. Grahn		M. Broen C. Naslund Standard Hog Farm Ltd.
32	E.C. Roper H. Roper I. Budd G. Budd	33	M. Broen C. Naslund Standard Hog Farm Ltd.
	F. Langston S.R. Smithson L. Grahn		E. Busk Dr. Billig G. Moore B. Moore
	E.C. Roper H. Roper I. Budd G. Budd		Mc Farland A. Hamilton G. Hamilton V. Dolenchuk
	F. Langston S.R. Smithson L. Smithson Samson Tribal Enterprises		Mc Farland A. Hamilton G. Hamilton V. Dolenchuk
29	R.B. Gould E. Kaser	28	Mc Millan Rev. Alexander S. Zuzulak A. Galenza G. Soderstrom R. Wall
	A. Babuik Kaser (estate) A+S. Hoefling		A. Babuik Kaser (estate) A+S. Hoefling
20			

Thordenskjold School District No. 421

Prior to 1894 there were only a handful of settlers and squatters, but with the coming of the Grues, Movalds, Moes and others it became necessary to consider the education of the children. In 1896 the school committee petitioned the Council of Public Instruction of the North West Territories at Regina to form the Thordenskjold School District.

The school district was named after a great Norwegian sailor, Peter Thordenskjold. It was one of the first schools built south of the North Saskatchewan River. It was built in 1898 of logs hauled from White Water Lake and sawed on Thore Grue's sawmill. Thore made the desks for one dollar each. This first school still stands on the Fred Dyck farm N.E. 10-48-21 and is used as a garage.



Second Thordenskjold School, barn and outhouses.



Thordenskjold School boys about 1945. Top Row: Reinhold Knopp, Allan Moore, Martin Budd, Norman Moe, Orris Hendrickson, Allan Grams, Clifford Budd. Bottom Row: Leonard Olson, Ordin Olson, Otto Bittner, Rodney Skaret, Harold Grams, David Moore, Harvey Moore.

It is interesting to note that taxes were four and one-half cents per acre, or five dollars per quarter and that personal property was taxed as well as real estate. Horses were assessed at ten dollars and cows at six dollars a head.

In 1914 a new frame school house was erected on the N.W. 11-48-21. Taxes rose that year to twelve dollars a quarter. This building was equipped with a belfrey and bell. In 1916 coal was first used for heating to supplement the wood. Wood was supplied by tender. The tender called for the wood to be cut split and piled in a neat cord.

Due to Centralization of School Districts in 1941 changes were made in the boundaries of the Thordenskjold School District. It now included the western part only of the district, the eastern part of the Ellswick School District, as well as part of the Busk School District. The Thordenskjold school was later moved into Camrose to become the office for the Camrose School Division No. 20 which had been formed in 1938.

During the summer of 1941 the Busk School building was moved to the George Hendrickson 40-S.W. 9-48-21 and given the name Second Thordenskjold but retained the school district number 421. Thor Grahn with son Lloyd built a chimney and addition for a coal bin as the school had been on a basement but one was not dug here.

Those who served on the School Board were Robert Young, Anton Olson, Arnt Moe and Martin Hendrickson.

The first teacher (1941-1942) was Miss Marion



Second Thordenskjold School 1942. Back Row, L. to R.: Norman Moe, Leonard Bittner, Hedwig Roth, Eileen Grams, Margart Grams, Doris Hendrickson, Arnold Knopp, Martin Budd, Allan Grams. Middle Row: Gladys Olson, Arlene Skaret, Lois Moe, Harvey Moore, Kathleen Beller, Orris Hendrickson, Philip Beller, Leonard Olson, Allan Moore, Lura Beller, Clifford Budd, Adeline Moe, Reinhold Knopp, Lorraine Stavne. Front Row: Rodney Skaret, David Moore, Doris Grams, Ellen Budd, Robert Beller, Otto Bittner, Carol Hendrickson.

Johnson of Camrose who later became Mrs. Tate. She had taught at the Busk School the year before it was moved. Miss Johnson excelled in music and played the piano very fluently. She also had music pupils.

Mrs. Thea (Hendrickson) Young taught from September 1942 to December of 1944.

Miss Marion Parker taught from January to June of 1945.

Miss Almira Hoyme taught from 1945-1946.

Mrs. Margaret Hendrickson taught from September 1946 to October 1948 with the exception of May and June of 1948 when Miss Silk taught.

In October of 1948 the Thordenskjold District became a part of the enlarged Armena School District. The children, approximately thirty at that time, were now transported by bus to the new school in Armena.

The children played many games such as Pom Pom Pull Away, Steal Sticks and Pee Wee. There were inter school ball games and track meets. In the winter snow forts were built, Fox and Goose was played and snow ball fights were always in order. At times there was a skating rink made by pupils who hauled water from Martin Hendrickson's in cream cans in Budd's cutter. The school had its own hockey team.



Thordenskjold School Picnic. L. to R., Back Row: Ordin Olson, Rodney Skart, David Moore, Harvey Moore, Merton Moore (being held) Mrs. Glen Moore, Olga , Martha Hendrickson, Allan Moore, Orris Hendrickson. 4th Row: Leonard Olson, Mrs. Irvin Budd, Mrs. Adolph Moe, Mrs. Arnt Moe. 3rd Row: Marilyn Miller, Gladys Olson, Ellen Budd, Adelene Moe, Lois Moe, Arlene Skaret, Thora Moe behind Alma Hendrickson holding David Hendrickson, Thea Young, Clara Miller. 2nd Row: Margaret Budd, Carol Hendrickson, Delores Olson, Gertrude Roth, Martha Bittner, Grace Hendrickson. Front: Gordon Budd, Darlene Moe, Marie Young.

Irven Budd brought a pump engine driven generator and a projector to show talking movie pictures at the school on different occasions. This was a special occasion and the memories of it are treasured.

Most of the pupils walked, but a few drove horses

which were kept in the barn. The younger pupils hauled water and the older ones did the janitor work and kept the furnace going. The one lighting fires had to be at school by seven A.M. to light fires and warm up the building.

At the regular Christmas programs John Bittner is remembered as being the Santa Claus.

During the last two years the school operated, Rev. Schultze, a retired minister, came one day a week from New Sarepta by means of horse and buggy or sleigh to give piano instruction to several of the pupils at the nearby Martin Hendrickson home.

Following the closing of the school the building was sold to Martin Hendrickson. In February of 1966, just after having been remodelled as a pig barn by Rod Skaret, the building was destroyed by fire.

Bittner, Johann (John)

by Mrs. Helen Hiebner

John Bittner was born on May 7, 1882 at Wladimer, Wolinsk, Poland and was the son of Martin Bittner and Louisa nee Mantai. Between 1882 and the turn of the century Martin, his wife and children immigrated to Russia because of the abundance of opportunities offered to German settlers who had immigrated to Russia previously. There is little information known about the Martin Bittner family or John's brothers and sisters except that they were Lutheran farmers living in Russia.

Sometime prior to 1903 John married Anna Lowes (?). Anna was born on May 11, 1886 in Rodimear, Russia. There is nothing known about her



1920's — John and Anna Bittner (nee Lowes) and baby Bittner.

parentage and their family. While living in Russia, John and Anna became the parents of three children.

By 1912 there were no opportunities available for the younger generation living in Russia. John and Anna could feel the pressures of the forth-coming war and decided that life could be somewhat easier by immigrating to Canada. At the time of arriving in Canada in 1912 John was thirty years old and Anna was twenty-six years old. The three children were Olga age nine years, Emma who was nine years and Emmanuel who was only three years old.

The John Bittner Family came to the Hay Lakes district in 1912 and made their home in the Thordenskjold School District where they purchased the NE 17-T48-R21-W4. While living here the family attended the Lutheran Church at Hay Lakes and the children attended the Thordenskjold School. The sons did not acquire very much education as they were needed to help out with the farm work.

While living on this farm five more children were born to John and Anna. They were Alma, August, Ewald, Elmer and Esther. On September 5, 1927, Anna passed away at the age of fifty-one years. She is buried on the Lutheran Cemetery at Hay Lakes. At this time the youngest child Esther was only five years old.

In 1928 John married for the second time, to Emma Morritz. To this marriage three more children were born. They were Leonard, Martha and Otto.

Sometime after the second world war John, Emma and the children that were still single moved to

Edmonton, Alberta. On September 28, 1956 John passed away. He is buried on the Lutheran Cemetery at Hay Lakes. Emma Bittner remained a widow and lived in Edmonton until 1980. She is now eighty-three years old and lives with her daughter Martha Mielkie at Faust, Alberta.

John through his two marriages was the father of eleven children. The children of John and Anna were:

Olga Bittner was born in 1904 while in Russia. She married Robert Werner on July 23, 1925. For some time they had lived near Ellerslie. They were the parents of seven children; Walter, Esther, Gustav, Helen, Reinhold, Teresa and Margaret. Olga passed away on November 3, 1941 and is buried on the Ellerslie Lutheran Cemetery. Robert later remarried and now lives in B.C.

Emma Bittner was born on December 25, 1905 in Russia and married Rudolf Newman on November 18, 1919 at Hay Lakes. They lived in Hay Lakes for a number of years and spent the rest of their life together at New Sarepta. They were the parents of six children who were Selma, Herman, Herbert, Arthur, Martha and Irna. Emma passed away on May 11, 1962 and is buried on the New Sarepta Moravian Cemetery. Rudolf remarried and lives in retirement in Edmonton, Alberta.

Emmanuel Bittner was born on October 19, 1909 in Russia. In July 1929 he married Wanda Hansch. They were the parents of four children; Linda, Inez, Erica and Rudolph. Emmanuel and Wanda lived in New Sarepta all of their life and are now retired and live in the village of New Sarepta.

Alma Bittner was born on April 22, 1917 at Hay Lakes. On July 2, 1936 she married Gustav Wesenberg. They were the parents of three children; George, Martin and Lenore. Alma and Gustav lived at Looma most of their lives. Alma is still alive and lives in Edmonton.

August Bittner was born on August 1, 1913 at Hay Lakes. On February 26, 1938 he married Wanda Schatzsnieder. They were the parents of five children Rudolph, Arthur, Frieda, Rosie and Helen. They lived at Barrhead, Alberta and then later Edmonton. August passed away on September 24, 1964.

Ewald remained single most of his life. In the late 1970's he married Lydia Nehring. They are the parents of a little girl.

Elmer was born on August 13, 1920 at Hay Lakes. He is single and lives near Abbotsford, B.C.

Esther was born on May 4, 1922 at Hay Lakes. She passed away at the age of fourteen years in 1936 and is buried on the Lutheran Cemetery at Hay Lakes.

The children of John and Emma Bittner were Leonard born June 28, 1929 at Hay Lakes. He was



1930's — John and Emma Bittner (nee Morritz).

single and died in 1959. He is buried on the Lutheran Cemetery at Hay Lakes.

Martha Bittner was born on October 28, 1938 at Hay Lakes. On October 22, 1955 she married Harold Mielkie. Their children are Fred, Gordon, Linda and Rodney. They make their home in Faust, Alberta.

Otto Bittner was born on November 3, 1936 at Hay Lakes. On September 20, 1958 he married Edeltraut Grieger. Their children are Robert, Carl, Helga, and Anita. They live in Edmonton, Alberta.

John and Mary Broen

John Broen came from Norway in 1880 at the age of seventeen years, along with his mother, sister and brother, landing in Minnesota. There he worked off their tickets.

He then decided to go to Kulm, North Dakota, taking his mother with him, and started farming. There he met Mark Eklund, whom he married in 1890. Mary had come from Sweden at the age of fourteen along with her parents, two brothers and three sisters, and had settled in Kulm, North Dakota. Her youngest sister is still living there, at the age of ninety-five.

In 1894, John came north to look for land in the Territories. In 1896, John and Mary moved up and landed on the homestead southeast of Hay Lakes. By then they had three little boys — Einar, Asy and Erik. He was a little baby. They built a house and barn of logs. They built a new house in 1902 which has been lived in until 1979. The barn is still being used for a machine shed. Mr. Grue sawed the shingles for the roof which are still on the building.



Built in 1898 belongs to John Broen.

They drove to Wetaskiwin for mail and groceries at that time. In 1900, another boy was born, Ingvard, a girl, Josephine, and then another boy, Magnus. Josephine is the only one still living.

Mary and John farmed six miles south east of Hay Lakes. They had cleared land and got into cattle. They milked a bunch of cows until John passed away

at the age of seventy in 1933. Mary lived to a ripe old age of eighty-seven years, passing away in 1961.

Buban, Wolfgang and Tina

Wolfgang Buban and Tina Vandenberg met in Camrose and were married there in 1957. Wolfgang had been raised in Germany and Tina came to Canada with her family from Holland.

Their four children were all born in Camrose, Joyce in 1958, Jane 1960, Kelvin 1965 and Steven in 1971.

The family moved to the Hay Lakes-Armena area in 1967, (centennial year) building a new house on the former Ed Knopp farm. The land location is SW¼ 16-48-21-W4th and they have a dairy operation.

Joyce and Jane both graduated from Hay Lakes School. Joyce received her R.N. from the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton. She married James French of Camrose in 1981 and they live in Calgary. Jane is completing her degree in Education at the University of Alberta. Kelvin and Steven are presently attending school in Hay Lakes.

Budd, Irven

I was born in Ontario in 1900, in a small place called Glen Allen, west of Toronto. My father and mother brought us out West in 1907. Arriving in Lacombe in November, 1907, we settled in the Rimbey district. In 1908 my father, George Budd, filed on a homestead north of Rimbey. The Post Office was Iola and mail arrived twice a week by covered wagon from Ponoka. The Post Office was closed, the address for that area is now Bluffton and we have Rural mail delivery.

In my teenage years I worked east of Calgary. There I met my wife, Alice Blackburn who was the hired girl for the farmer where I worked. Alice was born in the United States. Her mother, brothers and sisters came to a farm west of Carstairs. Their Post Office was Cremona.

In 1921 Alice and I got married. We have five boys and two girls. Their names are Ralph, Russell, Martin, Clifford, Ellen, Margaret and Gordon.

I farmed in the Iola and Rimbey area for a few years. Nine out of ten years we were hailed out. Then our house burned. We lost most of our belongings, all our old time pictures and wedding pictures. In 1939 we rented the Harry Roper farm at Bittern Lake and were to take possession on April 1. Mr. Bamber was the renter before me and was having his sale on March 24, so I brought my tractor over that day. The road ban for trucks was to be on by 7 A.M. so we had to leave Rimbey by 4:30 A.M. We got to Don Roper's store at Bittern Lake at 7 A.M. so we had to come



Irven Budd Family. L. to R., Back: Gordon, Ellen, Russell, Martin. Front: Clifford, Irven, Ralph, Alice and Margaret.

across the lake. The spring thaw was on so there was lots of water on the lake.

Then on the first of April we moved our stock, horses and cattle. We got to Gwynne at 3:00 P.M. The weather had changed to real cold with snow. After having coffee there we went north by Harvest Home School. We got stuck about half a mile south of Otto Metzgers with both trucks. I walked to Mr. Maygards, about a half a mile south of where we were stuck. By this time it was nearly dark. Maygards had company and were playing cards but he said he would help. He came with his tractor but when he moved in front of the trucks he drove over a frozen lump and the front spindle of his tractor broke. Now the tractor was sitting in front of both trucks. I then walked to Mr. Harry Sych's farm to see if he would give us a pull with his tractor but he couldn't get his engine started. We couldn't unload the cattle or horses as the ground was frozen and then would have broken their legs. My Sych took us to the north end of the Roper farm and we walked and ran from there to the house. Next morning I got up at 4:00 o'clock and was it cold. After I got the 15-30 tractor started I still couldn't move the tractor as the transmission oil was so heavy and cold that it just would not move. We built a fire under it for quite a while and finally with a heavy blanket on the radiator we were able to start. We went a half mile and the radiator was frozen but we got to the Lester Anderson farm. Lester brought heavy rope and some warm water and we started up again and got the trucks pulled out. We had two horses down in the one truck. One had her ribs broken and the other would have been dead in just a few minutes but we got her pulled off the truck just in time. Now my tractor had a broken axle. With the help of these neighbors, we finally arrived at our farm.

The house was big; four rooms upstairs, five rooms downstairs and a basement. When Harry Roper lived on the farm he was the Rate payers Secretary so one room of the house was used then for the Rate payers to pay their taxes.

Our children attended the Busk School, later the Thordenskjold School, and much later they went by school bus to the Armena school.

After renting the farm for a number of years I bought it. In 1975 we retired to the City of Camrose. My youngest son, Gordon, now owns the farm.

Grams, Leo and Rosalie (Nee Knopp)

by Rosalie Grams

I am the only daughter of Edward and Ida Knopp and am married to Leo Grams, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. August Grams of Rollyview. When we were married my husband was driving milk truck for his brother Bob, who owned the Rollyview General Store. We lived there for a number of years during which time two daughters, Leona (1946) and Delores (1947) and a son Melvin (1949) were born.



Leo and Rose Grams 1964 holding first grandson Alan Jahns.

Later we moved to a farm in the Clover Lawn district where three more children were born, one son Vernon (1951) and two daughters Dale (1954) and Sandra (1955). Here our oldest three children started school at Heimdahl which was only about a half a

mile from our farm. Farming here was considerably easy for all the work was done by horses. We made our living by milking cows and grain farming. In 1955 we sold the farm to Ferdinand Madu and moved to Brightview. We lived there for about two years during which time another daughter, Audrey (1956), was born. We bought a farm northeast of Donalda in 1957. It was owned by Fred Brown but known as the Henry Ramstead farm. Farming here was a struggle as the land was not the best and all we had was a small Ford tractor and some horses to do the field work. We also milked a lot of cows by hand. Here all the children went to the Donalda School. Another son Ivan (1958) was born in the Stettler Hospital and then we had another son who died in infancy.

In 1963 we moved to the farm near Armena, N.E. 16-48-21 W4, where we are still living. The two oldest girls, Leona and Delores, stayed in Donalda to finish school that year and the others transferred to Armena. It was here that we first had Calgary Power and a telephone and everyone in the family sure enjoyed these conveniences. We still milk cows, ship milk and raise grain with the help of our youngest son Ivan.



Children and Grandchildren of Leo Grams. Back Row: Vern, Robert, Helen, Vince, Herb, Morris, Ken, Ivan. Front Row: Audrey, Jeffrey, Delores, Alan, twins Scott and Sean, Leona, Dale holding Mikki, Sandra, Marcelle, Mickeal.

A little about our children:

Leona married Herb Jahns in 1963. He is a grain farmer at Forestburg. They have three children: Allen, age sixteen, and a set of twins, Scott and Sean, age twelve.

Delores married Ron Ziehr of Stony Plain in 1969 and they had one son Jeffrey, age nine. She was widowed in 1971. In 1976 she married Vincent Badry of Heisler. They have twin boys, Byron and Marty age three, and Ashley age two. They reside in Stony Plain.

Melvin quit school and worked at home for a few years. He went to drive truck for Ryley Transport of Edmonton and in November, 1969, was killed in a truck accident at the age of nineteen years.

Vernon is married to Helen Van De Laak of Millet. They have two children, Robert age six, and Joey age four. Vernon owns his own truck and drives for a firm in Calgary. At present they are residing in Camrose.

Dale married Morris Lanuk who is a welder. They own and operate Lanuk's Welding Works in Camrose. They have two children, Mikki Dean age six, and Daniel Morris age four.

Sandra married Ken Pohl of Wetaskiwin and they have two children, Michael age seven, and Marcella age six. Sandra and the children now live in Spruce Grove.

Audrey finished her schooling at Hay Lakes School and graduated in the fall of 1974. At present she is working for Western Installation in Calgary.

Ivan took his schooling at St. Patrick School in Camrose. He is now living at home and helping with the farming.

Hendrickson, Carl E.

Carl Hendrickson was born in South Dakota at the close of the 1890s. He came to the Armena district with his parents in 1902 and received most of his elementary education at the Thordenskjold school, where later his sister and sister-in-law taught their own nephews and nieces. He received his higher education at Augsburg College, Minneapolis, but returned to Camrose to attend the Normal School during one of the first years it was in operation. Some of the schools he taught were Edgerton, Ellswick and Swan Hill. The latter two are now included in the Hay Lakes Centralized school, in the County of Camrose. The school inspector at the time was Fred McNally, who made his leisurely rounds with horse and buggy or a cutter.

In those days the girls wore their hair in braids instead of Toni's, and boys went out stooking in the fall for fifty cents a day and board, instead of the wages they receive today.

One of his memories of the early days was selling partridges to the grocery store, three for twenty-five cents.

The desire for greater opportunities in education drew Carl back to the United States. He devoted a lifetime to the teaching profession. In later years he was highly interested in adult education.

During World War One he served with the U.S. Marine Corps. In 1936-37, with his wife Edith and young daughter Eloise, they toured Europe for fourteen months. A few years later they toured many

other countries travelling by land, water, and air. Carl has a great desire for travel and enjoys seeing all the different parts of the world. He finds the different countries and the people of great interest.

Carl and his wife Edith have now retired and live at Leisure World, Leguna Hills, California. Their daughter Eloise O'Hern lives at Carlsbad, California.

The Henry Hendrickson Story by Thea Young

Henry Hendrickson was born in Drangedal, Norway January 28, 1862. At the age of ten years he immigrated with his parents to the U.S.A. In 1888, he married Mathea Lyseng, whose parents had crossed the Atlantic from Norway in a sailing vessel prior to her birth.

In the spring of 1902, my parents moved to the Armena-Hay Lakes area, then known as the Northwest Territories. Wetaskiwin was their closest railway. Mother and their seven children travelled in the private railroad car with her three brothers, Albert,

Eric and Knut Lyseng and their families, while Dad rode the freight train caring for the horses and cattle.

While travelling through North Dakota two men entered his car with revolvers, demanding all his money and valuables such as watches. They slugged him unconscious, gagged and bound him. When he revived his helper who was tending the stock in the other car came in for his supper and untied him. The alarm was sounded but the robbers were gone. This was quite a set back as my parents had sold their farm in South Dakota for cash. However, they were thankful that father's life had been spared, although he had bruises for a long time.

Through co-operation and hard work they managed to build their house the first summer. It still stands on the original rock foundation as a monument to the toil and sacrifices of our parents.

The largest room in the house was the parlor. It had an organ, a wood burning heater, and a few pieces of furniture, some of which were handmade. Of greatest importance was the spinning wheel which provided yarn for stockings, caps and mittens. All our clothing was homemade. In later years mother



The Henry Hendrickson Family taken in 1921. Back Row: Inga, Oscar, Olianna, George, Marie, Carl, Emma, Martin, Thea and Jorgine. Front Row: Elmer, Henry, Lawrence, Mathea, and Raymond.



Henry Hendrickson house built in 1902. 3 miles west of Armena. Picture taken 1979.

got John Nelson's home-made loom on which she wove blankets and rugs. This too, was set up in the parlor.

Our parlor served many purposes. It was the room for visitors, the most important being the pastor who sometimes used it as a meeting house. Emma and I were both married in this room. When there was a childbirth this room became a maternity hospital. The six youngest children were born in our parlor. My brother, Raymond, died in this room twenty-two years after his birth.

Visitors were always welcome in our home and nobody was turned away hungry. We have many fond memories of our parents, who sacrificed much to give their family a good living and a Christian education. Dad died June 24, 1937 and mother November 12, 1951.

Jorgine, the oldest, got her teacher's certificate in 1909. She taught at Thordenskjold and other neighbouring schools. Jorgine was the first teacher at Swan Hill School. At the time of her death in 1918, she was employed by the Farmington School District at Kingman.

Oscar farmed until his death in 1958. His wife, Martha, and son, Orris and family still reside in this district.

Carl and his wife, Edith, reside at Leisure World, Leguna Hills, California. He devoted a lifetime to the teaching profession and will be remembered as teaching at Ellswick School in 1915, after completing Camrose Normal School teachers' training. During World War One he served with the U.S. Marine Corps. He has one daughter, Eloise O'Hern who lives at Carlsbad, California.

Martin farmed a number of years in this district before retiring in Camrose. He served with the Canadian Forces overseas in World War One.

Marie was taken ill while nursing at a Lutheran

nursing home in Washington and died at the age of thirty years.

George and his wife, Alma, still reside on the farm. His story will be covered elsewhere in this book.

Olianna taught school a number of years. She will be remembered for teaching Sulitjelma School as well as other schools in the Camrose area. She married Edwin Hong and they have twin girls, June and Joan. Both girls followed in their mother's footsteps and became teachers. June and Tom Sawtell and their daughters, Dallas and Tanis live at Prince George, B.C. Joan and Gordon Albee and their son, Derrick, live in Bellingham, Washington.

Emma taught a number of schools in the Camrose area and elsewhere. She married Eugene Ewald and taught at the Correspondence School in Edmonton until her retirement. She died at Kelowna, B.C. in 1975.

Inga graduated from St. Mary's School of Nursing in 1928. She got her R.N. and went on to get a degree in Physiotherapy. She married Nels Teig. They reside in San Diego, California.

I entered the teaching profession in 1928. Canard was my first school. I married Robert Young and later returned to teach at Hay Lakes for twelve years before moving to Patricia, where I was the principal until my retirement in 1972. Our family story is told elsewhere in this book.

After completing high school in Camrose, Elmer continued his education in Minnesota and entered the teaching profession. He taught a number of years in California as well as in Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force as a weather forecaster during World War Two. He and his wife, Marie, reside at Oceanside, California where Marie teaches and Elmer had an early retirement due to blindness. They have two daughters. Ruth Anne teaches school and Linda is in her second year university.

Lawrence married Olga Lede. They lived on the home place a number of years before moving to Camrose and later to Rutland, B.C.

Hendrickson, Martin

Martin was born in 1895 and was six years old when his family, the Henry Hendrickson's moved to the Thordenskjold district from South Dakota.

Martin bought the N.W. 4-48-21 from his Dad before he went to the army. He had cleared some of the land and farmed with his Dad and brothers Oscar and George. He lived with his parents at this time.

In the early spring of 1918 he enlisted in the army and was in England until July of 1919 when he came home. Back home again he began work on building a



Martin Hendrickson beside the house he built, and his new Chev coupe he bought in spring of 1928.

house in 1922. The next year it was finished and he moved in.

In 1928 he purchased a new Chev coupe.

During his bachelor years the neighbors appreciated his planning of social get togethers and he so often called on them to visit for one evening driving his spirited filly and cutter. His love of horses kept him farming with horses after most people had tractors.

In 1936 he married Marie Kluken from South Dakota. She passed away in 1937 from complications in childbirth. The baby lived a while but died shortly after birth.



Martin Hendrickson Family 1957. Back Row: Rodney, Arlene and Herb Skaret. Front Row: Margaret and Martin.

Martin batched until 1941 when he married Margaret Heiner Skaret. Margaret's first husband, William Skaret died from pneumonia on December 22, 1937. Margaret had three children, Herbert, Arlene and Rodney. The children attended school at Second Thordenskjold, Armena and Camrose Lutheran College.

Martin and Margaret were very active in the work of the Scandia Lutheran Church at Armena. Martin was a deacon and the chairman of the congregation for many years. Margaret taught Sunday School and held various offices in the L.C.W.

In 1965 they moved to Camrose when Rodney bought the farm.

Margaret passed away in July 1970.

Again Martin batched for awhile until 1974 when he married Hattie Edenloff Vikse. They enjoyed each other's companionship until her passing in October of 1981.

Adolph Moe Family History

by Norman Moe

Adolph Moe was born on June 3, 1889 in Grafton, North Dakota. He was the third son, and fourth child of John and Marit Moe, and came with his parents to this district in 1895, when he was six years old. He had the responsibility of helping his father on the homestead for several years, then during his teen-age years, worked for a time with a survey crew doing land survey in northern Alberta.

In 1913, Adolph and a few of his friends loaded up wagons with supplies, and went to Whitecourt and filed on homesteads there. He continued working his land for the next three years and proved up and sold it in the fall of 1916.

In 1917, Adolph married Thora Olson, who had come to the district in 1902 with her father Ole and her brother Anton. After their marriage, they farmed east of Armena, just north of Camrose, for a few years. In 1922 they sold out their horses and equipment, and went to work as Manager-Foreman for a New York lawyer by the name of Langlen Thompson, who owned land south of Armena. The headquarters was on the farm where Jim Welda now lives. Adolph would tell many funny incidents that occurred during this time as he tried to train the young men that were sent out from the streets of New York by his boss, to work for him on the farm. Most of them had never seen a horse or had any idea what farming was all about. Dad said he enjoyed his work for Thompson, but the biggest problem he had was to write, and mail a letter every week to Thompson, to report on the work being done, and progress being made. Adolph and Thora continued to work for Mr.



Adolph Moe Family. Adelene, Adolph, Thora, Norman, Eileen, Maynard.

Thompson for a few years, then they bought the south-east section of 16-48-21 W4 from Ed. Hendrickson, and started farming on their own. They farmed, and lived on this land the rest of their lives, even after they sold the farm to their son Norman.

Thora died in 1964 and Adolph died in 1972.

Adolph and Thora had a family of seven children. Three sons died in infancy. Orvel in 1918, Arnold in 1926, and Ordin in 1930. Surviving children are Maynard, Eileen, Norman and Adelene.

Maynard Moe was born in 1919. He attended Thordenskjold school and Camrose Lutheran College. In 1936-37 he worked for a time for Paul Mose-son at the Malmo Store. In the early 1940s he took basic Army training in Camrose, then farmed with his father for awhile, working in Edmonton during the winter. He then was a grain buyer for the Alberta Wheat Pool for a few years. In 1949 he purchased the Armena General Store, which he operated until 1953, when he sold it to Raynold Thronson. He then moved to Edmonton, where he still lives, and is employed by Loveseths Limited.

Eileen Moe was born in 1924. She also attended Thordenskjold school for elementary years, then stayed with her cousin Alpha (Olson) Osness and attended Kingman High School. She attended C.L.B.I. in Camrose, then took a secretarial course and worked in Edmonton and Saskatoon. In 1945, Eileen married Edward Salte of Torquay, Saskatchewan. Ed was an accountant with the Federal Government (recently retired), and as a result, they lived in various centers across Canada, namely, Saskatoon, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Regina, where they now live. Ed and Eileen have four children.

Heather Salte was born in 1948. She is married to John Girgan and they have two children, Kyle and Shane. They lived in Frontier, Saskatchewan.

Dawn Salte was born in 1950. She married Terry Friggstad, and also lives in Frontier. Their children are Aaron, Lindsay and Jesse.

David Salte was born in 1956 and is married to Jenny D'Eon. They live in Smith Falls, Ontario and have a little girl named Leia.

Maureen Salte, born in 1958, is married to Wes Olson, and live in Saskatoon with their daughter Bobbi-Jean.

Adelene Moe was born in 1936. Like all the other Moe kids before her, went to the Thordenskjold school. Then she attended Armena, C.L.C. and C.L.B.I. in Camrose. She worked for a time at the Smith Clinic in Camrose. Then she went to the Royal Alexandra School of Nursing in Edmonton, and after graduation, worked in Edmonton and Red Deer before her marriage to Telmor Sartison of Edmonton. They lived in Edmonton, and then in Camrose, where Telmor took University courses at C.L.C., then it was back to Edmonton to University of Alberta. When Tel decided to go to Seminary, the family moved to Saskatoon. After Ordination, they served a congregation at Jansen, Saskatchewan, before moving to Calgary to become the pastor at Faith Lutheran Church. Addy works at the Bethany Hospital. Their children are all away from home now, with **Marla**, born in 1960, working in Edmonton, **Garth**, born in 1962, attending C.L.C. in Camrose and **Paul**, born in 1964, also attending C.L.C.

Norman Moe came into this world in 1932. After attending school at Thordenskjold and Armena, went off to Camrose Lutheran College (where he met Enid), and Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute in Camrose.

Scouting, hunting, fishing and sports were his main childhood activities, when he wasn't helping around the farm.

His first job took him to the Jo-Ar-Cam Oilfield as a Battery Operator, for a short time. Then he decided to make farming his way of life and began to



Norman Moe Family. Standing at back: Darren. L. to R.: Enid, Norman, Leanne, Sherine.

work with his father and also rent some land from his brother Maynard. Later, after he was married, he bought the farm from his parents, and still lives and farms there (about one mile from the original John Moe homestead).

Norman worked for several years at Stelco Pipe mill in Camrose. When he quit there, he began to drive a school bus for the County of Camrose, full time. He had been a spare driver for them for several years. He enjoys picking up the children east of Armena and taking them to the Hay Lakes school.

In 1954, Norman married Enid Martin from Donalda, Alberta. They have three children, Sherine, Leanne and Darren. When Enid felt she had time on her hands because the children were nearly grown, she decided to return to the work force and is now the Bookstore Manager at Camrose Lutheran College in Camrose.

Sherine Moe was born in 1956. She attended school in Armena, Hay Lakes, C.L.C. (for grade 12 and one year university) and then to N.A.I.T. in Edmonton to become a Certified X-Ray-Lab Technician. While attending school, she worked for two summers for the City of Camrose Parks and Recreation, cutting grass in the city parks. Then when she attended N.A.I.T. worked at the Edmonton Sporting Goods Store. After completing her course at N.A.I.T., finished her interning at a Bonnyville, Alta. hospital, then moved to Grand Center. She spent one summer heading up the S.T.E.P. program for that town. She worked at the Cold Lake hospital until she left on a four-month tour of Europe. She is now back at Grand Center, and on December 19, 1981 will marry Steven Lieper, who owns and operates his own Roofing business there.

Leanne Moe was born in 1959. Her school years were spent at Armena, Hay Lakes and C.L.C. (grade 12 and one year university). Throughout her growing up years managed to break both arms and an ankle. Summer employment for her also included working for the City of Camrose, cutting grass for the parks, for three summers. She has worked at Lovseths in Edmonton as a telex and computer operator, and more recently at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home. She and a friend spent a holiday in Hawaii in 1980. In the fall of 1981, Leanne returned to school, taking a Radiology course at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton. In April of 1981, she married Bob Wickstrom (formerly of Ryley), and they now live in Edmonton. Bob is employed by A.M.A., and, like Leanne, enjoys all kinds of sports.

Darren Moe (pioneer John Moe's son's, son's son) was born in 1962. His schooling took him to Armena and Hay Lakes for twelve years. Like his dad, his boyhood interests have included hunting,

fishing, trapping and sports, particularly hockey. He played on several Representative teams while in the Camrose Minor Hockey program. Summer employment for him has included helping out at the elevator at Armena, and working at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. Working at Stelco in Camrose gave way to a chance to go to Jasper to work for an Outfitter as a wrangler and guide, taking guests by horseback and packhorse for five day wilderness trips to Amethyst Lake in the Tonquin Valley, which is in the heart of the Canadian Rockies, twenty miles south-west of the town of Jasper. He has enjoyed this experience very much, and plans to return to the same job next summer.

John and Marit Moe — Pioneer Family

In 1895, the Moe family came from Grafton, North Dakota, and filed a homestead in what was later to become the Thordenskjold district. They were about the third family to settle in the area, having been preceded by the Grues and the Movolds. This land is now owned by the Rodney Skaret family, who bought it from Art Olafson. Before that, the land had been owned by Arnt, son of John Moe.

John and Marit Moe had ten children, eight of whom were born in the United States, and two after they moved to Canada. Naming them, youngest to oldest, they were Gena (Mrs. Ole Madison, the only surviving child, is in her eighties and still lives in her home in Camrose), Arnt (married Ida Skattebo). Ida died at the age of thirty-two. Tilda married William Christenson. Gena died at age six. Adolph married Thora Olson. Gertie married Ole Olson. Andrea married Alfred Anderson. John died at the age of twelve years. Arnt died at the age of eight years at Grafton.

The family arrived in Wetaskiwin by train equipped to carry all supplies and animals. Wetaskiwin was later to become the Moes' shopping center. It was 25 miles away, and travel had to be with ox cart or horses, which would take up to a week to complete.

The Moes' took in many travellers at night, because the path from Bardo to Wetaskiwin was not far from their home. John and Marit had enough children to fill their home, but still had room for guests.

John Moe, along with the other settlers came to the conclusion that there were enough children in the area to have a school built. So all the men in the community got together to haul logs from White Water Lake (west of the present Hay Lakes). The logs were brought to Thore Grue to be cut with his sawmill. Mr. Grue also made furniture for the school. In 1898 the school house was built, and classes began. This was the first school in the old Strathcona area



John Moe Family. Back Row: Ida, Arnt, Tilda (Christenson), Adolph, Andrea (Anderson), Gertie (Olson). Front Row: Marit, Gena (Madison), John Moe.

and the people named it Thordenskjold, after a Norwegian sailor. This rough log building has been sided, but still stands, being used as a garage by the Fred Dyck family, north-west of Armena. The first teacher was William Gambol, who got a salary of forty-five dollars per month. The school year lasted about 126 days, and went from January to June. In the first few years of the school, three of the Moe children were in attendance. They were Andrea, Gertie and Adolph. While the school was in its early years, John Moe served as a trustee.

Families didn't have too much money then, and it was hard to get supplies. A dollars worth of sugar (twelve pounds) had to last a family the whole winter. When they went to buy coffee, green coffee beans were all the store had, so people had to roast their own coffee. Sometimes roasted barley was also used for coffee.

Around the year 1900, John Moe received a brand

from the Department of Agriculture. The brand O C U became well known in the area. The original branding iron was found in debri on the original homestead by Martin Hendrickson, while helping Rodney Skaret. This iron is now in the possession of the Norman Moe family.

Church services were held in homes until the Thordenskjold school was built, but the community soon felt the need of a church building, and so the first church in the area, named Scandia, was built in 1901. Charter members of that congregation, together with their families were, Thore Grue, John Moe, Ole Movold, H. Lomnes, Jacob Lunde, John Broen, G. O. Hendrickson, C. Kelstad, and Martin Steen. Later the women formed a Ladies Aid, and Mrs. Moe was the first Secretary.

Taxes were a way of life even then. There was a land tax of forty-five cents per acre, and a stock tax of

ten dollars per horse, and six dollars per head for cattle.

Sometimes it was hard for the families to meet, but at any opportunity the people would gather together for visiting and fun.

At the time of this writing, there are over 200 direct decedents on the family tree of John and Marit Moe. The Norman Moe family is the only remaining family of Moes that still live in the district, and only about one mile from the original homestead.

Life was hard for these pioneers and I am very proud to be a decendent of one of the first families that came to this district.

(The above article is part of a Biography written by **Darren Moe**, great-grandson of John and Marit Moe, while he was attending Junior High school, from conversations he had with his Grandfather Adolph Moe.)

The Rudolph Newman Family by Helen Hiebner as related by Rudolph

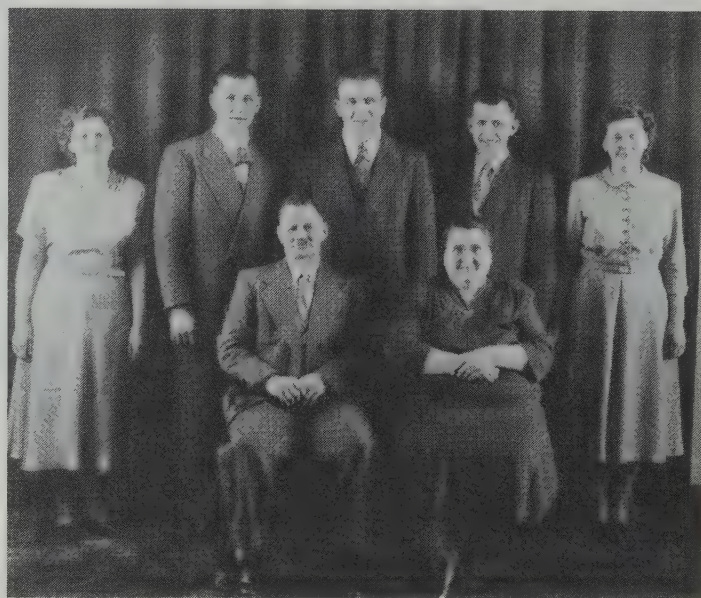
Rudolph and his twin brother Henry were born on October 23, 1895 in Marskova, Poland in the province of Volhynia, Russia. Rudolph was the second oldest of ten children born to Gustav and Maria nee Soch Newman of German origin. His family lived on a rented farm in Kostopol, Russia. Their life here was one of hard work and they also endured many hardships. Gustav and Maria could see no future for their children if they remained living in Russia. The family decided, after talk of the land of milk and honey — Canada — and through encouragement of friends and relatives that had immigrated previously, that it was time to leave. Relatives in Canada sent the family \$550.00 for their fare. It must have been hard to visualize just what a new land across many miles had in store for them. Their meager possessions were packed and a long weary trip began.

In 1912, at the age of seventeen years Rudolph together with his family immigrated to Canada. Four days were spent on a small ship which took the family to England. At Liverpool on May 25, 1912 they boarded the ship, the Megantic and for ten days travelled across the ocean and arrived in Montreal on June 4th. From here they boarded a train and travelled across the prairies to their destination, Edmonton. They were greeted by Gottlieb Soch, Maria's brother and his daughter Elfrezina who had come by horse and buggy from Bruederfeld. August Newmann had also come with his horse and hay rack to help with their belongings. Maria rode with Gottlieb and the rest of the family rode with the belongings on the hay rack.

They went to Gottlieb Soch's home and resided with them for nine months. The debt of money borrowed for their fare was repaid by installments of \$10.00 a month by renting the land of Gustav Henschell and farming it for a little over a year.

Like many other families, they had the desire of having a farm of their own so Gustav made application for a homestead on November 25, 1913 at New Sarepta in the Maple Hill district on SE16-50-22-W4. This became their home in this encouraging country.

Rudolph and his twin brother, being the oldest and now over eighteen years old went out seeking employment elsewhere as the farm could not provide work or income for the whole family. In 1918, the twin brothers purchased a quarter section of land once again in New Sarepta. Rudolph helped work this farm until the fall of 1919 when he decided it was time he found himself a wife.



Rudolph Newman Family — 1952. Standing: Martha, Arthur, Herman, Herbert, Selma, Sitting: Rudolph and Emma Newman.

On November 18, 1919 Emma Bittner became Rudolph's wife at the Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes. Emma was born on December 25, 1903 at Rodimear, Russia and was the eldest child of Johann Bittner and Anna Lose. The Bittner family had come to Canada in 1911. After marriage they lived at New Sarepta on a farm which was the SE9-50-22-W4.

Emma yearned to be closer to her family so they moved to Hay Lakes. Rudolph and Emma purchased a quarter of land from Sam Holtmar SE 20-48-21-W4. He was a Swedish sheep rancher and was a bachelor. He made a sale and then moved to B.C. This farm had a barn and a little house. Rudolph, with the help of two hired men, built a new log house.

It was built with square logs and was two stories. it did not have any divided rooms and the family slept upstairs. On this farm they raised cows, horses, chickens, geese, ducks and pigs.

Rudolph and Emma's older children were of school age. The school was three and a half to four miles from this farm. They found that it was too far for little children to walk especially in the cold winters. The children had to be taken to school and picked up upon dismissal. This was a hardship especially when there was work to be done on the farm. The family attended the Lutheran Church at Hay Lakes while living here and it was about nine miles from their farm. They mainly did their shopping at Hay Lakes or an occasional trip to Camrose while residing on this farm.

In 1928 they sold this farm due to the distance from the church and school. The farm was purchased by Erdman Bittner. Rudolph and family returned to New Sarepta where they purchased the NE 26-49-22-W4. This farm was only three quarters of a mile from school and a much shorter distance to church.

Throughout their marriage Emma worked alongside her husband helping in the fields by stooking, riding the binder and pitching in with the farm work whenever possible. As time went by she developed severe asthma and unfortunately could no longer be his helpmate and spent most of her time indoors baking pies, cakes, cookies, pastries and caring for the family. The family increased in size the last being born at the beginning of the depression.

Emma continually became more run down with asthma and the children had to help their father with the farm and garden work. In time the children married and made lives of their own. Art and his wife remained on the farm and helped Rudolph and Emma with the work. Rudolph made a sale in 1949. His son Art and family remained on the home place. His sons Herman and Herbert had previously married and moved to Duncan, B.C. so due to Emma's failing health the couple moved to where the sons lived. The change of climate did not improve the health of Emma. Within a few years they returned to New Sarepta where they resided on the farm once again with Art and Ruth Newman. Emma passed away on May 11, 1962 at the age of fifty-nine years. The Rudolph Newman family were members of the Moravian Church and she was laid to rest in that cemetery. In the summer of 1963 the farm was sold to Leonard Hiebner, Rudolph's son-in-law.

Rudolph and Emma were the parents of six children. They were Selma born October 7, 1920 who married Richard Schmidt. They had two children Gladys and Edwin. Selma and Richard Schmidt reside in Kelowna, B.C. Herman married Marie Lip-

sinsky. They had no children and he passed away while living in B.C. from a heart attack. Herbert was born on October 3, 1924. He married Alice Woodward they had seven children namely Sandra, Garry, Robert, Cheryl, Leslie, Daniel and Kelly. Herb and Alice live in Leduc, Alberta. Arthur was born on September 6, 1926. He married Ruth Harke and they had three children; Dianne, David, and Delmar. Art and Ruth reside in Edmonton, Alberta. Martha was born on April 25, 1928. She married Leonard Hiebner of Hay Lakes. They had four children Lily, Roy, Betty and Ken. They were divorced in the 1960's. Martha now makes her home in Kelowna, B.C. and Leonard resides on a farm in the New Sarepta district. Edna Newman, the youngest child of Rudolph and Emma passed away shortly after birth.

Rudolph remarried on November 2, 1962 to a widow, Mrs. Stefanie Fandraar of Westlock, Alberta. They are retired and residing in Edmonton, Alberta.

Olson, Ole and Anton **by Olga Olson**

Ole A. Olson, a widower with two small children, Anton, seven years and Thora, five years, came in 1901 from Harvey, North Dakota, to Canada in a boxcar as far as Wetaskiwin. From there they



Ole A. Olson with son Anton and daughter Thora in 1905 or 1906.

homesteaded in the Hay Lakes district. Raising two small children alone was no small undertaking, but Mr. Olson was able to do it and do it well. He also devoted a great deal of his time to community work. For seventeen years, Mr. Olson served as a councillor as well as being a member of the school board for many years. Later, his son Anton was councillor for a number of years. Ole Olson died on April 28, 1930, at the age of sixty-three years.

Anton Olson, in the year of 1909, received a fireman's certificate from The Dominion Railway Correspondence School in Saskatoon. In 1910, at the age of seventeen, he drove with oxen to Whitecourt to homestead with Adolph Moe and Theodore Grue.

In 1917, he was exempted from military service as he was farming for his father at the time. In 1927, he built a house on the next quarter which his son Gordon now farms. On December 26, 1933, he married Olga Grue. The ceremony was held in Scandia Lutheran Church. The mode of transportation was a sleigh and a team of horses, with the temperature at thirty degrees below zero Fahrenheit. A large tent was set up on the farm of Cornelius Grue with three stoves going to keep it warm for the reception. After the supper the power-plant failed and the lights went out, until some power was restored. In the meantime, coal oil lamps and lanterns were lit for light. That night when they had returned to their farm, the neighbours honored them with a shivaree — the practice of making a lot of noise for newlyweds on tin cans, et cetera.

Seven children were born to their union: Leonard, Gladys, Ordin, Delores, Gordon, and the twins, Carol and Karen.



Anton Olson family. L. to R., Back: Ordin, Gladys, Olga, Leonard, Anton, Delores. Front: Carol, Karen, Gordon.

Leonard was born on October 10, 1934 at Camrose. He received his education at Armena and later his Mechanic's License. He is presently work-

ing for the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park as a Mechanic. He resides on an acreage directly east of Hay Lakes.

Gladys, was born on June 22, 1936 on the farm and raised there. She took her schooling at Thordensjold and Armena. She graduated from Camrose Lutheran College after receiving a diploma in Commercial course and worked for a short time at the radio station, CFCW. Later she took one year of Bible School at the Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute in Camrose. Gladys married Ken Klonteig, son of Hans and Christine Klonteig of Flin Flon, Manitoba. They were married on August 15, 1958. They have four children: Kevin, born on September 4, 1959, Kerry, born on March 8, 1965, Lori, born on November 27, 1966, and Colleen, born on June 3, 1969. Ken is presently working with White Trucks Motor Corporation in Purchasing. They are presently residing in Kelowna, British Columbia. Their oldest son, Kevin married Faye Wahl, daughter of Ernie and Marlene Wahl of Hay Lakes on July 14, 1979.

Ordin was born in 1938 and spent most of his life working on construction work in the North country where he was killed by an avalanche in 1965.

Delores, was born on April 2, 1940. She received her education in the Armena area and she later went on to Nursing School and graduated as a Registered Nurse. On April 20, 1963 Delores married John Whyte of Edmonton. They have three children: Shauna Lynn, born on February 18, 1964, Darren Scott, born on June 12, 1965, and Kelly John, born on July 15, 1966. They are presently residing in Winnipeg.

Gordon, the youngest son of Anton and Olga Olson, was born on January 28, 1943. He attended school in Armena and finished his education at Hay Lakes. On July 3, 1971, he married Jean Tennis, the youngest daughter of Charles and Clarice Tennis of Wetaskiwin. They have two children, Cody Lee, born on April 16, 1973 and Rebecca Julia, born on November 7, 1975. Gordon and his wife are presently farming on the family farm.

Carol was born on January 31, 1946. She received her education at Armena and Hay Lakes. On October 10, 1970 she married Nick Elkow of Edmonton. They have one daughter, Stacey Dianne, born on March 14, 1971. They are presently residing in Sherwood Park.

Karen, the youngest child of Anton and Olga Olson, was born on February 1, 1946. (Mr. and Mrs. Olson were blessed with twin daughters.) She attended school in the Armena and Hay Lakes area. On June 18, 1971 she married Ken Gehring, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Gehring of Medicine Hat. They have two children, Kimberley Kristin, born on October 27, 1973 and David Kenneth Andrew, born on

April 8, 1975. Karen and her husband are presently living on a farm two and one-half miles south-east of Hay Lakes.

Rosenthal, Reynold Leonard by Reynold Rosenthal

I was born on September, 1924, in Edmonton, the son of Gottfried Rosenthal and Rosalie nee Schoenknecht. At a tender age of six months, due to the illness and death of my mother, I went to live with my uncle and aunt the Andrew Schoenknecht family, about three miles south-east of Hay Lakes.

It was from here that I went to the Thordenskjold school which was about four miles south-east of where I lived or 2¼ miles north-west of Armena. If the horses weren't used for other purposes we would use them to go to school, horse and buggy and in the winter by sleigh or else walked together with three other members of the family. Mr. Benny Lomness was the teacher at the time and taught grades one to eleven and had about thirty-five pupils. We often shared food items with our Scandinavian friends so we got to taste Flat Bread and Lefsa and really enjoyed it. Our main activities, if not helping with chores or regular farm work, was softball in the summer and hockey in the winter.

The church we attended was St. Lukes Lutheran in the Village of Hay Lakes. I attended confirmation instruction and was confirmed by Pastor F. Lenz.

Medical services could be obtained at the Smith Clinic in Camrose with Dr. Mac Smith in charge. This was a distance of about eighteen miles and in the early days had to be travelled by horses.



Reynold Rosenthal Family 1978. Dennis, Randall, Reynold.
Seated: Laura holding Dea Rae, Florence.

Some of the close neighbors were Anton Olson, Ertman Bittner, Mike Schneider, Gus Wahl, and the Busenius's. Anton Olson had a threshing machine and did the threshing for the neighbors in the district and many of us worked on his outfit.

In 1943 I made the first wooden grain auger in the district and it was a great help to us here on the farm and also the neighbors around. In the later part of the year I started in the construction field with Walter Seipert and was away from this area quite a bit. In 1946 I married Walter's sister, Florence, and we lived in New Sarepta for about four years while I worked for Gainers in Edmonton. The love of the land called and we went farming for fifteen years. I worked in Wetaskiwin for eight years and then in 1973 we moved to Kelowna, B.C. where we still live today.

We have a family of two sons. Dennis married Laura Dorchester of Wetaskiwin where they now live. He is in the construction field and a salesman for Amway. They have two daughters.

Randall lives in Edmonton and works for Natco Nisku. He is still single.

We enjoy our life here and keep active in church activities, bowling, besides working. We hope to do so for long after retirement as the climate is very appealing.

Emmanuel and Hulda Roth by Arthur Roth

My parents were both born in Volynia, Russia. Mother born in 1897 came to Canada at the age of five with her parents and family. They settled on a homestead in the Rolly View district. Dad born in 1894 came to Canada in 1912 at the age of eighteen, accompanied by one brother Carl and a sister Amelia. Dad worked in Saskatchewan and Medicine Hat as a labourer for sometime, before he arrived in the Rolly View area to visit his brother, who had taken up farming there. He was then hired by my grandfather to help on the farm, and he then met my mother, the former Hulda Lede. They were married on Nov. 6, 1917 and they also farmed in that area. They had nine children, three died as infants. The surviving children are — Helmut and myself (twins) Eberhart, George, Adele and Hedwig.

In 1938 they sold the farm and bought the old Ace Broen farm in the Hay Lake-Armena area. It was located 6½ miles S.E. of Hay Lakes and consisted of 1½ quarters, the home was on the NE 16-48-21 and the other was the N half of SW 15-48-21-4. We moved to the farm in April and my youngest sister Gertrude was born two months later.

There was no house, so we lived in a couple of granaries until one could be built. That summer my uncle, Ed Knopp and Ernest Soch, as well as many

other relatives and friends helped us build a house out of logs and lumber. Late in the fall we moved into the house, just in time, for winter was approaching. There was no well on the place, so at first we had to haul our water from a neighbor, Mike Schnieder. Every day we would go down the road with the horses and buggy loaded with barrels and cream cans full of water. The cattle and horses were watered from sloughs, one of which was located on Adolf Moe's farm. That spring a well was drilled by Magnus Sware and Clarence Rotto. We constructed a barn out of poles and straw and it served as a milking parlor for many years. The milk was separated and the cream was sold to the Hay Lake creamery. We also did all our shopping in Hay Lakes and attended the Lutheran church there.

Dad was a mixed farmer, we milked around 12 cows and raised pigs and calves with the skim milk. We also had enough chickens to supply us with eggs and the occasional chicken dinner.

Helmut and I were out of school when we moved, but my brothers and sisters attended the old Thordenjold School which was located 1½ miles S.E. of our place. It was later closed when schools became centralized, they then went to the Armena School.

Although there were many hardships on the farm in those days, we did not need money to have good times. Fond memories shall always stay with us of the years we lived in the Hay Lakes district. In the winter every Sunday the boys in the neighborhood gathered on a large slough, which had to be shoveled to clear the snow, so we could have a hockey game. We could not afford hockey sticks, but a curved willow post served the purpose very well. To protect ourselves we wrapped old magazines and catalogues around our legs and thighs, but usually we were covered with bruises by the games end. The girls of the district would come to watch and enthusiastically cheer on their favorite team. Many winter evenings we hitched the horses to the Bob sleigh and gathered up the young people of the neighborhood, the bells on the harness merrily ringing in the night air, to go to a skating party in Hay Lakes. I especially enjoyed playing softball with the Hay Lakes Black Hawks. Most of the games were played at community picnics, where we had tough opposition from the neighboring towns. Our team managed to do pretty good though.

Helmut went into the army in 1941 and he served overseas. He was stationed in Holland when the war ended. Eb went into the army in 1942 but did not leave Canada.

After the war Helmut married Agnes Uhrich. They have two sons Marvin and Dwayne. They farmed in the Camrose-Bawlf areas but are now

living in Camrose where they are both employed at the Bethany Nursing Home.

Eb married a widow, Marie Frazer, who had three daughters and one son from her previous marriage. They also raised one foster daughter. They are residing in Vancouver where Eb is employed with Air Canada. George married Doreen Parker and they had one son Douglas and a daughter Debra. That marriage ended in divorce and George is now remarried to Eileen Williams. They live in Winnipeg where George is self-employed in the furnace business.

Adele married Svend Jensen and they had two sons James and Jack. Their marriage also ended and Adele is living in Camrose where she is employed at Rosehaven.

Hedy married William Masterson and they had one daughter, Marlene. They live in Calgary where Bill is employed by Imperial Oil and Hedy works at Sears.

Gert married Glen Maglis and they had two daughters, Glenda and Gail. Glenda passed away at the age of sixteen due to a car accident. They live in Hinton where Glen is employed at the mill.

In 1957 Mother and Dad moved off the farm into Camrose, where they lived in their own home until February of 1974, when they moved into the Bethany Nursing Home, where they still reside. On November 6, 1977 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Although dad is in a wheelchair, they are still enjoying reasonably good health. They especially enjoy visits from friends and relatives, and they are very proud of their three great-grandchildren.

I rented the farm after the folks moved off. I don't know how I would have managed the first while if it wasn't for people like Herb Leicht and Ed Fischer who let me charge my fuel and groceries until the crop came off and I could pay my bills. I shall always be grateful to them, and to the good neighbors and friends in the Hay Lakes area who helped me in so many ways.

In 1963 the farm was sold to Leo and Rose Grams. I then rented several farms in the Hay Lakes, Strome and Gwynne areas. I kept a few range cows and raised calves, which were sold as feeders in the fall. I had one Hereford cow which had had twins on three different occasions, so it was almost unbelievable when she had triplets on St. Patricks Day in 1970. Mama and babies did just fine!

I sold the cattle and moved into Camrose in 1976. I farmed my brothers land near Bawlf until 1979, when I sold my machinery at an auction sale. I am semi-retired now but I still enjoy helping farmers with tractor work.

Thank you Hay Lakes for all the good memories for the Roth family.

Schoenknecht, Andrew

In 1879, Andrew Schoenknecht was born on a small mixed farm in Volhynia, Russia. He married Henriette Krakowski in 1912, and they had two children, Wilhelm and Ewald, before Andrew left for Canada in 1914. The family was to come to Canada as soon as he got work. However, when World War I broke out no one was allowed in or out of the country. Henriette and the two boys did not join Andrew in Canada until 1921. During those years Andrew worked on Ed Bittner's farm and for Oscar Thompson at Kingman.

After Henriette's arrival they lived on a few rented farms in the Hay Lakes area. In 1927 they bought a quarter section from the Canadian Pacific Railway which had only twenty-five acres cleared. They had the task of clearing the remaining one hundred and thirty-five acres to make it usable for farming.

Three more children were born to Andrew and Henriette. Annie was born in 1921, Adelia in 1926, and then Hilda joined the family.



Andrew Schoenknecht (1944).

Hard times was all the family knew, as farming was their life. They grew into a lifestyle of mixed grains and livestock. On this farm there was only a log shack. In 1930 they purchased another ninety-four acres. On this land there was a house. They moved this house to the farm site and added on a kitchen and a porch. The farm buildings were added as time went on, with the barn being built in 1942. The family helped out as much as they could, whenever they could. In 1953, Wilhelm (William) took over the farming responsibilities.



Henriette Schoenknecht and sons, Ewald and Wilhelm, in 1921, upon arriving in Canada from Russia.

In 1956 Andrew passed away at the age of seventy-seven years. In 1977 Henriette passed away after a lengthy illness at the age of eighty-seven years. In the summer of 1977, Wilhelm sold the farm to Ignace Sych and moved to Camrose, where he now resides.

Ewald (Chubby) left home at the age of sixteen years to work on the Laird farm. In 1945 he married Irene Glasgow. They had six children: Larry, June, Gloria, Laura, Brian and Audrey.

Ewald drove the truck for various businesses for thirty years. He also drove the school bus for one term for Smith and two terms for Hay Lakes. From 1973 to 1977 he worked in the Smith lumber mill.

Annie, after working a few years at the café in Hay Lakes and the hotel in New Sarepta, married Pete Wagner in 1946. They had three children. Sandy married Walter Bittner of New Sarepta in 1966. Jim married Judy Kosinki of New Sarepta in 1970. Rodney is presently living at home in Bellis.

Annie and Pete are currently living in Bellis, Alberta, where Pete is employed by a gas processing company.

Adelia left home at the age of seventeen to do various babysitting and household jobs. She married Reynold Nordin in 1947. They have four children: Ron, Terrence, Wilmer and Deanna.

Ron married Doreen Foisy of Edmonton on May 17, 1975. They live in Beaumont. Ron is manager of a Machine Company in Edmonton and Doreen is a receptionist for Astro Distributors. They have two girls, Charmaine and Leanne, attending Beaumont school.

Terrance married Marilyn Nichols of Camrose on November 25, 1972. They have two children, Kelvin and Julie. They resided on a farm, NW 20-48-20-W4, northwest of Camrose where they farm grain and raise hogs. Terrance also works for Builder's Supplies in Camrose.

Wilmer is working for Fountain Tire in Edmonton and living at home and Deanna finished her Grade twelve and is presently at home.



Andrew Schoenknecht Family. L. to R.: Willie, Ewald, Reynold, Hilda, Adelia, Annie and Mrs. Schoenknecht.

Hilda, the youngest member of the Andrew Schoenknecht family, worked only a short time. She "tied the knot" to Elmer Anderson in 1947. To them a family of five arrived: Dwayne, Muriel, Elwyn, Derry and Ross. Hilda and Elmer live on their farm northwest of Camrose where they farm grain and milk cows. The two youngest boys are still living at home and attending the Hay Lakes School.

Andrew and Henriette Schoenknecht took into their loving home Reynold (Rynold) Rosenthal at the age of three months. His mother had passed away and he went to live with his uncle and aunt, the Andrew Schoenknechts who raised him to manhood.

Skaret, Rodney

Rodney purchased the N.W. 4-48-21 from his step father Martin Hendrickson in the spring of 1965.

In July he married Carol Olson and they took up residence on the farm.

Carol taught grades three and four in the Armena School from September 1959 to June 1961, grade one in Rosalind from September 1961 to June 1965, and grade one and two in Hay Lakes from 1965 to January 1967. She was the first kindergarten teacher in Hay Lakes, and still teaches playschool.

Rodney and Carol enjoyed curling in Hay Lakes. Rodney coached hockey teams and Carol coached softball. Big game hunting is a favorite sport of Rod's and he and Leonard Olson haven't missed a year since 1956.

They have three children Todd, Denise and Chad who attend the Hay Lakes School. The boys enjoy hockey and Denise takes figure skating. They all enjoy music.

Stavne, Anton

Anton Andrew Stavne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stavne was born on a farm at Dalton, Minnesota on July 29, 1883, where he grew to manhood.

On June 28, 1901 he was united in marriage to Anna Marie Iverson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Trond Iverson, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. She was born August 16, 1882, and grew up in that area.

To this union were born Arthur Theodor, on October 20, 1902, at Dalton, Minnesota; Clara Sophie on August 27, 1903, at Round Hill, Alberta; Raymond Henry on April 7, 1905, at Lake Demay, Alberta Amanda Kristine on December 15, 1906. She passed away at the age of one year and ten months and lies to rest in the Lake Demay Cemetery. Vernon Milford was born on October 19, 1908, at Lake Demay, Alberta.

When the children became of school age they attended the Lake Demay School.

Schools and homes were used for Church Services as there were no churches in that area at that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Stavne and Arthur, Mr. Stavne's parents and his brother and Pastor and Mrs. John Stavne, immigrated to Alberta, Canada, in July of 1903.

Anton Stavne's settled on a homestead claim near Round Hill, Alberta. Due to unsatisfactory land conditions they cancelled that claim and filed on a claim in the Lake Demay district in 1904, where they farmed until the spring of 1918. They then sold out and moved to Armena to the Thordenskjold school district, where Raymond and Vernon attended school.

Clara and Vernon were choir members a number of years in the Scandia Church Choir, where the family attended church services.



Children of Anton Stavne. Arthur Stavne, first in the back row; Clara Stavne, third in the back row; Raymond Stavne, in front of Arthur and Vernon Stavne, front row right.

The four Stavne young folks were all confirmed at the Scandia Lutheran Church at Armena.

Mrs. Anna Stavne passed away April 3, 1927 in her forty fourth year following a lingering illness.

Raymond and Vernon worked at home on the farm until they married and established homes of their own. Arthur remained single. He took a mechanical course and was employed with the different firms in Hay Lakes. Later he lived and farmed on his land five miles north of Camrose. He has done repair work on motors at his home for the surrounding area.

Raymond, as a young lad, served as janitor for Thordenskjold school and for the Scandia Church for a number of years. He later attended the National Barber College in Edmonton. He started to cut hair at the age of fourteen and has had regular customers since.



Vernon Stavne — ready to go courting.

Raymond married Bertha Grue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Grue of Hay Lakes, on August 4, 1938. They are residing on their farm near Hay Lakes. They are members of the St. Joseph Congregation where they have been active in church affairs.

Vernon married May Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hamilton of Bittern Lake, on June 20, 1934. They are residing on their farm in the Camrose North area. They are active members of the Bethlehem and Kingman congregations. May has been a long time member of the Armena Willing Workers.

Clara remained at home and took over the household duties at an early age, due to her Mother's failing health. She remained at home most of the time after her mother's passing, with the exception of a few winter months spent in Edmonton helping out in various homes.

On July 10, 1944, she was united in marriage to Joseph Miller of Hay Lakes, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Miller of Hay Lakes, formally of Long Island, New York, where Joe was born on November 7, 1900.

In 1945 Joseph and Clara sold their Hay Lakes farm and purchased the Stavne farm and farmed there until Joseph's sudden passing on January 15, 1962, at the age of sixty-two years. He is buried in the Scandia Cemetery. Clara continued living on the farm and has her land rented out.

In Joseph's younger years, he loved sports especially baseball and big game hunting.

Joseph had a previous marriage. On September 12, 1925, he was united in marriage to Tilly Zeisman of South Cooking Lake. They lived on their north-east Hay Lakes farm.

Tilley passed away February 28, 1938. Three children were born to their union, Donald Joseph born March 14, 1927 at Hay Lakes. On June 5, 1951, he married Jean Grue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Grue of Camrose.

Donald and Jean live at Salmon Arm B.C. where Don is in the oil trucking occupation. They have a son Howard and a daughter Laurel, both married and living in B.C.

June Anne Marie was born July 25, 1930. On July 2, 1950, she married Lester Lomnes of Armena, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bert Lomnes. Lester and June reside on the Lomnes farm near Armena. They have three children, two daughters Lynn and Cheryl and one son Donovan. Lester and June also have three grandchildren.

Marilyn Louise born August 30, 1936, at Hay Lakes, grew up in the Sulitjelma and Armena district. Marilyn married Knut Skarstol of Calgary, the

son of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Skarstol of Calgary. They have one son Stephen and a daughter Sonja both attending school in Calgary. Marilyn is a registered nurse and is employed in a Calgary Hospital. Knut has an accounting firm.

Pastor and Mrs. John Stavne settled in the Ferry Point district in 1904, where they helped in organizing the Ferry Point Church and congregation, and he became the first pastor there. He served there until 1907, when they moved to Seattle, Washington where he was pastor for many years.

Three children were born to them while in Canada, three more were born in Seattle, Washington.

Mrs. John Stavne passed away in April 1935, Pastor Stavne passed away in 1942.

Anton and John's parents did not establish themselves in Canada. They were in Canada only a short time before retiring to Seattle, Washington, where they made their home until their passing.

Mr. Anton Stavne passed away March 18, 1951, at the age of sixty-nine. He had retired to Camrose before the time of his passing.

Mr. and Mrs. Stavne are both buried in the Scandia Cemetery at Armena.

The Robert Riddell Young Family by Thea Young

Robert Young was born at Hedworth, Durham, England on April 29, 1911. He was the oldest in a family of seven children. In 1930 he immigrated to Canada with his family and settled on a farm near Vermilion, Alberta.

After six years of sweating and struggling for existence in a new country during the depression, the family left the farm to take up homesteads in the Lessard-Cold Lake area.

It was there he met Thea Hendrickson, the local school teacher from Hay Lakes, who was teaching school for \$600 a year. We were married October 13, 1937 and spent the first year building a log house, breaking new land among the rocks and struggling for existence twenty-five miles from a railroad with a little black mare which rode double, and a team of horses and a wagon, our only means of transportation.

In the spring of 1939 Mr. Young purchased a quarter section of land in the Ellswick School District and left the homestead. All our possessions were moved with a four horse team and sleigh, taking eight days to make the move. Again there was a house to build and land to clear and break. With the cooperation of good neighbours and relatives a new start was made. We depended on neighbours for transportation because we did not own a car. By working hard to pay for the use of machinery to get a

start, we managed to own our own home before too many years.

We were blessed with two charming daughters, Marie Elaine born July 3, 1941, and Jean Elizabeth born December 20, 1945. Both girls attended Scandia Sunday School and were confirmed here. They attended Thordenskjold, Armena and Hay Lakes schools before completing matriculation and graduating from Camrose Lutheran College.



The Robert Young Family. Back Row: Jean Arrowsmith, Jim Arrowsmith, Mr. Young, Mrs. Young, Marie Manning. Front Row: Bart Arrowsmith, Mark Manning and Jan Arrowsmith.

Marie obtained a B. Ed. degree at the University of Alberta in 1964. She taught school at Bawlf and Edberg before leaving to teach school in New Zealand and Australia for three years. When she returned she was employed at the Earl Gray School in Calgary. March 2, 1968 she married Bruce Manning. They had a son, Mark Graeme, born December 8, 1968. This marriage lasted about two and a half years, so Marie has raised Mark by herself. At present she is employed by the Summerland School District exchange teaching at Mt. Isa, Australia for one year, while Mark is taking grade seven there. During the summer of 1980 Marie and Mark attended the Moscow Olympics. While they were there Mark spent a week in the childrens' hospital having an appendectomy. They received excellent care and consideration during their stay in the U.S.S.R. There were no doctor bills or charges for hospital care.

While in Australia Marie met Gavin Swallow and on July 25th, 1981 they were married. Gavin has a son named Karl. They both teach in Australia where they plan to make their home.

Jean accompanied her sister to New Zealand in 1965. When she returned she attended the University

of Calgary where she obtained her B.Ed. degree. She taught high school at Trochu before her marriage August 26, 1972 to James Albert Arrowsmith of Calgary. They have two children, Jan Christine born November 4, 1973 and Bart Andrew born November 24, 1975.

During the teacher shortage I resumed teaching duties and taught Thordenskjold School for two and a half years. Later I taught at Hay Lakes for twelve years. I was teaching grade one in the little old building when the new school was being built and continued teaching in the new building at various grade levels. In 1966 we sold our farm and moved to Patricia, Alberta. There I became the principal of the school and continued teaching until my retirement in 1972.

During our residence in the Hay Lakes area Robert Young will be remembered as a very enthusiastic and active community worker. He was active in the church as well as on the municipal level. He helped organize the First Armena Boy Scout Troup in 1947 and served as assistant Scout Master. For several years he served on the church board for the Bethany Old Peoples Home. He was an active member on the Bethany Building Committee when the hospital was planned and built. Mr. Young worked diligently to organize the Armena Rural Electrification Association and followed Herman Atema as their president. A number of years he served as the president of the North Bittern Lake Telephone Company.

Patricia, Alberta. He became the chief warden and remained there for six years.

We now reside at Summerland, B.C. and feel a deep satisfaction knowing that we have done our best to make this world a better place in which to live. Our retirement days are full of pleasant memories of our friends in Alberta and we always enjoy coming back to visit.

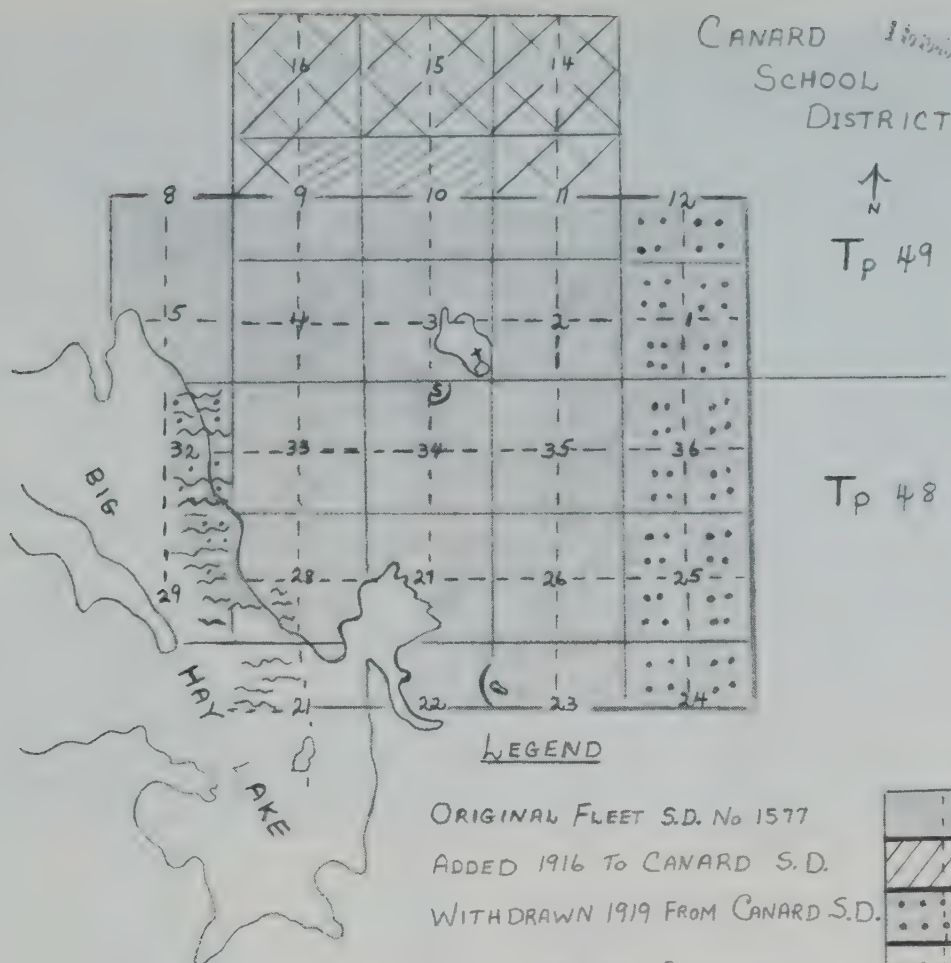
From 1953 to 1966 Mr. Young represented division seven in the municipal District of Camrose #63, later to become the County of Camrose #22. During this time he was responsible for the upgrading and gravelling of many of the roads in that area. He was a member of the School Committee serving on the Salary Negotiating and the Building Committees. He represented the County of Camrose on the following boards: The Battle River Planning Commission, The Bethany Hospital Board, The Agriculture Service Board, and various other committees.

Mr. Young was active in the formation of Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. He was instrumental in the Lions Club of Camrose purchasing the property from Mrs. Berg and presenting the deed to the Department of Lands and Forests to form the nucleus of Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. A local parks board was formed consisting of Harry Andreassen, Clifford Brager and Robert Young. This advisory committee supervised the park until a full time warden, J. U. Erickson, was employed.

Mr. Young became so interested in provincial parks that he sold his farm in 1966 and went to work for the government at Dinosaur Provincial Park, Pa-

* Acreages
 [H] St. Stephens
 Lutheran
 Church
 [S] Canard School

Jim Hodgson Don Eckert Don and Dale Roy Eckert	Fred Eckert Don Eckert	August Prier Robert Prier Walter Falk Herta Falk	Julius Schultz John Schultz Rudolph Schultz Marvin Schultz	Ludwig Diewert (1904) Charlie Tober John Litke Rudolph Schultz Marvin Schultz	Ed Diewert (1908) Herman Diewert Ed Eckert
Arnold Handke Walter Jantz	John Handke Arnold Handke Walter Jantz	John Mittelstadt Otto Mittelstadt Lester McGhan Brian Colgan John Handke Arnold Handke Walter Jantz Darcy McGhan Pablo Padilla	August Mittelstadt Ed Tober Mervyn Gerber Darlyn Holsteins Ltd.	Julius Schultz Rudolph Schultz Marvin Schultz	Emil Kiel Gus Kiel Bill Kiel Erven Soch
Louis Soch Walter Lechelt Reinhold Ortlieb	John Mittelstadt Otto Mittelstadt Walter Jantz	Gus Mittelstadt August Knopp Robert Grams Gilbert Tritten	John Werner (1903) Gus Henschel Ed Tober Albert Tober	August (1903) Mittelstadt Ed Tober Alon Stang Mervyn Gerber Darcy McGhan	School Section Ed. Schlender Oscar Mallas Ron Mallas
Sam Soch Erven Soch	Karl Heinz Arthur Heinz	Roy McLean MR. Kool Ken Eckert	G. Werner (1903) C.W. Lechelt John Handke Ewalt Tober Mr. Thibadlau Wm. Thomas Keith Watson	Robert Stebner Theo. Mittelstadt Adolph Knopp Gus Mittelstadt Leo Berkholtz Ron Berkholtz	School Section August Rost Art Rost Norman Harke Donald Haythorn Esmond Warren
August Schultz Martin Schultz Wilfred Holtner	C.C. Lechelt Albert Lechelt SR. Albert Lechelt JR.	Karl Heinz Arthur Heinz	W. Hals. C.W. Lechelt John Handke Ewald Tober Martin Rapp E. Hals. Adolph Knopp Leo Berkholtz Ron Berkholtz	Karl Mittelstadt August Rost Leo Berkholtz Ron Berkholtz	Karl Mittelstadt August Rost Gus Lachman Emil Graff Ewald Herzog Alan Kabotoff Fritz Boehm
Halvor Olson Ed Carlson Tina Carlson	Richard Grant (1903) Adolph Hintz Carl Hintz Albert Lechelt JR.	Mike Stockman (1903) Martha - Emma Wesenberg Martha Caldwell	Wm. Wesenberg Sigmund Schmidt Gary Radke Arnold Reinke Herb Anton	Robert Stebner Gotlieb Stelmaker Geo Schultz Bernhard Lumpe	Gotlieb Hein Gus Hein Gus Lachman Mervyn Gerber Darlyn Holstein Pablo Padilla
Albert Bittner Anthony Best and Alfred Schiemann	Henry Tober SR. Henry Tober Jr. Adolph Walter J. Theriault B. Rosentreter	Herman Frederick Edmund Frederick Albert Lechelt JR.	John Sikstrom (1903) Ed Tober Ed Spitzer Adolph Mittelstadt John Mielke John Radke Gus Lachman Kristian Ring	Karl Sikstrom Geo Grams Robert Grams Elmer Grams Glen Gronberg	John Zucht Henry Zucht Mel May Elmer Price Irvin Berkholtz * G. Trempner Erwin Lachman
Julius Drebert F. Klabund W.T. Roper Emil Wedman Emil Bonas John Mielke Albert Bittner Anthony Best	Dan Lede Gus Mittelstadt Reinhold Sommers Arthur Lentz James Gallaher	Herman Frederick Edmund Frederick Albert Lechelt JR. Dan Lede Gus Mittelstadt Reinhold Sommers Arthur Lentz James Gallaher	Gottfried Drebert John Werner Fred Wesenberg Albert Werner * Ferguson - Long * Sieben-MacDonald * Borchart - Dr. Gotias	Hilmer Sikstrom Harry Sikstrom Paul Bittner Camille Moser	Chris Kopf Martha Buob Imgard Samoil
Chas Ladell Ed. Knopp Rudolph Nordin Geo Roper * R. Nordin	C.T.C. Roper Arthur Ladell Myrtle Kinghorn Geo Roper	Wm. Lede Wm. Paul Reuben Forth	Geo Rost Art Rost Emil Wruk and Otto Wolfe	Adam Hein Geo Rost Art Rost Emil Wruk and Otto Wolfe	Ludwrg Kopf Martha Buob Imgard Samoil
Hay Lease	Arthur Ladell Ed. Knopp G. Knopp Trevor Roper Geo Roper	W.T. Roper Trevor Roper Ken Roper	Wm Lede Geo Grams H. These B. Paul R. Forth Adam Hein Alan Hein M. Kinghorn G. Roper	August Lerke Adam Hein Alan Hein	Helmut These Otto These Ron These
Hay lakes Shooting Club house	W.T. Roper Wm. Lede SR. L. Mittelstadt	Gus Knopp Allan Hein	Charles Heinz Walter Heinz	Nick Sapelak Don Schultz MR. Welke Robel Holdings Ltd. * Joyce Guin	Julius Radawetz Alex-Pete Radawetz
22	23	24	25	26	27



Canard School District No. 1577

The Fleet School District no. 1577 was established November 10, 1906. Karl Heinz was the instrumental organizer. The first School Board's trustees were Karl Heinz (treasurer), Karl Mittelstadt (Senior Trustee), W. T. Roper and John Zucht.

It was to be situated at the Northeast corner of Section 34-48-22-W4; this land was given by Karl Sikstrom. On March 6, 1908 approval to move the

site from the Northeast corner to the Northwest corner of the same quarter section was given; the former corner mentioned was considered to be low, whereas the latter corner was on a good slope which was part of the hill.

The first class of thirty-five ranging in age from six years to the late teens attended in 1910 under Mr.

What a happy choice this turned out to be as many years later in school reminiscences that hill was thought of as the focal point of many activities.

By March 20, 1908 the Fleet School District borrowed the sum of \$800.00 upon the security of said district "for the purpose of purchasing the site and building and furnishing a school house." By May 13, 1913 the name Fleet School District No. 1577 was changed to Canard School District No. 1577 because of its conflict with another indential Alberta place name. As "canard" is the French word for "duck" and ducks abounded in the Big Hay Lake territory it is said to be the explanation of the chosen name.



Canard School 1924-1925. Built in 1909.

White. Pupils of that time still recall (1981) hearing the news of the death of King Edward the Seventh and the offering of a prayer of sympathy for the Royal Family. Some of the earliest pupils were: Charlie Heinz, Emil Lachman and Henry Zucht.

Enrollment increased continually so that by the end of 1928, the log school was replaced by a one-room frame building.

Gertrude (nee Grams) These submitted the following description: "built in 1928 by a contractor named Pratt for \$15.00 complete, there were double desks, pot-bellied cast iron heater surrounded by a protective circular tin wall and a stove pipe which extended the length of the classroom before gaining the chimney entrance. Wood was used for fuel at first but coal was used about 1928.

There were three windows on each side, uninsulated walls of vertical V joint — pupils seated near the windows "froze" and the outdoor plumbing featured "two-seaters". The girl's "house" was on top of the hill while the boy's place was down below the hill at the end of the property."

By September 1940 an enrollment of sixty-five necessitated a quick change to some temporary quarters. Bill Wesenberg's garage located across the road and a quarter of a mile away was used until 1944 when the school was enlarged and made into two rooms.



Canard School September 1928. Old log school on the right. First teacher in the new frame building was Thea Hendrickson with fifty-four pupils — grades one to eight.

When School Districts were reorganized into the larger School Divisions on October 16, 1937, the Canard School Division was formally constituted into the Clover Bar School Division No. 13 with secretary Mr. Charles E. Bowker's office on Jasper Avenue just across the street from the MacDonald Hotel.

The next major change was taken July 3, 1950 when Canard School District No. 1577 was transferred from the Clover Bar Division to the Camrose School Division No. 20.

The site and buildings of Canard School were sold December 16, 1958 and the school moved into the village of Hay Lakes to provide the High School Section of the new centralization. January 1, 1963 the

Municipal District of Camrose No. 63 and the Camrose School Division no. 20 were incorporated into the County of Camrose No. 22.

During the course of time the original Fleet School District sustained several land extensions and transfers.

Roads were improved and school bus routes planned. Even the grand old hill upon which Canard School was located on which the kids "made their own fun" was cut down to be used to build up the high-grade for Highway 21. It sustained its final change — from rural school to County status.

Canard School Teachers

1909-1910	Mr. White
1910-1911	Miss Bentley
1911-1912	Miss Robinson
1912-1913	Miss Robinson
1913-1914	Mr. O'Grady
1914-1915	Rudolph Lechelt
1915-1916	Rudolph Lechelt
1916-1917	Mr. Managh
1917-1918	F. Walbaum
1918-1919	F. Walbaum
1919-1920	Mr. Willan
1920-1921	Mr. Clark
1921-1922	Mr. McLaughlin
1922-1923	Mr. Thirsk
1923-1924	Mr. Martin Langston
1924-1925	Mr. J. Kulak
1925-1926	Mr. J. Kulak, Mrs. Loggie, Mr. H. B. Trout
1926-1927	Miss Perley
1927-1928	Mr. Grommers
1928-1929	Miss Thea Hendrickson
1929-1930	Miss Eritsland
1930-1931	Miss Mahoney
1931-1932	Mr. Heffernan and J. H. Aldrich
1932-1933	J. H. Aldrich
1933-1934	Miss Louise Roper
1934-1935	Miss Louise Roper
1935-1936	Miss Louise Roper
1936-1937	Miss Irna Graunke
1937-1938	Miss Irna Graunke
1938-1939	Miss Irna Graunke
1939-1940	Miss Irna Graunke
1940-1941	Mrs. Irna Mittelstadt and Mrs. Louise Nordin
1941-1942	Mrs. Irna Mittelstadt and Mrs. Louise Nordin
1942-1943	Miss L. Koshman and Mr. Art Middlestead
1943-1944	Miss L. Koshman and Mrs. Louise Nordin
1944-1945	Miss B. Vik and Mrs. Louise Nordin
1945-1946	Mrs. Heinz, Miss Haurylechko, Mr. Gayfer, and Mrs. Louise Nordin
1946-1947	Miss P. Haurylechko and Mr. Birkett
1947-1948	Mrs. Agnes Logan and Mr. Blumell
1948-1949	Miss Smart and Mr. Blumell
1949-1950	Mr. Archibald and Mr. Andrews



Canard School Class 1916. Back Row, L. to R.: Nellie Heinz, Agnes Karlson, Jessie Werner, Millie Heinz, Emma Tober, Emma Kopf, Anne Karlson. Row Two: Willie Werner, Albertine Buss, Albert Kopf, Olga Zucht, Henry Tober, Ella Stebner, Reinhold Tober, Ella Mittelstadt, Reinhold Stebner, Olga Schmidt, John Schultz, Elsie Rines, Albert Werner, Jessie Schultz, Emil Mittelstadt, Edith Heinz. Row Three: Emil Frederick, Ernest Frederick, Emil Lachman, Gus Hein, Jack Heinz, Emil Zucht, Gus Lachman, August Zucht.



Pupils at Canard School 1925. L. to R.: Loha Frederick, Adolph Mittelstadt, Mildred McLean, Art Heinz, Dagmar Sikstrom, Tommy McLean, Martha Wedman, Ida Lechelt, Trevor Roper, Lydia Mittelstadt, Reinhold Tober, Ruth Sikstrom, August Wedman, Edith Sikstrom, Art Mittelstadt, Louise Roper, Harry Sikstrom.



Canard School Class 1928-1929. L. to R., Back Row: Teacher Thea Hendrickson, Helen Lerke, Edith Sikstrom, Selma Mittelstadt, Edith Lechelt, Elsie Lede, Dorothy Lerke, Martha Mittelstadt, Emma Mittelstadt, Lily Lechelt. Row Two: Reinhold Mittelstadt, Ted Tober, Hedwig Lede, Adeline Knopp, Frieda Tober, Leo Frederick, Agnes Sikstrom, Arthur Lechelt, Martha Werner, George Roper, Hazel Sikstrom, Otto These. Row Three: Olga Hintz, Bertha Rost, Helen Sikstrom, Hilda Lede, Tillie Knopp, Olga Lede, Lydia Knopp, Willard Sikstrom, Otto Lerke, Bruno These, Edgar Lechelt, Mike Radawetz, Robert Tober, Arthur Taron, Herbert Grams.



Canard School Class 1932. Back Row, L. to R.: Martha Werner, Frieda Tober, Otto These, Bob Knopp, Agnes Sikstrom, Martha Mittelstadt, Leo Frederick, Olga Hintz, Emma Mittelstadt. Row Two: George Roper, Hazel Sikstrom, Albert Tober, Helmut Knopp, Helen Sikstrom, Hilda Lede, Lydia Knopp, Tillie Knopp, Bertha Rost, Olga Lede, Edna Henschell, Edna Schultz, Flora Soch, Alma Tober, Esther Lede, Muriel Olson, Margaret Spitzer, Hattie Knopp, Rosy Knopp. Row Three: Herman Schultz, Arthur Spitzer, Lloyd Grams, Clarence Heinz, Ernest Heinz, Herbert Grams, Willard Sikstrom, Robert Tober, Bruno These, Lawrence Grams, Leonard Knopp, Fred Knopp, Willy Lede.



Canard School Pupils 1937. L. to R., Back Row: Otto Mittelstadt, Peter Radawetz, Leonard Knopp, William Lede, Arthur Spitzer, Lawrence Grams, Herman Schultz, Lloyd Grams, Alma Tober, Ethel Handke, Martha Prier, Flora Soch, Edna Schultz. Row Two: Lawrence Mittelstadt, Arthur Wesenberg, Henry Radawetz, Fred Knopp, Glen Henschel, Richard Zucht, Esther Lede, Margaret Spitzer, Alice Grams, Gertrude Grams, Hattie Knopp, Beatrice Delaney, Alice Knopp, Annie Tober. Front Row: Norman Spitzer, unknown, unknown, unknown, Gary Mittelstadt, Gary Knopp, Evelyn Lede, Florence Wesenberg, Gertrude Handke, Jean Wesenberg, Ethel Wesenberg, Lydia Mielke, Lydia These.



Canard School Pupils 1945. Teacher — Louise Nordin. Back Row: Florence Wesenberg, Erven Knopp, Jonathan Schmidt, Elmer Grams, Herbert Lede. Middle Row: Ethel Wesenberg, Ruby Rost, Gertrude Handke, Violet Mittelstadt, Doris Schultz, Evelyn Lede, Jean Wesenberg. Front: Allan Gerring.



Canard School Pupils 1947-1948. Grades 1 to 6. L. to R., Back Row: Joe Radawetz, Dennis Lachman, Robert Grams, Allan Hein, Harry Mantai, Morris Radawetz. Next Row: Willie Rost, Lawrence Zucht, Ron Mallas, Don Rost, Martin Schultz. Next Row: Lorraine Mallas, Doreen Hein, Marlene Rost, Evelyn Lechelt, Irmgard Buob, Margaret Werner, Marlene Tober, Olga Radawetz. Front Row: Richard Heinz, Raymond Heinz, Edwin Lechelt, Richard Gellert, Rueben Lechelt, Ronald Schultz, Walter Heinz, Reinhold Knopp, Ronald LeFevre.



Canard Junior High — Teacher Mr. Birkett. L. to R., Back Row: George Radawetz, Gordon Zucht, Fred Lechelt. Front Row: Norma Werner, Doris Handke, Ruth Lachman, Connie Werner, Betty Rost, Violet Mittelstadt, Rita Radke, Yvonne Schultz.

Reminiscences of Canard School by John Kulak 1924-25

In 1924, about halfway between the Herman Wesenberg farm and the John Zucht home place, stood a small log house of learning known as Canard School no. 1577. It stood on a small rise with a small horse barn below the hill. Most pupils lived within walking distance of the school and so the barn was seldom used. The yard was fenced and faced onto the main road to the town of Hay Lakes. And there were two outhouses which in 1924 were patronized by up to forty-nine youngsters. The school building itself stood on stone corner posts — which resisted all efforts by the pupils to dislodge.

I unlocked the door to enter upon my seventh month of teaching — correction: I just walked in, there was neither lock nor key. In those days it was quite unnecessary to lock the school door.

On my first day, early November 13th about forty-five pupils reported for learning. It was the first day of the school term for Canard. Teachers were in short supply in 1924 and the district was unable to get a teacher that fall until I came along. Almost immediately we set up machinery of learning, arranged the two seat desks in rows and set pieces of blackboard into every available space along the walls. The blackboards consisted of builders wallboard painted black, and the desks had carved upon them the names of generations of pupils. Enrolment varied from month to month, depending upon the season of the year — seeding and harvesting, but reached a maximum of fifty-two at one time. I don't recall that there were any library books but there certainly was no school material such as paper and pencils. Every pupil supplied their own. There was a globe of the world and some maps.

Canard is one of the two schools I remember best in my forty-two years of teaching. A contributing factor to this was the unfettered control afforded the teacher. Parents co-operated fully in every way they knew how, and the pupils were orderly and respectful and reflected their home training.

Even though learning opportunities fifty-seven years ago were few and school materials were always in short supply or non-existent, and every available space in the building was occupied either by a pupil or a piece of blackboard, the school turned out many successful youngsters who in later life became teachers, nurses, secretaries, and successful business men, and good fathers and mothers.

Herman Wesenberg was then the school chairman and Charley Heinz was the school secretary, succeeded by young August Zucht. One of the school trustees was Adam G. Hein, plus one or two others whose names I do not recall.

Some of the young people in the community at the time included the Zucht boys, Henry, Emil and August, and their sister Olga. Others were Bill and Albert Werner, the Middlestead boys, Gus, Charley, and Emil. Herman and Bill Wesenberg I got to know very well. Almina and Alice Jeannette and their brother Alphonse were others who lived in the immediate community. Altogether, Canard was a very lively area and I enjoyed my short stay of one year very much.

Incidentally my salary was \$1,080.00 a year, my suit of clothes was \$20.00, and a pair of shoes from Chris Hein's store was \$5.00. Chocolate bars were five cents each and a restaurant meal could be had for twenty-five cents — a lavish one for one dollar.

I shall look forward to your history book because even though I lived only a short time among you I got to know so many young people. Those few months are among my most pleasant of my whole teaching career and it was the community spirit of the young people to whom I give credit for making it memorable.

Memories of Canard School by Gertrude (Handke) Kadatz

Roll up the pavement covering Highway Twenty-one;

Bring back the country road with trees on either side;

A child of six, I walked that road the day I started school.

I wore my Sunday coat, a clean white hanky tucked inside,

No pop-up paper tissues then, no plastic pail to hold my lunch,

A metal one, that once held lard, conveyed my
 peanut butter sandwiches.
 An hour's walk up to the hill and there the fortress
 stood;
 Its open doors began to swallow one by one the
 students walking single file.
 Outside the Union Jack stood guard and fluttered
 proudly in the breeze.
 Inside the smell of oil, dustbane, and chalk hung
 heavy in the air.
 My desk was small, it had a drawer and a shelf to
 write upon.
 In it I learned to read with Puff and Spot and Dick
 and Jane.
 It wasn't easy then for phonics weren't used and
 words like "carriage" were.
 But Dick and Jane were city kids and their
 adventures spurred us on.
 The big kids sat in twos. Girls had to sit beside the
 boys when they were 'bad'
 The teacher thought this was a punishment and we
 pretended that it was!
 One student had the privilege each week to get the
 heavy bottle full of ink,
 The one that had a spout stuck in the cork, and fill
 each inkwell carefully.
 I waited long to write with ink on grown-up lines!
 Then came grade four and we were told to write a
 story all our own;
 The words came tumbling on my sheet; excitedly I
 thought it was a masterpiece
 Just before dismissal, the teacher often read one.
 She chose MINE to read.
 My pride soon shrivelled into shame.
 The story soon disappeared as each mistake was
 pointed out;
 I'd written "foots" instead of feet, Many terrible
 errors;
 That one I can't forget. But even worse my messy
 page
 Was held up high and shown to fifty kids. How
 they all laughed!
 With bitter tears I rushed out through the door and
 down the hill,
 Where horses hitched up to the sleds were straining
 for the daily race.
 God must have loved the sport as much as we!
 He kept us safe as through the air we flew —
 Until a most triumphant shout declared the winner
 for the day!
 The boys who drove were skilled, turned into
 adults overnight
 As brothers went to war.
 But I was sad that night. I'd never write again!

I crawled into a corner shutting out the pain.
 Next year when sixty kids came to the hill, some
 men dropped by,
 And then and there decided that the pupil-teacher
 ratio must go down.
 Another school? Where would they find a teacher?
 How could they build a school before we won the
 war?
 But someone had a plan to use a nearby farmer's
 shed;
 The doors were sealed, desks and shelves replaced
 the cars,
 And someone found a teacher!
 She took command in no uncertain terms;
 Her words, her glance gave messages we dared not
 disobey.
 I felt inadequate, fear kept me to my corner.
 One winter day the wind howled viciously through
 every crack and window;
 We were so cold our breath was visible, our fingers
 stiff, our feet in pain.
 And still we worked, but then the teacher said,
 "Just close your books,
 Move to the stove, it is too cold to work." She
 joined us there.
 The red hot monster glowed and sparks danced
 merrily inside.
 More than the frost began to melt. A warm and
 tender feeling overcame me.
 Our teacher must be human, she really cared,
 perhaps she even loved us.
 That's why she made us reach so deep inside —
 That nothing but the best was ever good enough!
 That's when I felt new life, a love to learn,
 My confidence returned, the corner was no place
 for me!
 My classmates must have felt it too — we had a
 fine school spirit.
 We put on plays, had paper drives, and helped the
 soldiers overseas,
 But most of all we studied and strove for
 excellence.
 The years slipped by and when I left
 My final marks were underlined by three gold
 stars.
 That document rests proudly now beside the ones
 that followed.
 I have become a teacher too, and feel successful in
 my field.
 Is it because I've taught a thousand students
 reading skills?
 Or could it be that in those most important years
 Someone taught me how to learn;
 And God has given me the chance to pass it on!

Memories of School Days by Tillie (Knopp) Chapman

We all have many fond memories of Hay Lakes and the Canard School and Lutheran Church and many were hard to take at the time, especially having to walk three and one half miles, most of the winter and all summer. Therefore I didn't start school until I had passed seven. The trials of grade one, because I couldn't speak English! Some of the teachers didn't take kindly to this. In those days everyone spoke what they called the Mother Tongue at home and didn't worry about the language of the country. How I cried the last day of school of grade two. I walked to school barefoot in pouring rain because I had to see Mr. Hefferman for the last time. I remember the cold peanut butter and jam sandwiches, but was grateful, because some of the pupils only had lard on their bread, the big pot-bellied stove, that smoked so badly when it was stoked or the wood was green or wet. And the times some of the girls were locked in the "Outhouse" by some of the male rascals. There was the excitement of Christmas concerts at church or school, and the thrill if you were picked to take part and then worried about remembering your lines.

My sister Hattie was very athletic all her life and she remembered acrobats and the pyramids that were put on for special occasions and the "Shadow Plays" for Christmas concerts, which you never missed and we had to go by horse and sleigh as the roads were never opened like today. The school sports days in spring. If you passed the competition at Canard you went on to Hay Lakes, in later years this also included Camrose. Here someone with a three ton truck would pick us all up and we would ride in the back.

Berkholtz, Leo by Irma (Boettcher) Berkholtz

Leo, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Berkholtz, was born on October 9, 1908. In 1929 he decided to start farming on his own and moved to the Pete Buss C.P.R. Land. At the age of twenty six, Leo married Lena Soch, born in 1908, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gotlieb Soch, on January 25, 1934.

Leo recalls: The price of wheat in spring of 1929, was \$1.30 per bushel; that fall, it sold for nineteen cents per bushel. Oats was bought for seventy-five cents per bushel in spring; that fall, it sold for six cents per bushel. A five gallon can of cream sold for eighty cents — \$1.00. A good cow was worth anywhere for \$8.00-\$10.00. Leo hauled cows to Edmonton to get \$7.00 per cow. A pig was worth \$2.00-\$2.50.

Leo remembers selling two pigs to Ed Schlender,

just before his wedding, for five dollars. That same year, Lena needed a new coat. She sold a cow for seven dollars, and since her new coat cost eight dollars, she had to add one dollar to the price of the cow.

The first two sons joined the family — Lawrence in 1934 and Irvin in 1937.

During the years of 1938-1940, Leo had a trucking business and a general store, located a quarter of a mile east of the Big Hay Lake School. Leo recalls this incident of 1940 — young Lawrence was six years old and minding the store for his mother for a few minutes. Carl Galenza came into the store with a dollar to buy a twenty pack of cigarettes, worth twenty cents a pack. Young Lawrence didn't know where his mother kept the change box, so Carl had to pick out enough merchandise equivalent to the one dollar. Mom came back just then, so Carl happily gave back the extra dry goods, got his eighty cents change, and his pack of cigarettes.

Then Leo and Lena's last child, Ronald, arrived in 1942.

In 1947, Leo and his family moved to the Gus Mittelstadt farm. Then in 1950, they moved from the original yard, to the present yard, — SE 10-49-22-W4, now owned and operated by the youngest son, Ron.

In the fall of 1967, Leo and Lena moved to the Art Soch farm yard, — NE 36-48-22-W4, where they were semi-retired. The two youngest sons took over most of the farming.



November 5, 1980. L. to R.: Lawrence, Irvin, Ron, Leo and Lena Berkholtz. Lena's 72nd birthday.

In 1971, Lena was not that well, and after being sick for quite some time, and finally starting to get better, Leo and Lena bought the Eric Lofgren house in Hay Lakes in 1973, and decided to retire. They lived there until ill health forced Lena to become a resident of the Briarcrest Nursing Home in Camrose. Leo is still living in Hay Lakes and enjoying fairly good health. His biggest enjoyment is fishing several times a week.

Lawrence, Leo and Lena's oldest son, married Irma Boettcher, youngest daughter of Reinhold and Lydia Boettcher, of Ryley, Alberta. Lawrence and Irma live on a farm at Hay Lakes. They have four children a daughter and three sons Laurel, Gregory, Scott and Gary.

Irvin, Leo and Lena's second son, married Joyce Brown of New Sarepta. Irvin, Joyce and family lived in the community for two and a half years, then sold and moved to the Viking-Bruce district, later selling again, and moving north and east of Camrose.

Ronald, Leo and Lena's youngest son, is still single and lives on the present farm, SE 10-48-22-W4, raising grain, hogs and beef cattle.

Berkholtz, Ronald **by Irma Berkholtz**

Ron was born in October, 1942, youngest son to Leo and Lena Berkholtz. Ron received his education at Canard and later Hay Lakes School. Ron farmed SE 10-49-22-W4, with his Dad and brother Irvin until 1967, now owning and operating on his own, raising grain, hogs and beef cattle. During the winter of 1971-1972 Ron worked on the oil rigs in northern B.C. Later, he worked for Union Tractor in Edmonton off and on, for about three years.

Ron has been associated with the Hay Lakes Fastball Team, first playing, then coaching, since 1964. At present, he is assistant coach for the team this season.

Ron is also an active member of the curling club.

Bittner, Albert

I was born in Hay Lakes on July 13, 1915. I received my education at Hay Lakes and continued working for my parents until 1940. I spent five years in Ontario, working one year for General Motors and four years in a goldmine.

In 1945 I married Clara Grams. To this union four children were born. We farmed my dad's farm for five years. We then purchased a farm west of Hay Lakes (NE32-48-22-W4) and farmed there until 1961. On March 17, 1961 we moved to Genesee where we again purchased a farm. In the fall of 1977, we sold our farm to Edmonton Power. We are now

living in Warburg, Alberta. Our children are all married and live close by.

Richard married Doris Hutchinson. They have three children: Michelle, Michael, and Tyler.

Clarence married Linda Bilou. Their children are: Paula and Kimberly.

Lynn is married to Judy Babiak. They have two children: Sheyne and Kurt.

Annette is married to Larry Gidosh. They also have two children: Jason and Pamela. We have a great and wonderful family, we spend many happy times together.

Bittner, Paul

Paul was born at Hay Lakes on August 2, 1918, son of Ertman and Christina Bittner. He was raised in the Hay Lakes district and attended the Hay Lakes School.

In 1942 Paul enlisted in the army for five years. After the war Paul returned to the Hay Lakes area and took up farming. He rented land south of Hay Lakes, that is now the Waldemar Metzker place. After that he worked a number of years for Reins Mittelstadt doing electrical work when power first came into the district. Once again he took up farming and bought the quarter that belonged to Harry Sikstrom. After many years he sold that quarter and moved south east of Hay Lakes, and rented land from Mrs. John Bittner.

In April of 1977 he retired and took up residence in the village of Hay Lakes until he passed away on January 25, 1980. He is buried in Our Saviour's Cemetery, Hay Lakes.

Buob, Eugene and Martha (nee Kopf) **by Irmgard Samoil**

My mother, Martha Evelyn Kopf, was the third child and second daughter born to Ludwig and Karoline Kopf at Nisku, on June 12, 1907. Her birth was attended by her father and Mrs. Schneider, a family neighbor and friend.

Martha was a bright, happy and energetic child. Together with her sister Emma and brother Albert, adventure beckoned them to their "prairie playground". During a storm on a rafting excursion they came upon a marshy area, thick with cattails. Since their raft could not penetrate the reeds, it was necessary to retrace the route the long way back against the driving wind and rain. A good tongue-lashing from Karoline awaited the weary crew as they arrived home.

Martha's love for the outdoors and adventure kept her close to her brother, Albert. They became inseparable buddies. Albert taught her how to shoot.

She soon surprised him with her “Annie Oakley” marksmanship whether it was aiming at a target or at live birds.

Martha learned about women’s liberation at an early age, as did many other pioneer girls. Milking six or eight cows, operating the binder, stooking, or stacking hay, were just a few benefits of this “liberation”. Fortunately, working like a man was not a burden to her because of her positive and cheerful attitude.

At twelve years of age, she almost lost her life because of a severe tooth infection. When the doctor arrived from Camrose through ten-foot drifts after a big snowstorm, he found the child in a coma. However, the fever broke, and she was granted sixty more earthly years.

Martha left the farm when she was sixteen years old and took employment as a salesclerk at a bakery and waitress at the race track in Vancouver. She also worked at a lumber camp, cording wood. She rolled her long, heavy hair up under a cap and dressed in men’s clothes. Her identity as a woman was never discovered during this time.

My Mother met my Father while she was working as a waitress in Edmonton. Eugene Buob was an engineering student who had apprenticed with the Mercedes Benz Factory in Stuttgart, Germany. He and some friends had decided to see Canada. They arrived in the spring of 1930 and took up a homestead in Athabasca. They gave it up after one year. Eugene had already purchased his return ticket to sail back to Germany on the Hamburg American Line, when he met Martha. This changed the course of his life. They were married on May 28, 1931. The groom had to borrow \$2.00 in order to obtain the \$12.00 marriage license. The newlyweds worked out from Ludwig Kopf’s farm from the beginning. Martha worked as a waitress in the Olympia Cafe for \$12.00 a week, and Eugene made \$7.00 a week setting up pins in a bowling alley.

In April, 1933, they tried their hand at dairy farming at Cooking Lake. In a raging rainstorm, Irving Becker and Phil Daly helped them move the cows, horses and drygoods from Hay Lakes. An eight gallon can of cream brought \$2.75. In October they sold the cows for which they never received payment and returned to Edmonton. It was back to the cafe for Martha and Eugene worked as a piano mover.

In 1934, the enterprising pair moved to Jasper, Alberta where they operated the National Hotel. Martha continued to manage the hotel, while Eugene started learning the shoemaker’s trade from Adam Reicher. In a short time, he could make a new pair of shoes by hand. Business was brisk with clientele from the C.N.R.

I was born in 1936. Shortly thereafter, my father sailed for Europe with the hopes of obtaining the patent rights for paper milk bottles. The war broke out and connections with Germany were severed, and the transaction was lost. Father returned to Jasper in January, 1937 to the shoe business. Mother rented the upstairs of their residence to World War I veterans who were employed by the park administration.

In 1940 the family moved to Edmonton where Father drove taxi for Jack McNeil. He often worked at two jobs at the same time. These jobs included driving Greyhound Bus and stacking lumber at Clark Lumber. Mother managed the Rosslyn Court apartments where they lived.

In 1943 Father worked for the American Army as convoy foreman in the building of the Alaska Highway. The threat of a Japanese invasion, prompted the construction of 1,600 miles of road out of the wilderness in nine months. ‘Gene made thirty trips to take the supplies up the road to various points. The trucks were left at Watson Lake, Whitehorse, Tannecross and Fairbanks. The men flew back by American Airforce D-C aircraft to Edmonton. This episode is another history in itself. After the completion of the Alaska Highway. ‘Gene was in charge of the motor-pool at the American Air Force Base in Edmonton. In 1945 the war ended and he was no longer required.

At this point, Mother built her two room house at the farm at Hay Lakes. Ralph Schmidt put up the frame. She and Albert completed the remaining work. The land was in poor shape, but in two years Father worked it back from solid couch grass to a productive state. Mother started a successful mixed farming operation consisting of twenty head of cattle, six milk cows and a hundred chickens.



Martha and Irmgard Buob on their farm at Hay Lakes — 1948.

In 1948 Father left the farm to work for Edmonton’s only Ford dealer to manage the tractor and farm implement division. Mother continued to farm by herself and was on her own during the week. The winters were difficult. She would have to shovel a path from the yard to the main road. It was difficult to

start the Graham Paige in cold weather. The solution was placing a fire under the engine to get it going. The well engine also froze up. It was necessary to haul it to the house and warm it up and take it out again. Then there were the barns to clean, cattle to feed and water, help deliver a calf if necessary, repair a fence, plus the cooking and washing. After the work was done, she was ready for a few laughs and a glass of beer with a neighbor, relative, or friend. She also joined in for a polka or two at a Friday night dance.

July 1 was a big celebration, with a parade, ball games and a dance. Mother and Lydia Lachman dressed up as "Bill and Beulah", two characters from a popular radio program, and entered the parade in complete disguise. However, the secret was spoiled, when our dog "Tippy" spotted her, dashed to the procession and proudly followed her down the parade route.

Mother and I left the farm in 1953 to a new home in Edmonton, when Father became a partner in the Volkswagen Northern Distributorship with Joseph Schille, a banker, originally from Scott, Saskatchewan. The business grew successfully. In 1956 property was purchased on Kingsway Avenue for their north side dealership. In 1963, Joe and 'Gene. "The Goldust Twins" retired for five years because of 'Gene's ill health. Mother's devotion and encouragement helped my Father through the long battle with his threatening illness. She also found time to help me and my three young children.



Martha and Eugene Buob at Hay Lakes — 1973.

In April, 1968, the Toyota franchise was offered to the two partners. This commenced with Sun Motors on 82nd Avenue and expanded to a north side dealership Kingsway Toyota Ltd. on 109th Street in 1973. Eugene is still semi-active in the business and goes to the office every day.

Unfortunately, Martha became suddenly ill and passed away on September 2, 1979. It is with great bereavement to Eugene, Irmgard, and the grandchildren, Deanne, David and Erik to have lost such a vibrant, energetic, and wonderful loving mate, mother, grandmother and friend. Her effervescence shines brightly in our memories as a dedication to a living, loving life.

Irmgard

I was born August 21, 1936 in Jasper, Alberta where my father operated a shoe store and repair shop. My parents moved to Edmonton in 1940. I started primary school at McKay Avenue a year late because of a hip ailment. I was unable to walk for one year.

I was nine years old when Mother decided to move to her farm at Hay Lakes. The two-room Canard School was a big change from the city school. I soon adapted to garter snakes and snow drifts and didn't miss the city for very long. Mr. Andrews helped me regain my lost school year by preparing me for grade nine in one year. The following year of 1950 is when schools were consolidated and the children bused into Hay Lakes.

Grade eleven was a good year in particular. Margaret Werner, Patrick Sutherland and I received honor pins for scholastic achievement.

During these years, the Lutheran Church played a big role in our lives. I was one of the twenty-two confirmands in Pastor Keitel's first confirmation class. The young people's association met in each other's homes on Sunday evenings, under the leadership of the pastor. Several successful social events were organized. Many talented singers and musicians inspired music programs, especially at Christmas. When I hear the refrain: "O Tannenbaum", I can still see the candles shimmering on the tall evergreen in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church!

Farmer's Day and July 1st were big celebrations. A parade, ball games and dances were a lot of fun. I recall a particular "float" entitled "Why The Boys Stay On The Farm", which included all the girls from ten to twenty dressed in crepe paper dresses.

In 1953 my parents moved to Edmonton and I completed grade twelve at Victoria Composite High School. I took secretarial training and worked for Mobil Oil for a year. Then in 1956, since Father's

relatives in Germany had not met Mother or I, a trip to Europe was in order.

Upon returning to Canada, and finding clerical work boring I embarked on further education at the University of Alberta. In May, 1960, I graduated with a B.A. in Modern Languages.

On March 2, 1963 I married Ed Samoil one of my former university classmates. Since a family wasn't in our immediate plans, I went to work for C.F.R.N. Radio as a copywriter. It was a challenging and rewarding experience. It was also demanding: so I quit to start a family. On November 9, 1965, our daughter Deanne, the joy of our life arrived. Two brothers, David and Erik followed in 1966 and 1968, respectively.

My husband, Ed, is a salesman. We have been living on an acreage at Ardrossan since August, 1979.

Diewert, Edward **by Otto Drebert**

Edward Diewert was the son of Ludwig Diewert and Emilia (Herman) Diewert. He was born March 18, 1890 in Androv, Russia and was baptized April 12, 1890. Edward immigrated to Canada with his parents in 1895. He attended classes in Colchester school and was confirmed in the Bruederfeld Church on April 11, 1905. The Ludwig Diewert family came to the Hay Lakes district to settle on a homestead in 1904. Edward lived with his parents on the homestead until 1908 when he became eligible to claim a homestead of his own. His homestead was located on the N.E. 14-49-22-W4. This land had been reserved by the government as Moravian Church property. The Moravians abandoned this property in 1905 when they favored a more central location that was donated to them by August Harke.



Edward Diewert Family.

On August 3, 1909 Edward was united in holy matrimony to Adele Tauber. Adele was the daughter of Johan Tauber and Maria (Öhlke) Tauber. She was born on March 15, 1891 in Poland. This family homesteaded in the Looma district. The Ed Diewerts farmed on their homestead for thirty-six years. When they first settled on this quarter most of their land was contained in a lake that had become known as Lake Levering. This lake was named by Bishop Clement Hoyler in memory of Bishop Mortimer Levering who had ordained him in 1892. This lake became part of the Hay Lakes drainage project Number Eleven that was established in 1921.

The drainage of this lake supplemented the income for the Ed Diewert family when they cropped the hay off their drained meadow. Ed Diewert and his neighbor Emil Kiel invested in the modern methods that were used for harvesting the hay crops in the early twenties. This equipment consisted of a horse-drawn hay sweep and some lift poles for building stacks. A stationary baler was used for baling hay in winter. Most of this hay was shipped to market by rail. Ed Diewert also invested in a steam threshing outfit that was shared between six neighbors. These were: namely, Gus and Emil Kiel, Julius Sagert, Fred Henkelman, Emil Diewert and John Pawloski.

The Ed Diewerts had a family of nine children who are: namely, Rufina, born October 29, 1911; Erna, born May 1, 1913; Herman, born January 25, 1915; Violet, born August 3, 1916; Helen, born February 14, 1919; Alvin, born March 18, 1921; Lillian, born March 3, 1923; Alice, born June 13, 1925; and Armin, born July 9, 1931. These children attended classes in the New Sarepta Rural and were baptized and confirmed in the New Sarepta Moravian Church. Ed and Adele Diewert were active members of the Moravian Church in the early years. Ed is still remembered for playing his key trombone in the church band.

In 1945 the Edward Diewerts sold their farm near Hay Lakes and moved to Kelowna, B.C. Only two children remained in this area when the family moved to Kelowna. These were, Herman, who operated a blacksmith shop at New Sarepta and Erna, who is married to Albert Lechelt and farmed in the Canard district. Edward Diewert passed away in 1948. His widow is presently confined in a nursing home in Kelowna at the age of ninety years.

Their children are all married and are scattered around all parts of Canada. Rufina is married to Fred Smith and lives in Fort St. John, B.C. Erna is married to Albert Lechelt and is now retired, living at Hay Lakes. Herman is married to Frieda Miske. They operated a blacksmith shop at New Sarepta for many years. They are now retired and living in Kelowna,



Edward Diewert and the Herman Diewert family at Kelowna, B.C. — 1941.

B.C. Violet married Arthur Alderson who lives in Edmonton, Alberta. Helen is married to Harry Hane-gan and they live in Toronto, Ontario. Alvin and his wife, Mona, live in Tuoxado, B.C. where he works for the B.C. Ferries. Lillian is married to Theodore Truman and they live on Vancouver Island. Alice is married to Gordon Strong and they live in Kelowna, B.C. Armand and his wife Bertha also live in Kelowna. At present there are a large number of grand-children that could be listed to the Edward Diewert family tree. However due to lack of information it would be impossible to list them all.

Frederick, Herman and Karoline by Emil Frederick

Dad (Herman Frederick) and Mother were both born in Peterkoff, Wolynia. Dad was born July 30, 1876 and Mother was born June 22, 1882.

My father was conscripted for military training when he was twenty years of age. After training in Moscow and Turkestan, he served in the Russia-Japanese war. On his return to Peterkoff, he met Karoline Kitzman. They were married May 4, 1904.

My oldest brother Ernest was born May 18, 1905, (already at rest) and a year and ten months later, there were prospects for my arrival. Looking to the future and not wishing to see their sons conscripted as Father had been, they boarded a ship at a Russian port. Three weeks later they disembarked at Montreal.

Our arrival in Strathcona, May 24, 1907, was one month before I arrived, June 24, 1907. We arrived in Canada without paying fare to cross the ocean.

We lived at Karl Schafers until we built a house

two blocks north of the Ritchie School. Here we lived for four years. Brother William was born in 1910 (died — age three months) was born during this time.

In Edmonton Dad had different jobs. He helped build the C.P.R. coal chute, the University, Parliament buildings, the High Level Bridge, and the Dawson or Clover Bar Bridge. He mixed mortar for the plaster crew, and dug trenches. By 1910, these ten hour days at ten cents per hour caused Dad to borrow a bicycle and with his brother Gottlieb, who had his own bike, they rode to find a better way.

They found that homesteads could be had at Looma. In the late summer of 1910, they each took homesteads, and built log buildings. There was no roof, no door and no windows. In the early spring of 1911, Dad asked Julius Neuman and Jacob Walter to take the family out to the homestead.

It was a lovely day when we set out for Looma. The next morning when we awoke in our new house there was two inches of snow on our beds. To this day I can see my mother's tears streaming down her face as she stood by the kitchen range cooking our breakfast.

The next day, Dad set up rafters. Within a week we had a roof over our heads. That same year my parents built a frame house about twenty by twenty-six feet. We lived at Looma for four years. Sister Loha was born, Jan. 7 (already at rest), Edmund arrived March 28, 1915 and Leo, June 28, 1918.

As I was eight and Ernest ten it was necessary to move closer to a school. After some searching we settled four miles west of Hay Lakes, where now Highway twenty-one turns north (NE33-TP48-R22-

W4). Here we went to Canard School. The folks lived there until 1940, moved back to New Sarepta (NE29-TP49-R22-W4) and then to Vancouver. Our final move was to Edmonton where Mother had a stroke and died November 23, 1950.



Herman and Karoline Frederick.

Reminiscences by Emil Frederick

When my father, Herman Frederick moved to our farm at Hay Lakes there were no roads south of our place. Anyone south of us who wanted to go to the village had to open the gate at our south east corner of the farm. Then one had to drive to the north east corner, open that gate to get to the northwest Wesenberg gate. Then you could drive up to the Wesenberg's southeast corner gate to get on the road. The road at the time was not straight into town as it is today. It curved around Hein's slough and then around John Zucht's slough passing by the lumber mills. In all there were eight gates to open and close. As some people did not always close a gate, there was often a lot of trouble among farmers. Alphonse Jeanette who lived about four miles from Fredericks, counted seventeen gates from his place to get to the village of Hay Lakes. How handy the telephone would have been!

In the months of January and February, 1917,

many farmer's came to build the road east of the Frederick farm up to the Canard School. They cut hundreds of trees and hauled them into the sloughs. The summer of 1917 saw the farmers from two miles north and south come to build that road. Came the Carlsons, the Lachmans and Ludwig Knopp. They used slip scrapers and wheelers. That half mile road was built with Herman Frederick as the road foreman and Karl Mittelstadt Sr. as the road councillor. Some road work had been done east of the school. Here a culvert was deeply mired. Here a near tragedy occurred.

Until the church was built (NE3-TP49-R2-W4) Lutheran services were held in the Canard School. When Pastor Hempel was not there to hold the services, then Karl Mittelstadt Sr. read the sermon. On this particular Sunday, Karl Mittelstadt was approaching the school with a team, drawing a small sleigh with one seat. There was standing room behind the seat for August Mittelstadt and son, Gus.

At the afore mentioned culvert, there was a jerk, and Gus fell backwards, his father fell on top of him, breaking Gus' arm six inches below the shoulder. Monday morning he was taken by train to Camrose Hospital. He did no more work for many months.

The Royal Bank in Hay Lakes was built, thirty feet or so west of L. Larson's store in the summer of 1920. When the Bank started on fire, water was carried by pails from the village well, then located on the northwest corner of the property now owned by Mrs. Mildred Lofgren. People tried to keep the store from burning. There was confusion. Some gave the signal to let it go, others kept fighting the fire. Only the store was saved. Hearing that the store could not be saved, someone rushed in, retrieved an armful of tobacco and carried it to his buggy. Many people saw that. Not so many saw someone else steal that same tobacco from the buggy. That smoker went home without the tobacco.

Rudolf Fisher and Gus Mittlestadt were two of the ardent fire fighters. After the fire, Gus appeared in dire need of attention. Cold water revived him, but the exposure is believed to be the cause of being stricken with Rheumatic fever soon afterward.

Four men came out from Edmonton with their boat to shoot ducks on Big Hay Lake. They stopped on Fred Klabunda's farm which bordered the east shore. They didn't go far, as a sudden storm came up. The boat overturned — three men swam to shore, but Harry Batt drowned in eight feet of water. Police searched for two weeks before they found the body.

In 1921, the water was twenty inches deep in that area. In 1922 we saw something sticking out of the water. Rheinhold Wedman walked up to it and pulled out Harry Batt's gun!

The rabbit population was very high until the

spring of 1914. Mr. Adolf Hintz came to our place, the Looma homestead to shoot rabbits for meat. He was able to shoot one hundred rabbits an hour. At night the rabbits came to feed on oat bundle stacks. When the moon was shining bright, Mr. Hintz would get onto the sleigh box and shoot rabbits. Many people could not afford to buy shells to shoot rabbits. Instead they dug holes in the ground and put small rails over the holes. Then covered it with a thin layer of hay. The rabbits would go to eat the hay and fall into the holes. The next morning they would go and kill the rabbits. In this way people were able to get rabbit meat.

In the spring of 1915, a disease killed about ninety percent of the rabbits. That made it very hard for coyotes to find food as their main food supply was gone. Coyotes travelled in large numbers and one late afternoon in January 1916, a pack of coyotes came to the middle of our yard. There were no less than twenty coyotes in that pack.

When the lake froze up, fifty to sixty-five years ago, there was a thunder and a rumble all winter long. That rumbling could be heard for many miles. I don't know what caused it, but I think the water under the ice was moving and that caused the ice to break.

The Canard School was a half mile east of our place. In the summer we went home to eat our lunch and very seldom were we late for school after lunch. In the winter we took our lunch to school. But, what? Syrup and bread. We were the poorest family in the area. Sometimes we took potato pancakes to school for lunch. Someone may ask what we ate at home. Mostly potato soup and barley grit soup. Anyone who knows the Frederick's family knows that we are a fat family. What fattened us was barley grip soup. There was a time when my weight was two hundred and fifty-one pounds.

In the month of 1916, something happened that I will never forget. A twister came up in that slough about one hundred and forty yards west of the house. It took the water about fifty feet high. Then it turned to the middle of the yard and picked up a pail and took it up forty feet in the air. Then it passed by the barn at the west end and turned to the northwest. It went on top of the big bush on the Wesenberg farm, but it didn't do any harm to the bush. It sounded like ten thousand logs a mile high clashing together in the sky. That was the loudest sound I ever heard in my life. If thirty jet planes, thirty caterpillar tractors and thirty trains were all running at once they could not make as great a noise as that twister.

Before I will close I will mention what my mother did. She was a midwife. She brought more than a half dozen children into the world at Looma, three in Rosenthal, that included a set of twins. She brought

three sets of twins into the world in all. She was laid to rest at the age of sixty-eight and a half.

Tribute to a Pioneer Midwife — Karoline Frederick

by Hedwig Erickson

Mrs. Herman Frederick was a midwife who lived four miles west of Hay Lakes. She helped bring entire families into this world, and went even as far as Rolly View. She stayed two to three days with the family and sometimes as long as a week, while her husband and children batched at home.

She also later boarded some of the Canard School teachers. Her house was always neat and clean and she was a hard worker with a pleasant personality.

For recreation, she walked miles to visit her neighbors.

Frederick, Leo

I was born on June 28, 1918, four miles west of the town of Hay Lakes, the youngest child of the Fredericks, and the only one to be born on that farm. Mrs. Henry Tober, Senior, was the acting midwife.

I attended Canard public school, Grades one through nine. My first teacher was Martin Langston, my final one Louise Roper. I attended High School in the town of Hay Lakes. I cut short that period of education and became a roamer. I became very familiar with riding the freights and the "Tenders". The times were the peak of the "Dirty 'Thirties."

For going to church Sunday wear, I owned a sweater and a pair of grey flannel, bell-bottom trousers. One Sunday afternoon in company with Reinhold and Rudolf Stelmaker plus Walter Tober, and being the driver of Reinhold's Model-T Ford, I was induced by my cohorts to attempt to race a nice looking Chevrolet. When the Model-T had given its utmost, I decided to admit defeat, and as I steered to the right to fall in behind the "Chev" the steering mechanism on the Model-T jackknifed. I discovered myself standing on the roadway, my pals were lying twenty feet to the west of me, and the Model-T was standing crosswise on the road. My Sunday best grey flannel trousers were never worn again. Rudolf had borrowed his father's best blue serge suit without permission, and after the accident it was in pitiful condition. We had no broken bones however, we all suffered many contusions and abrasions.

In 1940, I enrolled in a Technical training school in Edmonton. It was also a preliminary training school for the Royal Canadian Air Force; that action exempted me from conscripted military Army training. However, early conscripts returning from Camrose after their thirty-day stints told stories of terrible treatment by the Army. I was prevailed upon



The Frederick Family. Seated: Herman and Karoline. Standing, L. to R.: Leo and wife Evelyn, Edmund, Emil and wife Hertha, Ernest's wife Rosie, Ernest and Loha.

by some people to take that training, and on my return I would be able to divulge the truth of the matter. I did so, and of course there weren't any horror stories to tell.

Almost immediately after returning to the school I was called up by the Airforce. They gave me what at the time seemed like an enormous amount of money to spend during a two-week leave before reporting for duty. Later, to my horror I discovered that it was an advance against future earnings. For a year after that when taking a girl out all I could afford to treat her with was about a twenty-five cent movie. (Remember them?)

After six weeks of basic training in Brandon, Manitoba, and technical training in St. Thomas, Ontario, I was stationed in the Queen Charlotte Islands when war became a serious business as an invasion by the Japanese seemed inevitable.

Our squadron — No. 8 Bombing and Reconnaissance endured hair-raising experiences in our months of daily patrols.

During the period of my Aircrew duties I sustained a physical injury and after initial surgery the medics declared me unfit for further flying duties. During the next few years I spent much time in hospital. I was medically discharged in 1945, just before the conclusion of the war.

Gallaher, James Family

The James Gallaher family; Jim and Evelyn and their three children Dan, Pat and Ken, moved to the Hay Lakes district October 31, 1966. Jim and Evelyn met and were married in Calgary, then moved to Edmonton and resided there for a number of years before moving to Hay Lakes.

Dan graduated from Hay Lakes High School in 1970 and then took a year at Red Deer College.



The James Gallaher Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Dan, Pat, Ken. James and Evelyn.

Cowboy life appealed to him so he got a job with the McIntyre Ranch at Magrath, Alberta. He later moved on to the Douglas Lake Ranch near Merritt, B.C., where he met and married Bonnie Graham. They have since moved to Vernon, B.C.

Pat graduated from Hay Lakes High School in 1972 and then entered the Misericordia Hospital School of Nursing from which she graduated in 1975. She later took one semester at Hillcrest Bible College in Medicine Hat, also acting as school nurse. Pat is presently living in Edmonton where she is employed in pediatrics nursing.

Ken attended Hay Lakes High School to grade eleven, then took grade twelve and one year of college at Camrose Lutheran College. He then entered the Treasury Branch Management Training Program starting at Barrhead and since moving on to Rocky Mountain House, Ponoka and Manning. Ken married Lori Desrochers in 1979. They have two children, Sara and Andrew.

Grams, Elmer by Gertie These

Elmer Grams was born to George and Emma Grams on January 31, 1931. He received his education in Canard School and was confirmed in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

During the war years while three of his older brothers were overseas, he had to assume a lot of responsibility on the farm. He also worked at the Steel Plant in Edmonton for several years and farmed the quarter of land he had purchased from Herman Wesenberg (NW35-48-22-W4). He purchased the Hay Lakes Grocery Store in 1968, from Ed Fisher. He owned this store for eleven months and then sold it to William Yoner.

Elmer then purchased the George Grams home quarter (NE34-48-22-W4) from his brother Robert. In 1970, he married Irene Amy of Edmonton and they had one son, George. They had partially remodelled the house and barn on the Grams' homestead and had gone into the dairy business. Elmer was a sports enthusiast and always enjoyed playing ball and attending football games.



Elmer Grams with son George.

Elmer died in his sleep on April 17, 1977 at the age of forty-six. He will always be remembered for his friendly ways and the offer of a helping hand to anyone who needed it. The Grams farm was sold to Glen Groadberg and his wife who reside there now.

Grams, George and Emma by Herbert Grams

George Grams was born to Sam and Pauline Grams of Ellerslie, Alberta, on September 14, 1898. He received his education at Rabbit Hill School. As a young man, he purchased a quarter of land just a few miles south of Hay Lakes, across the road from the Keith Radke home. This was approximately in the fall of 1918. When Dad first moved to this quarter, the only shelter was an old trapper's cabin. It had a sod roof and a dirt floor. He shortly improved this dwelling by adding a wooden floor.

His Father had given him a team of horses named, Flossie and Pete. They were never sold or traded, but died of old age after retirement during World War II. He also had a mule and an ox, the first few years. The only machinery he had was a hand plow, two harrows and an old disk. The seeding was done by hand the

first few years. The Pasulas and the Galenzas were his neighbors at the time and they owned a binder and a threshing machine. Dad helped them in return for cutting and harvesting his crop. He also made hay by hand with a scythe.

He married Emma Waitt of Wetaskiwin in August, 1920. Shortly after, Dad built a house and used the log shack for a barn. This was to accommodate the livestock Mother received from her parents. It consisted of four cows, a horse, and a few chickens.

They worked hard, broke more land, bought machinery, although it was only second hand, raised pigs, chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys. Also they sold cream to the local creamery. Ducks, geese, and turkeys were always our Christmas money and winter clothes.

Dad purchased the Karl Sikstrom quarter in 1925 and we moved there in the spring of 1926.

In 1928, he had a bumper crop and this would have more than paid for the farm, but he had no hail insurance. He was working in the field when he saw the hail clouds building up. It was then he decided to make a fast trip to Hay Lakes for hail insurance. He got as far as Reg Kraemer's when the storm hit. Needless to say, there was nothing left for anyone that year.

He was able to get feed and seed grain off the place he had lived on before — he had kept this for six or seven years until he sold it to Mr. Tiel, a son-in-law of John Radtke's. All the family worked hard and the new farm was paid off in the hungry or dirty thirties. Dad also built the barn on the new place in the thirties. The sheds on either side he built one year and the barn the next. The house was built during the war while three of his sons were overseas.



The George Grams Family. L. to R., Back Row: Lloyd, Lawrence, Otto, Elmer, Alice, Bob, Herb. Front: Lil, Maxine, Gertie, George and Emma, Valerie.



George and Emma Grams 40th Anniversary 1960.

Dad had bought his first tractor, an old Rumley in 1935 — the first rubber tired one — in the fall of 1939. The first car was a 1938 Chev which he purchased from Adolph Mittelstadt when he sold his store. The first new car was 1954 Plymouth. This brings to mind a story about a salesman who pestered Dad to buy a Model A Ford. He kept coming for a week straight. Dad didn't want to buy and kept telling him he couldn't drive. So one day at noon, Dad got into the car, drove it up the hill into the pasture, turned around and came down the hill full tilt right onto a neatly stacked pile of wood. He switched off the car, got out and went into the house to have dinner, saw to it that each child had a full day's chores ahead of him, while the salesman worked four hours to get the car down and the wood repiled exactly as it had been. That is one salesman that never returned!

Mom and Dad used to drive to Ellerslie or Wetaskiwin by horse and buggy or sleigh to visit with respective parents and to trade seed grain, ganders, drakes, turkeys etc. to improve their stock the next year.

Also in those early years, my Dad, Adam Hein, Helmuth These, Mrs. Myrtle Kinghorn, and Trevor Roper Sr. purchased the Rushy Lake and made hay on it together for many years.

Dad passed away on April 28, 1964 and Mom, on December 7, 1978.

They had eight children, Herbert, Lawrence, Lloyd, Alice, Gertrude, Elmer, Robert and Violet. Violet and Elmer are deceased.

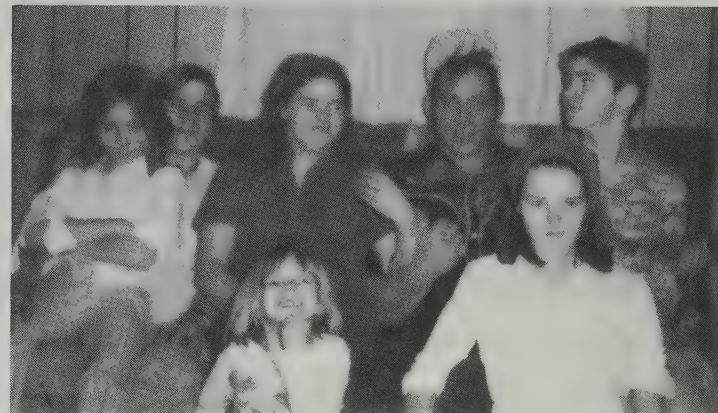
Hagel, Lewis and Shirley

Lewis's father, Frank Hagel was born in North Dakota U.S.A. He moved to Schuller, Alberta with his parents. He met Katie Neigel in Schuller and they were married in 1935. Frank passed away in 1964. Katie Hagel is presently (1981) residing in Barrhead, Alberta.

Lewis was born in Barrhead where he attended Belvedere School. Through his sister, Violet, he met Shirley Butler.

Shirley's parents had come from the British Isles to Alberta. Louis Butler came from Preston, England and his wife was from Wales. They married and settled in the Dunstable district in 1927. Mrs. Mary Kathryn Butler still resides at Barrhead but her husband passed away in 1966.

Their daughter Shirley was born in 1942 at Barrhead, Alberta and attended school in Dunstable, Alberta.



The Hagel Family. L. to R.: Tanis, Melvin, Shirley, Lewis, Lee. Front Row: Nora and Margaret.

Shirley Butler and Lewis Hagel were married in the Roman Catholic Church in 1960 at Barrhead. To this union five children were born. The first four were born in Barrhead and the fifth in Camrose. Their children are: Margaret, born March 1, 1961; Melvin, born January 2, 1963; Lee, born January 10, 1966; Tanis, born November 13, 1968; and Nora, born July 30, 1974. All of their children live at home.

Lewis and Shirley moved to the Hay Lakes District from Barrhead. Lewis worked in the Hay Lakes Hotel for a year and a half before going into Construction and the Oil Field Services and Supply. Some farm work is done in his spare time. They reside on the former Bill Wesenberg farm. (SW 3-49-22-W4).

Handke, Arnold and John

by Ethel Madu

John and Augusta Handke and their son Arnold immigrated to the United States and lived one year in

St. Paul, Minnesota. Life in the city did not appeal to the family so they left for Alberta in 1916. John purchased a farm in the Hay Lakes area and together with Arnold they cleared the land and established a modest farmstead. The farm is presently owned by their granddaughter, Doris and Walter Jantz.

In 1924, Arnold married Elsie Henschel. After a few years, John bought a farm one mile south of Arnold's and lived there with his wife, Augusta and their adopted daughter Martha Werner, who lived with them until she married in 1938. Augusta passed away in 1942. Then John moved to Hay Lakes and married Bertha Tober. They lived in the town of Hay Lakes for a number of years, then went to live in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Edmonton. John passed away in 1961 at the age of eighty-nine years.



John, Augusta, Ethel, Elsie, Arnold Handke.

Arnold and Elsie and their family farmed and lived on the farm almost fifty years. One of the incidents that I remember clearly is the time Mother and the three of us girls went with her to town in the Model T. Ford. We distracted her from driving and the car ended up on a rock pile. She had to get a neighbour with a team of horses to get the car off the rock pile and we proceeded home — no damage to us or the car. Cars were built sturdily in those days.

Arnold was an ardent sportsman in the 1920's. He played ball on the Hay Lakes and New Sarepta ball teams. He enjoyed all sports. We attended St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

The farmers in our neighbourhood formed a Threshing Company; they were Edward Tober, Gus Henschel, Gus Mittelstadt, and Dad — Arnold Handke. They bought a brand new Twin City tractor and threshing machine. How we looked forward to threshing time, all the excitement of cooking for a big crew of up to twelve men and getting the fields threshed before the snow came. After the threshing was done and all the bills paid, everyone got together for a threshing party with a keg of beer.

Looking back over the years, how things have

changed — such as the roads and a lot of land marks like Canard school and one-half mile further, St. Stephen's Church. We attended Canard School and walking two and one-half miles in winter time through big snowdrifts was no fun; we just about froze to death. So Dad and John Mittelsteadt got together and built a sleigh, the school board built a barn to keep the horses during the day so getting to school in the winter time was a bit easier. There were the seven of us in the sleigh, Otto, Ted, Hattie and Henry Mittelsteadt, myself, Gertrude and Doris. No school buses in those days. Then in 1948 when my husband came a courting there were no gravel roads and that year there was a snowfall, so he came to our place on horseback — a distance of twenty-five miles.



Arnold Handke and daughter Ethel.

Arnold and Elsie lived on the farm till 1967, then moved to Leduc. In August, 1974 they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Arnold passed away in March, 1979, and Elsie is living in her home in Leduc. The children are: Ethel (Mrs. Elmer Madu) living in Calmar, who has three daughters, Mrs. Lorrain Inkster, Gail and Linda, and two grandsons, Shane and Avery Inkster; Gertrude (Mrs. Walter Kadatz) living in Sherwood Park, one son Philip; Doris (Mrs. Walter Jantz) living in Hay Lakes area, has five children, namely Mrs. Glenda Chaulifoux, Gary, Donald, David, and Cheryl, two grandsons, Jean and Roger Chaulifoux.

Hartmann, Adolf and Hulda

Adolf and Hulda Hartmann emigrated from Europe to Canada in October 1948. With them they

brought two children, a daughter, Lydia, aged sixteen and an infant son, Bruno.

When they arrived in Canada they decided they would settle in Western Canada, Alberta in particular.

Adolf and Hulda lived in various parts of Alberta, before settling in the Hay Lakes area. The first place where they lived was at Vimy, north of Edmonton, where they stayed for one winter. After leaving Vimy they moved to Ponoka. Here they lived with Adolf's cousins for awhile. Later they rented a farm in the vicinity of Ponoka, where their next child was born, a daughter named Hilda.

Next they moved to Bashaw, where Adolf and Hulda worked on a dairy farm. Adolf then got a job on the railroad, so they moved to Ferintosh. It was while they lived here that their second son, Harry, was born.

The Hartmanns then moved again to north of New Sarepta. Another daughter, Anna, was born to them and two years later they were blessed with another son, Alvin.

This farm had no power. Hulda was busy looking after the children and the farm while Adolf was working on the railroad. In the fall of 1957 they sold this farm, after which they rented a farm yard south of New Sarepta. This was so Hulda would not have so much farm work to do.

In the winter of 1958 they bought a farm from Ralph Rose near Hay Lakes. Adolf worked on the railroad at Hay Lakes and they rented their farm land out to Walter Bittner. Hulda and the boys gradually took over the farming of the land from Walter Bittner.

Adolf retired from the employ of the C.N. Railway in 1966. He had a stroke in 1967. In 1969 he had another stroke which paralyzed his left side. Harry then took over the farm with the help of his brothers.

In 1970 their daughter Hilda was married to Leonard Stock from Barrhead, Alberta.

In 1973, Adolf had his third and most severe stroke which took his life.

Anna was married in 1976 to Richard Reschke from Barrhead. Bruno married Kathy Schultz in 1977 and Alvin was married in 1979 to a neighbor girl, Laurel Berkholtz.

Also in 1979 Harry bought the home farm from his mother. Then in 1980, Harry married Lois Moser of Hay Lakes. Harry is now busy dairy farming with the help of his wife, Lois.

Hulda is now residing in Hardisty.

Hein, Adam

by Hertha and Carol Hein

Adam Gottlieb Hein was born in Volhynia, Russia, in December of 1896 to Gottlieb Hein and

Wilhelmina Braun. He came to Canada with his parents and brothers and sisters in 1903.

Adam worked on the railroad line from Edmonton to Camrose when it was being built, during the years of 1912-1914. He had to use a hand-pumped speeder for transportation to the work camp which was located where Wilfred Soch now lives. Henry Zucht can remember what a thrill it was to pump the speeder and get a ride out to the work camp with Adam. Henry was four years younger and was not able to work on the railroad so he had a long walk back home.

Ranching was the next job he had. Adam worked for the Porter Brothers at Gadsby east of Stettler. Wilf Carter worked on the same ranch at that time. Adam Hein's thoughts of Wilf Carter were: "He was more interested in playing his guitar and yodelling and singing than he was in any ranch work."

Adam joined the army when he was eighteen years old. He was sent to Camp Petawawa, Ontario for training, but never went to war. After his time spent in the army he went back to being a ranch hand at Gadsby for a few more years. He was caretaker of the St. Stephen's church for the years of 1922-1925. He played the Alto Horn with the Hay Lakes Band and also played the violin. At this time he was farming, worked with the threshing gang, and worked for Joe Kreamer at haying time.

He owned a 1927 Ford model T touring car.

Adam bought a farm one mile south of his father's farm (N.W. 26-48-22). In 1928 he bought his sister's farm (from Christine Lerke after her husband died) one-half mile farther south and across the road. He sold his first farm to George Rost.

Adam and Hilda Grams of Ellerslie were married June 1928. They have four children: Eileen, Ruth, Allan, and Doreen.

Eileen born in 1930 married Wilfred Steinke of New Sarepta. They have two sons Lorne and Gary. Lorne, who was born in 1951, married Carol Coax in 1976 and they live in Calgary. Gary was born in 1955 and is presently working at Faro, Yukon. Wilfred died in 1958 and Eileen remarried in 1960 to Walter Goebel of Spruce Grove. They moved to Calgary where a daughter Melody was born in 1961. They now live in Peachland B.C. Melody was married to Allan Berry February 14, 1981 and lives in Calgary.

Ruth, born in 1931, married Arthur Hannaford in 1951. They live in Edmonton with their three children: Scott, Sherlyn, and Corinne. Scott, born in 1955, married Theresa McDonnell in 1979. Sherlyn, born in 1957, married Anthony LaFace in 1979. Corinne, born in 1962, is presently studying at N.A.I.T.

Allan, born in 1935, married Hertha Herzog in



Allan Hein 1943.

1961. They have two children, Carol, born in 1962 and Michelle, born in 1964. They farm at Hay Lakes.

Doreen, born in 1940, married Harold Schutz in 1961. They had four children. Bruce died in infancy. Rodney was born in 1964, Janet was born in 1967, and Diane was born in 1970. They live on a farm at Spruce Grove.



Eileen Goebel, Doreen Schutz, Adam Hein, Hilda Hein, Ruth Hannaford, Allan Hein — 1970.

On August 15, 1955 at the Hay Lakes celebration of Alberta's Golden Jubilee, Adam Hein was among the early pioneers who were honoured with a certificate.

Adam died on August 17, 1975 at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Hein still resides at her home in Edmonton.

Hein, Allan

Allan Armin Hein was born on August 20, 1935 to Adam and Hilda (nee Grams) Hein. He lived in a log house until his family built a new house. He attended the Canard school and later worked at home.

Hertha Irmgard Herzog was born in Altsee, Poland on January 10, 1942. She came to Canada with her parents in 1950.

They were married on June 2, 1961, and have two children, Carol born June 9, 1962 and Michelle born October 13, 1964.



Hertha, Allan, Carol Hein 1962.

Allan played ball with the Hay Lakes county team. When Darcy McGhan moved into the neighborhood Allan and Darcy coached hockey for several years. Allan became interested in the organization of recreation and for many years was the county representative for Hay Lakes. He is now president of the Hay Lakes Recreation Association.

Allan has lived on the S.E. 27-48-22 all his life. He worked at Stelco pipe mill in Camrose for three winters. Red Polls and range cows were replaced with dairy cows and grain farming. We belong to the Big Hay Lakes Unifarm and Allan has been our local's delegate to conventions.

Carol and Michelle both joined Brownies and Guides. Later Carol joined the Scouting movement for three years. We hosted a girl from Mexico in summer of 1978 and Carol has gone to Mexico for

Christmas of 1979-80. We have hosted students from New Zealand, Sweden, and Nigeria.

Carol graduated in 1980 and is now working as Telex-teletype operator for an oil company in Edmonton.



Carol and Michelle Hein 1981.

Hein, Gottlieb

compiled by Hertha Hein from notes by Aunt Emma Thompson

Gottlieb Hein was born on September 20, 1855 in Poland in a village named Karlubek. In 1876 he went into military service which was compulsory in Russia. In 1877 he served in the Turkish-Bulgarian war. He became ill and in 1878 he was transferred to Volhynia, Russia where he finished his four year stint in the military service. After his release in 1880 he bought himself a bit of land.

In 1882 he married Wilhelmina Braun and seven children were born to them. Two died in infancy; so that left William Christian born in 1892, Christine born in 1894, Adam born in 1896, and Anna. Wilhelmina died in 1900.

In 1901 he married Matilda Herzberger; I (Emma) arrived April 7, 1902. In 1903 we came to Canada and settled in Leduc. Here my dad got a job on the railroad which was being built between Edmonton and Calgary. He was paid eleven cents an hour for sixteen hours a day. It was in Leduc where my brother Gus was born in October of 1903.

In 1904 the Hein family established a homestead on S.W. 2-48-22, three miles west of the village of Hay Lakes. We lived in a log cabin with a dirt floor. The land was worked with black and white oxen and a one share plough until we had a team of horses. The



Gottlieb Hein's log house located on his homestead. Taken in 1981.

oxen worked slow and steady except when the flies bothered them. Then they would run for the nearest slough and take the plough along into the water.

In 1905 my sister Emilie was born and my mother died in childbirth. Emilie died at five months of age so that left Gus and myself (Emma) from dad's second wife. Anna died at twelve years of age, about seven years after mother died.

A new log house was built in 1913. It was a two-roomed house which is still standing on the old homestead. The lumber for the floors came from two large pine trees, which grew on the farm.

In 1915 Gottlieb married Emelge Renas who was a widow. She died in 1933 and there were no children from this marriage.

Dad lived alone for a few years and later lived in his own house, on the farm of his son Adam. Adam and Gus were some of the early pupils of the Canard school; years later Allan also attended the same school. Dad was quite deaf and could not hear the church services so he made his own with songs and sermon and prayer. He wrote German poems and sang German songs to the grandchildren and a widowed neighbor lady.

Gottlieb Hein died in March of 1943 at eighty-seven years of age. He outlived three wives and left four sons, two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one sister Mrs. Justina Zucht.

Heinz, Arthur

by Arthur Heinz

I was born in 1912 on the farm that my parents homesteaded in 1904. I received my education at Canard School and have up to the present time spent all my life on the same farm. Boyhood memories of the farm are of much bush and few open fields. Game birds and rabbits were almost as plentiful as when my parents first settled here.

Work on the farm started at an early age and by the time I was twenty-five years old I was the only member of the family left on the farm with my parents. I was seventeen years old when the great depression arrived and during that period one learned to cope with different situations. There was little money but plenty of work.

I purchased the farm from my father in 1942. For some years prior to that I had been operating it on a share-crop basis.

In 1940 I met Helen Sinoski who was teaching at South Busenius School. She taught there for two years and one year at New Sarepta.

We were married in 1943. We have four children — Valerie Isobel, David Stephen, Carole Elaine and Bryan Arthur. They attended school at Hay Lakes and then went on to the University at Edmonton. The boys graduated in Engineering and the girls in Education.



The Arthur Heinz Family 1981. L. to R., Back Row: Arthur, David, Bryan. Front: Helen, Carole, Valerie.

Work on the farm continued much the same as usual. A new tractor was purchased in 1942 and the work done by horses was gradually phased out. Between 1943 and 1951 about twenty acres of land was cleared and broken on the SW9-49-22. This was done by cutting the trees for firewood in the winter and pulling the stumps in the summer. The last ten

acres was cleared by Caterpillar and dozer blade in 1959.

More buildings were added and more livestock produced until a point was reached where all the grain and forage produced was fed to livestock.

Helen went back to teaching in 1960. She taught for seven years at New Sarepta and then taught at Hay Lakes until her retirement in 1980.

Helen and I are now alone on the farm. The children fortunately all reside in Alberta. Valerie (Mrs. Derek Trachsel) lives in Brooks; David lives in Edmonton; Carole (Mrs. Patrick Nolan) lives in Tofield; and Bryan resides in Calgary.

About a year after Helen and I were married my parents purchased a lot in the village of Hay Lakes from Mrs. Emil Kiel. The price of the lot was two hundred dollars. The total cost of the house that they had built was two thousand dollars including wages paid to the carpenter, Olaf Olafson.

After Mother's passing in 1953 Dad came to live with us on the farm. He was ninety-one years old at the time. As our children were still very young at this time (Carole was not yet two years old and Bryan was born shortly after Dad came to live with us) they were a great joy to him, and due to his exceptional vigor for his age, was able to spend much time with them outdoors. He lived with us for four years in the same house that he had lived in before moving to the village of Hay Lakes. He passed away suddenly a few days before we moved into our new house.



The Arthur Heinz home.

Heinz, Charles by Leona (Heinz) Baganstos

Charles Heinz was the eldest son of Karl Heinz and Emilia Heinz (nee Young). He was born on April 7, 1891, in Unterwalden, Austria. He immigrated to Canada with his parents and four sisters, leaving Lemburg, Galacia, Austria in 1900. He came from a family of sixteen children, twelve of which lived.



Martha and Charles Heinz — 1947.

When the family came to Canada, they resided in Winnipeg for one year, then moved West to Calgary, Alberta, and lived there for three years. Then in 1904, they moved to the Hay Lakes district and took up a homestead, west of the town on N.E. Sec.*-4-TWP*-49-R-22-W4.

Charles Heinz worked on his father's homestead until he was seventeen, then he left home and took up his own homestead in 1908, getting a clear title to his land in 1912 when he was twenty-one years of age. Those years, from 1908-1912 were spent in a lot of hard work getting his land cleared, worked, and producing food for himself and his livestock. He also built a log barn for his stock and it was used until around the 1940's. Then he built the large barn that is still being used today. He used logs to build his first house and it was used by the family until 1974-1975, when a newer house was put on the farm.

He liked hunting a lot and did quite a bit of it for himself as well as for his father's family. Joe Millar and Ehard Grunlund were often his hunting companions. He used to say that lots of times, that was what kept him going, when things got pretty tough.

He helped his father and several other men of the area in the construction of the rural Evangelical Lutheran Church and after that both he and his father, Karl Heinz, served on the rural Church Board for several years. Years later after he had a family of his own, he also served on the Canard School Board for several years. He made a very close friendship with John Kohut of the district. They used to do a lot of things together — everything from hunting, girlchasing, and getting to know the Indians in the area. They used to have some good times together judging by the stories they used to tell us when we were still at home.

On April 22, 1923, he married Martha Soch, at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Eilerslie, Alberta. Martha Soch was born on July 29, 1903. To this union were born nine children, eight sons and a

daughter, all of whom are still living. Martha Heinz passed away at home at the age of fifty-seven, on June 7, 1960.

Around 1964-1965, Charles decided to rent his farm to his sons and take things a little easier. He stayed active all his life, puttering around the yard, gardening, and going for long walks on the farm. He just had to get out to see how things were growing and if the field work was being done the way he thought it should be. He also liked to putter with fixing things around the place, even if it was just to give advice when he thought it was needed. He always loved to see his children come out to visit him, and never a summer went by when he didn't have at least one of his grandchildren out at the farm for awhile. He never gave up his farm and continued to live there until he passed away at home on Friday, July 4, 1980, at the age of eighty-nine.



Charles Heinz's 85th Birthday. L. to R., Back Row: Walter, Ernest, Gilbert, Richard. Front: Leona, Clarence, Charlie, Erven, Raymond, and granddaughter Corinne.

Charles Heinz was proud to have two of his sons in the Armed Forces and also one of his grandsons. Clarence served during the Second World War, in England and Europe — (Belgium, France, Holland, Germany, Denmark). Ernest was in the reserves and was stationed at Moose Jaw, Sask. and Calgary, Alta. Ross McGregor (1976-1979) was stationed in Ontario, Calgary, Alberta and in the Cypress Peace Keeping Area.

Clarence Heinz, born in 1924, married Adeline Posein in 1948. His daughter, Sharon, married Dave Budyk in 1969. His son, Duane, married Linda Carpenter in 1977.

In 1972, Clarence married Iris Salter and they live with their daughter, Michelle in Calgary.

Ernest Heinz was born in 1926, married Ericka Strack in 1954 and they reside at Smith, Alberta. Their sons are Robert and Russell.

Erven Heinz born in 1927, married Norma Bailer in 1959 and they reside in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Paul Heinz was born in 1929 and he married Ruby (Jensen) McGregor in 1959. Their children are Shelley McGregor, Kam McGregor, Rose McGregor, and Barton Heinz. They reside in Lacombe.

Gilbert Heinz was born in 1934 and married Marguerite Jensen in 1961. With their children, Darrell and Corrine, they also reside in Lacombe, Alberta.

Walter Heinz born in 1938 and Richard Heinz born in 1940 live on the home farm. Richard married Annabell Huebner in 1976 and they have a son, Kevin and a daughter Jaclyn Lee.

Raymond Heinz was born in 1940 and married Jennifer Fertel in 1967. Their children are Steven, Neil, and Darcy. In 1976 he married Jean (Krouse) Knull. Their children are, Darcy Knull, Kelly Knull, and Cory Knull. They live in Wetaskiwin.

Leona Heinz was born in 1944 and married Leslie Baggenstos in 1961. They live in Turner Valley with their sons, Lloyd and Bruce.

Heinz, Karl

by Arthur Heinz and Associated Family

Our parents, Karl and Emelia Heinz (nee Young) emigrated from Untervalden, Austria in the year, 1900 with five small children and forty-five dollars in Father's pocket.

Mother's sister and brother-in-law, Pauline and Phill Konzelman, who had emigrated a year earlier met them at the Winnipeg station, and they lived with them until a house was available.

Father was a blacksmith and locksmith by trade and was soon employed in the C.P.R. shop. They lived in Winnipeg one year where my sister, Millie was born — their first child born in Canada. My father was then transferred to Calgary, again to work in the C.N.R. shop.

In Calgary, Jack was born in April, 1903, and Nellie in July, 1904. With eight children now in the family it was decided a farm would be a better place to raise a family.

In those days pastors of different denominations liked to settle their groups in one area so it would be easier to serve them. Pastor Harms looked after the Lutheran groups and told Father that he would be



Karl Heinz.



Emelia Heinz.

settled in Stony Plain with other Germans from Austria.

He travelled by team and wagon and ended up at the John Zucht farm where he stayed that night. Mr. Zucht told him there was plenty of good land right here. It was settled by Lutherans of German descent who had emigrated from Volhynia, Russia.

Mother and the children came by train and were picked up at the Leduc station. Nellie was just three weeks old at the time. And thus in the year, 1904 the Karl Heinz family settled in the Hay Lakes district, on the section, NE 4-49-22-W4.

What a drastic change from a city home to a vast wilderness! There were no roads and also no railroad. They moved into an abandoned shack on the Gotlieb Hein farm. It wasn't long until they had their homestead house built, with the help of kind neighbors, and they eagerly moved in.

Shopping was done in Leduc or Edmonton and what a chore to get there, especially in wet years. Usually several homesteaders would band together to make the trip. Chains, axes, and shovels were always taken along, and sometimes wagons had to be dismantled, pulled out, and set up again on dry land. One time a pig had to be rescued from the swollen water of Black Mud Creek.

Father related an amusing incident that took place on one of his trips to Edmonton. On this trip, he took in a crate of chickens to be sold, or traded for groceries. It was an all day trip to get there and he slept under the wagon that night. When he awoke in the morning he found the crate open and his chickens all over. Those were the days when Edmonton had wooden sidewalks and they were much easier for chickens to get under than people. But he tackled the job and was doing quite well, he thought, except for one rooster that he couldn't catch. This bird seemed to have a great deal of stamina — more in fact than Father had. Father decided to call it quits and count the number of chickens he had caught. He had them all — he had been chasing someone else's rooster.

Clearing land for a garden was the first and most important thing. To have fresh vegetables in the summer and a good supply in the cellar for winter, was essential. Game birds were plentiful and helped supply meat for the table. Rabbits also were very numerous.

There was also the matter of clothing for this large family. Fortunately, Mother was a seamstress and sewed all the clothes for the girls, even down to the coats.

Social life was visiting neighbors and attending church services at the home of the Stebner family. Since there wasn't a Lutheran pastor available the laymen would conduct a reading service. Father was

given permission to baptize babies. Being able to speak German and Polish as well as English, his services as an interpreter were often required. He served on the Church Council and also on the Canard School Board.

As the girls grew older, they went to work at the Leduc Hotel as waitresses. Part of their wages went to help out on the farm.

The clearing of land was a slow process. The principal tools were the axe and grub hoe. Horses were used to pull the tree stumps. The trees were cut the previous year for firewood.

The first tractor was purchased in 1935, but much of the work was still done with horses.

Father's trade as a blacksmith stood him in good stead. A bob-sleigh was made of local birch. Double trees and neck yokes were homemade. Nuts and bolts were made of scrap iron. A homemade drill press is still in use on the farm. The family shoes were repaired. Half-soles of good heavy bull hide were applied — this leather being tanned by John Sikstrom who lived about two miles from us. We also had robes of cowhide and horsehide tanned by him. Father also repaired and in some cases made complete sets of light harness. The thread used was heavy linen, doubles, twisted and waxed with a sticky black wax. The sewing was done with two needles. He spent many hours on long winter evenings on his homemade stitching horse.

Our first good house was built in the winter of 1908. It was built of local logs, the log work was done by Mr. Sikstrom and Mr. Carlson. The outside was clad with cedar shingles and the inside was finished with a board called V joint. This house is still on the farm today, now used as a work-shop. The same shingles are still on the outside wall, but the roof was reshingled about thirty-five years ago. All other buildings such as granaries and small barns were built of logs. Our first large barn, twenty-six by fifty feet was built shortly after the house, but this was a frame building. The lumber was sawed at the John Zucht saw-mill.

In the late 1920's many immigrants came to Canada. They walked the country roads calling in at farm homes looking for work. In 1928, Father hired four men to clear forty-five acres of bush. The price was \$15.00 per acre. The men worked very hard, this was still axe and grub hoe style, and made about \$2.75 per day. The breaking was done by W. T. Roper at \$7.00 per acre. The breaking was done in 1929. Grain prices were good and there was no difficulty in borrowing money from the bank. The difficulty came in repaying the loan at ruinously low grain prices that began the following year. But the debt was paid, more machinery for the tractor was gradually



The Karl Heinz children. Back Row, L. to R.: Millie Junck, Jack, Charlie, Arthur, Polly Morency. Front: Bertha Ritter, Katie Bethge, Edith Bellamy, Lena McLean, Nellie Christman.

acquired, and life became somewhat easier for men and horses.

The following are the birthdates of members of the Karl Heinz family:

Karl Heinz — March 20, 1862

Emelia Heinz (nee Young) — July 23, 1869

Lena — July 23, 1889

Charlie — April 7, 1891

Polly — June 28, 1892

Katie — March 16, 1898

Tena — December 2, 1899

Millie — August 7, 1901

Jack — April 23, 1903

Nellie — July 13, 1904

Edith — February 17, 1906

Bertha — April 10, 1908

Arthur — March 9, 1912

Annie — March 16, 1913

Two boys, Peter and Frank died in infancy in Austria; and two girls, Rosie and Alice, died in infancy here at Hay Lakes. Of those who grew to adulthood, two are no longer living, Tena and Charlie.

Karl and Emilia Heinz celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on October 2, 1952. They were married in Austria on Oct. 2, 1887. They received congratulations from Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister, St. Laurent. A family banquet was held at the Mandarin Gardens. Karl was 90 years old at the time and Emilia was 83. They had twelve children living, fifty-six grandchildren, twenty-two great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

The children now living are; Lena, (Mrs. Roy McLean), with three children. She now resides at

Rosehaven in Camrose. Polly, (Mrs. Leo Morency) who had five children lives in Edmonton. Katie, (Mrs. Otto Bethge) of Amisk has nine children. Millie, (Mrs. Wm. Junck) of Cherhill has five children. Jack Heinz of White Rock, B.C. with five children. Nellie, (Mrs. Chris Christman) has eight children. Edith, (Mrs. Chris Ritter) they have four children. Arthur Heinz of Hay Lakes has four children. Annie, (Mrs. Ed Pawloske) of McBride, B.C. with two children.

Heinz, Walter and Richard

Walter and Richard Heinz have lived in the Hay Lakes area for all of their lives. They received their education at Canard and Hay Lakes. After leaving school they entered the "work force" as well as helping their father with the farming.

Walter and Richard are employed with Caisson Drilling Services. In 1966 they worked mainly all over Alberta. They worked in Vancouver for two months and at Canal Flats. They worked on the Citadel Theatre and Walter is presently foreman for Caisson Drilling Services. He has been employed there about fifteen years.

Irvin, Richard and Walter were instrumental in having the original log home replaced with a two-storey dwelling. Woodwork is Walter's hobby.

Walter has remained a bachelor but his brother Richard and family live with him on the late Charles Heinz homestead. Richard is married to the former Annabelle Huebner and they have two children Kevin and Jaclyn.

Henschel, Gustav

by Betty Roberts (nee Henschel)

Gus was born on May 21, 1893 in Wolinien, Russia to Wilhelm and Leokadia Henschel. He was the third eldest of eleven children. They were German speaking people. Wilhelm and Leokadia Henschel and family arrived in Canada in the spring of 1896. They were met by Wilhelm's two brothers and his father and mother who had immigrated to Canada in 1892 and 1894 respectively. They homesteaded in the Ellerslie, Alberta area, where Gus grew up. The original homestead was in the Henschel family until 1972.

In his later teens, Gus went to visit his uncles in Snohomish, Washington, U.S.A. He worked in the U.S.A. for approximately three years. Upon return to Canada he farmed in the Hay Lakes-New Sarepta area. In 1921 he bought a quarter section from Mr. Werner, NW10-48-22W4, four miles west and two miles north of Hay Lakes.

He met Augusta Vogel, known as Jessie. Jessie was born on the family farm in the Strathcona, Alber-

ta area on May 10, 1900 to Johan and Justine Vogel, who had immigrated to Canada from Poland in the mid 1894. They were also German speaking. She grew up in a family of ten children.

Gus and Jessie were married on March 8, 1922. For several years after their marriage, Gus bored water wells in numerous locations in the Hay Lakes and Camrose area. He also spent several winters working in the lumber camps. Jessie would keep the home fires burning, look after the children and the farm during his absence.



Jessie, Edna and Gus Henschel.

Their marriage was blessed by the birth of eight children, seven of which grew to adulthood. They attended Canard School. The family were members of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church where Gus and Edna sang in the choir. Gus played the coronet and played in the church band. Jessie played the organ and violin in her younger years.

During harvest time, Gus operated the threshing machine which he had in partnership with Gus Mittelstadt, Arnold Handke and Ed Tober. They farmed there until April 3, 1945 when they sold the farm and bought a half section at Duhamel, Alberta.

Bill, Richard and Gordon completed their education at New Norway school.

Gus and Jessie retired from farming on Decem-

ber 31, 1958, at which time they bought a home at 5605-51 Avenue in Camrose, Alberta.

They celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary on March 6, 1972 at Grace Lutheran Church where approximately two hundred and fifty relatives and friends attended the open house. It was a momentous occasion.

Gus passed away on January 3, 1980 and is buried in the Camrose cemetery. Jessie continued living in their home until December 1, 1980 and is presently a resident in the Stoney Creek Lodge in Camrose.

Gus and Jessie were always ready and willing to give a helping hand in need. They were good neighbors.

The writer remembers many evenings when people travelling by, would stop and spend the night. There was always a place for them to sleep and food to eat. Their horses would be fed and looked after. In the morning the sojourners would continue on their way. It seemed the house was always full of company. We had wonderful neighbors. Harvest time seemed the terrific season of the year. I'll always remember the time Edna and Gus Mittelstadt would tease each other with smearing gravy and potatoes after the meal. When Gus Mittelstadt stopped in at meal times we would also fill the watering trough full of water and have water fights. We always had school friends spending the night with us. Sliding down hay stacks was another recreation indulged in by kids who made their own fun. I'll always remember the caboose (an enclosed sleigh) which we rode to school in, during the winter time. Glen was always responsible for the horse. How those roads would fill up with snow in the winter and be muddy during the rains of the summer.

Children of Gus and Jessie Henschel:

Edna — born July 5, 1923 and is married to Irvin Hunt. They have three daughters and one son and are presently living in Vancouver, B.C. where she is a home nurse. Mable - born November 14, 1926 and is married to Peter Fleming. She is a housewife and has twin daughters and is presently living on an acreage at Bittern Lake, Alberta. Glen — born on September 29, 1928 is single and is living in Camrose, Alberta where he works for an oil company. Betty — born August 31, 1930 and is married to George Roberts. They have two daughters and one son and she is a housewife. William (Bill) — born April 27, 1933 married Hedy Mulzet and lives at Bashaw where he is employed with an oil company. Bill and Hedy lost one son and one daughter — with four sons and one daughter still living to bless this marriage. Richard — born August 4, 1934 married Karen Milne and lives in Wetaskiwin, Alberta and has one daughter and one son. He is in charge of the Driver Examiner

Office at Wetaskiwin. Gordon — born January 13, 1937 and is single and lives in Camrose, Alberta and works for Luscar Mining.

Herzog, Ewald by Hertha Hein

Ewald Herzog was born in Sarau, Poland on January 29, 1910 to Adolf Herzog and his wife Bertha (nee Sommerfeld).

Frieda Vogt was born in Altsee, Poland on December 30, 1909 to Leopold Vogt and his wife Anna (nee Schmidchen).



Ewald and Frieda Herzog and children Hertha, Judy and Edie — 1950.

They were married on January 16, 1941 in Senbriken, Poland. They had three children born in Poland, Hertha born on January 10, 1942; Edelgard

born on May 23, 1943; and Gertrude born on May 22, 1945.

In the summer of 1950 we came to Canada on the ship the Beaverbrae and landed at Halifax. We had a long train ride across most of Canada before we came to Edmonton. Our sponsor was our uncle Ewald Fishbuch, who farmed at Rabbit Hill. We stayed with Ewald and Helene Fishbuch and their children Eileen, Elsie, and Alvin on their farm. I remember that Auntie had a kitchen shower for us, to welcome us to this new country.

Dad worked for the county at clearing brush along the road for his first job in Canada. Edie and I started school at Rabbit Hill. We were put back to grade one because we had to learn a new language.

A few months later Dad got a job as a coal miner at the Black Diamond coal mine east of Edmonton and the family moved there. In the summer he worked for Labrenze Construction at building houses. Dad drove a motorcycle to get around as it was cheap transportation. Clarence was born on June 7, 1951, while we lived at this coal mine. Judy started school at East Edmonton.

Later Dad worked for the Red Hot Coal Mine south of Edmonton and we lived in a rented house in Rainbow Valley. We built a house, barn and other buildings on our own acreage property. This was located near the Southgate Shopping Center. We had three acres and kept a cow, some pigs, and chickens.

In 1959 Dad sold the acreage and fulfilled a dream to become a farmer. He bought the N.W. 2-49-22 from Emil and Lydia Graff. The Graff family including children Melvin, Larry, Janice, and Gregory moved to Royal Park, Alberta.

Dad farmed for fourteen years as a mixed farm. Mom was known as the neighbourhood egg supplier.

In 1974, after a farm auction sale the farm was sold to Alan Kabattoff. Alan and his wife Willie coached the Hay Lakes girl's hockey team.

Ewald and Frieda are enjoying their retirement in the village of Hay Lakes. They had a joint birthday party for their 70th birthdays in January of 1980 at the church basement.

Ewald and Frieda Herzog have a family of four children — Hertha, Edelgard (Edie), Gertrude (Judy), and Clarence.

Hertha married Allan Hein in 1961 and they have two children — Carol born in 1962, and Michelle born in 1964. They farm at Hay Lakes.

Edie married Alvin Metzker in 1962, and they farm at Gwynne. They have three children — Sandy born in 1962, Brent born in 1964, and Barbra born in 1969.

Judy married Murry Brunet in 1962 and they live on an acreage at Ardrossan. They have six children



Back Row, L. to R.: Hertha Hein, Edie Metzker, Judy Brunet. Front: Ewald, Clarence, Frieda Herzog, June 1965.

— Bonnie born in 1963, Kevin born in 1964, Carrie born in 1966, Kenny born in 1967, Nancy born in 1969, and Jason born in 1974.

Clarence married Alice Douglas in 1975 and they live in Sherwood Park with their son Jeremy, born in 1980.

There are twelve grandchildren.

Hintz, Adolph

by Olga Wentland and Alex Hintz

Adolph Hintz was born in Marianow, Poland, February 21, 1881. As that part of Poland was under Russian rule he served in the Russian Army for several years as a member of the Army Band. He also spent a few years in Germany as a laborer. After his return to Poland he married Wilhelmina Brandt, February 2, 1912. In May of the same year they immigrated to Canada, accompanied by his brother, Fred. They had an uncle, Julius Kitzman in Canada who had written of the big money that could be made here so they came to make their fortune and then go back. However, things did not turn out that way as wages were very low.

They settled in South Edmonton where they kept a few cows and Dad worked at all sorts of jobs including the building of the High Level bridge. One fall he went to Saskatchewan for the harvest but it rained a lot so he came home almost broke.

After a few years they decided to try farming so in the spring of 1918 they made a down payment on two quarters of land, five miles west of Hay Lakes and

moved into a shack, that was on the north quarter. One of the farms was to be for his brother, Fred, but he went to the United States and stayed there. Payments were hard to make so they decided to keep only one farm. They then moved to the south quarter in 1926.



The Adolph Hintz Family — 1938. Alex, Carl, Olga. Adolph and Wilhelmina Hintz.

Dad was one of the pioneer members of St. Stephen's Lutheran church until his retirement to Hay Lakes where they became members of the St. Lukes congregation and they bought a house there. Dad passed away suddenly December 3, 1958.

Mother continued living in Hay Lakes, until 1972 when she went to the Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose. She passed away July 5, 1972.

Carl took over the farm but as he worked in Edmonton it was rented out most of the time. He sold it to Albert Lechelt in 1978.

Dad and Mother raised three children. Alexander who was born January 4, 1913, married Lydia



Four Wilhelminas attend the 70th Birthday of Mrs. Hintz. L. to R.: Tillie Tober, Wilhelmina Hintz, Wilhelmina McLeod, Wilhelmina Mittelstadt and Violet Wilhelmina Tober.

Knopp, July 16, 1940. They moved to west Edmonton in 1941 and he worked for Muttart's Lumber. Alexander served in World War II for four years. They have three children, Margaret, born May 31, 1941. She married Jack Suddards. They have two children, Laurie and Allan. Brian was born December 24, 1946 married Marilyn Foster. They have one child, Kristin. Donna, third child of Alex and Lydia, was born May 2, 1950 married Lawrence Sandberg. They have two children, Leanne and Christy.

Olga was born February 6, 1918, married William Wentland, July 23, 1941. They live on a farm west of New Sarepta. They had two children. Phillip who was born November 24, 1942 married Sylvia Soch. Their children are Dorian and Murray. Dorothy, born November 22, 1944, married Ralph Risling and they also have two children, Rodney and Dale.

Carl, who was born January 5, 1926, lives in Edmonton and works for the City of Edmonton.

A Tribute to a Pioneer Lady, Wilhelmina Hintz

by Alpha McLean and Helen Heinz

I, Mrs. Arthur Heinz on different occasions had Mrs. Hintz assist me at busy times. I rose early the morning she was to come, expecting to drive over to her house to get her but on chancing to glance through the window, I saw something move. A second look confirmed it was Wilhelmina, already on the job.

Later at meal time she regaled my husband Art, with old country anecdotes. My children and I, who didn't understand German, instinctively enjoyed and admired this small woman who looked so frail, but was anything but.

When Mrs. Hintz, as we always addressed her, came over, she invariably had a few candies (mints) for the children. We missed her good cheer, when she moved, but were glad to find she would be close by in our town of Hay Lakes.

We found her, in a tiny little home surrounded by a garden most lovingly cared for. She often sat (almost perching) on her huge rocking chair, her Bible nearby a constant source of pleasure and comfort.

Mrs. Charles McLean discovered that it was Wilhelmina who kept the Hay Lakes War Cenotaph planted with flowers and cared for. Having never ever told anyone of her dedicated annual contribution to the memory of the War Dead, most people didn't know the noble character of this tiny unassuming cheerful woman.

By this time, we could struggle along in conversation. She had a ready wit and served hospitality generously to the neighbors who stopped in.



The flowers at the cenotaph were beautifully kept for years by Wilhelmina Hintz (pictured here) and Olga Schultz.

It is not often we are so fortunate to meet and enjoy such a jewel.

Mrs. Hintz was buried in Our Savior Cemetery. We who remember her, humbly place these simple words with admiration and affection, as a wreath to her memory where they will not withered be.

Jantz, Walter and Doris

Walter and Doris were married on April 30, 1954 in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes.

Walter was born at Ellerslie where he also grew up. His love for the farm brought him to buy a farm next to his father-in-law Arnold Handke. Farming operations began in 1954 together with the Handkes, however in the fall of 1954 Walter and Doris decided to move to Edmonton where he was employed as a carpenter. He then farmed part-time and worked in Edmonton. His work in the city and vicinity spanned a period of more than thirty years gaining wide and varied experience in the construction industry dating back to 1946. He also did some of his own contracting.

In 1959 the Jantz's decided to move to their farm. They moved a small home to their farm from Ellerslie which they had built on Walter's father's farm. In the winter of 1959 Walter had the brush cutting done expanding the cultivated acres from ninety to one hundred and forty-three in the following years. Most of the machinery purchased was of the used variety and this way slowly a line of equipment was acquired.

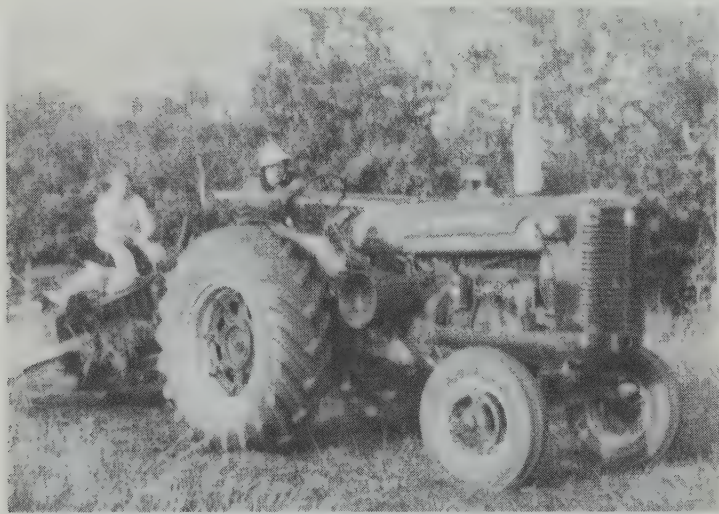
In 1966 Walter and Doris bought Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Handke's farm and in December of that year the family moved into the present home.

In 1973 additional land was added to the farming operation with the purchase of a quarter-section of land from Otto Mittelstaedt making it a three quarter section farm as it is a present.

Doris was born and grew up on the home farm. It was here that I have spent most of my life. Canard

school was a distance of two and one half miles from home where I attended for nine years. In summer I walked when it was too muddy to go with the bicycle. In winter when I was old enough to handle a horse I went to school with my horse, King, and the cutter. On one occasion I remember coming home, after a snow storm left such high drifts that there was only a one team trail. I was met by what seemed to be a driverless team staying right in the middle of the trail. How I was going to pass was quite a dilemma. I managed however to get King far enough to the right and as we were passing the driver suddenly woke up, much to my relief.

My father's first tractor purchase was a great highlight. It was a McCormick Deering on steel. Dad did all of the field work with it, later teaching me to drive. However my mother thought that quite unnecessary. When harvest time approached Dad hooked the horse binder behind it and put me in the driver's seat while he operated the binder. I was quite happy when he purchased the rubber tired tractor and power binder, as I didn't have to watch the corners quite as closely as the reels would snap off by turning too short.



Doris on tractor with her father Arnold Handke on binder.

Threshing was a very important time. Getting up before dawn to help with chores and breakfast wasn't exactly too much fun. However taking lunch out to the threshing crew wasn't all that bad. Then of course I had to take my turn shovelling in the granary when Dad didn't have enough extra help.

After Canard I took high school at Leduc. In 1952 I moved to Edmonton and worked for the Department of Education for a year. I came home to help with harvest and returned again to the city. I then worked in the office at Edmonton Auto Spring Works until I married Walter.

Glenda Elaine was born September 9, 1955 while



The Walter Jantz Family. Back: Walter and Doris. David, Gary, Donald, Glenda. Front: Cheryl.

we were residing at Ellerslie. She attended Hay Lakes school until grade eleven then graduated from New Sarepta. On August 30, 1975 she married Guy Chaulifoux and they have two sons Jean Louis and Roger Paul. They live on an acreage in the Stony Plain district.

Gary Raymond was born June 28, 1958 also while we were still at Ellerslie. He attended Hay Lakes school graduating in 1977. He played hockey and baseball for Hay Lakes through most of his school years. After high school Gary decided to take up the carpenter trade and became an apprentice.

Donald Ryan was born August 12, 1959, five months after the family moved to the Hay Lakes area. He enjoyed playing hockey and baseball. Since leaving school he has also worked at the carpenter trade and also as a salesman for various companies.

David Walter was born November 20, 1960. He attended Hay Lakes school also becoming interested in sports. He played baseball and hockey becoming a goalie. He played for Leduc after leaving Hay Lakes. He is also working in the construction industry as a carpenter apprentice.

Cheryl Lorraine was born on January 30, 1964. She attended Hay Lakes School and graduated in 1981. Cheryl loves animals and was fortunate to have her own horse at age seven. She participated in gymkhana and trail riding. Her first year riding she

gained recognition by receiving a ribbon for being the youngest rider. She is now in Edmonton working as a secretary.

Kinghorn, Myrtle Irving as submitted by George Roper

Myrtle Irving was born in Ormskirk, England, married W. Y. Kinghorn, and with her husband, came to Canada and Alberta about 1914 to the Sedgewick area. She lived there with her husband until he enlisted in World War I, training in Camrose and Calgary. While in Calgary they met the W. T. Ropers and became friends. When her husband was killed near Vimy Ridge in France, she came to stay with Mrs. Roper. She had no close relatives in Alberta and decided to settle here.



M. I. Kinghorn about 1920.

She purchased the NE-28-48-22-W4 in 1919 from Mr. Ladell (his homestead) for \$313.00 and commenced a farmer's life, starting with purebred Ayrshire cattle. She built up a small herd of milking stock — always purebred — sired by registered bulls. She thought nothing of milking over twenty cows by hand, morning and night, turning the separator by hand, feeding hogs and calves, cleaning barns etcetera. Her work hours were 3:30 a.m. till

6:30 p.m. in the summer and 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the winter, with a short rest period at noon each day. And she always had a garden big enough for a very large family. She had her land work done by the Ropers, as well as the haying and harvesting. They were abundantly repaid through the years when adversity crossed their path.

Having no children of her own, Mrs. Kinghorn adopted the Roper children, especially George. "Love hath no bounds" — this was "M.I.K.", as she became known to everyone. She remembered the birthdays of every child of her neighbors, rarely missing giving a present to each and everyone on birthdays and at Christmas. She was happiest creating for others and asked so little in return. Many, many of our generation will recall the wonderful picnics on my (George's) birthdays — ice cream, pop, cake, and goodies galore for all the kids around. Also the quality and quantity of her meals served to one and all who graced her home with their presence.

One remarkable trait of this woman was her absolute trust and lack of fear in regard to all animals. I remember her walking up to the Joe Creamer residence and being met by one of the meanest dogs in the country, whom everyone feared because many had been bitten. She just greeted the dog, whose savage snarl turned immediately to complacency, and he humbly followed her to the house where Mr. Creamer stood gawking incredulously. She handled all her bulls daily — leading them to water or tethering them out on a hundred foot chain in summer. One day in 1933 a neighbor's dog startled her herd sire, causing it to tear the ring out of his nose. The pain-maddened animal went berserk, pawing and bellowing up a storm. "M.I.K." walked up to this maddened animal and calmly grabbed its bloody nose and led it to the barn where she put a halter on him and tied him. My dad, W. T. Roper, had run home for his rifle and was standing close by, ready to shoot the animal, but M.I.K. just told him to stand back. I was



M.I.K. bottle feeding an orphan colt in the 1930's.

a very frightened witness and would not have done what she did for all the “tea in China.”

She was an accomplished pianist and had a strong true soprano voice which she used often in those early years.

Mrs. Kinghorn sold her farm and dairy operation to George Roper in 1946 but continued to be “the best hired hand in the land,” helping George and his family in all daily tasks. She walked the three-quarters of a mile from her house to theirs twice a day at times (when she still had her own gardening etcetera to do) until in the 1970’s, when they persuaded her to stay with them in their new home. It was hard for her to leave her home, simple as it was, and it caused her much sadness to have to depend on someone else after a lifetime of independence.

“M.I.K.” lived as always, helping Bertha with all her daily tasks, and never being a burden on anyone. She suffered a slight stroke in 1975 and shortly after this it was found necessary to have her taken to Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose, where she could have the care she needed. She was a model patient, even though after another stroke, she could not speak. Her remaining days were spent “incommunicado” except for recognition in her eyes, and she mercifully passed to her eternal and just reward on February 22, 1979 at ninety-one years of age.

Knopp, August **by Laura Knopp**

Both of our parents were born in Russia and Poland. They immigrated to Canada near the turn of the century with their parents, as small children. They grew up in the Ellerslie district where their parents had settled.

August was born in 1912, as the oldest son of Samuel and Olga Knopp. I was born in 1916, the oldest daughter of Karl and Susan Henschel. Here we both grew up and went to the same church, but not the same school. August went to Colchester School and I went to Sandy Lake School. The first school I went to was a one-room school, and very cold, in the winter; our feet froze while sitting at our desk during school time.

My first teacher was Thomas Richards. He went to early mass at Beaumont one morning and didn’t come back till noon. Well, of course we girls took off to the nearest girl’s home to play in her play house, and forgot about school. Next day we got back to school, we sure got heck.

Our next teacher was Walter Kuhl. He was a young man and not so old-fashioned. He taught us music and a number of songs. That was the first time we sang songs in school. After Walter left, his brother, Martin Kuhl came.

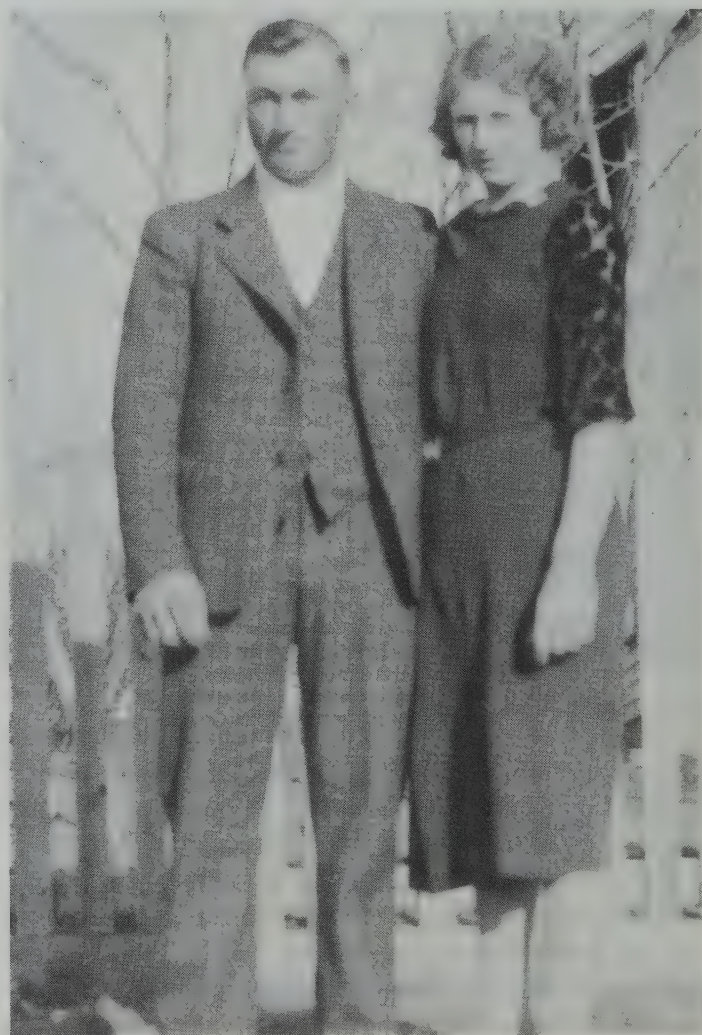
August stayed home to help his dad farm, until he was old enough to go on his own. So the search started for a farm for him. He tried to buy a farm close by Edmonton, but it just did not happen.

Then he heard from his uncle at Hay Lakes, that Gus Mittelstadt at Hay Lakes wanted to sell his farm. So they drove by car in early April to see the farm. The roads were very bad — mud holes in every low place.

Well, they made a deal, this was April, 1937. Gus still seeded the crop that spring on crop share. The following winter August’s cousin Alfred Soch and family lived in the house. In April, 1938, August moved to his farm with his few possessions.

That year he worked hard; he cleared eleven acres of bush by hand. He then got Trevor Roper to break it over. Then he picked roots and got it ready for next spring. Sister Emma helped him during harvest time. August had no binder yet, so he had to get someone to cut the crop that fall.

The winter of 1938-39, August batched and in spring he figured that’s long enough. So on April 12, 1939, we got married at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church at Ellerslie.



August and Laura Knopp — 1939.

About five days after our wedding we went on our honeymoon, which was from my parents' farm home to August's farm in Hay Lakes. My brother took us by car. First stop was at Wensel's store in New Sarepta. Here we had to buy a few groceries, most important was a sack of flour and yeast so I could bake bread.

Then we were on our way again. But to our disappointment we came to a big mud hole, just a little south of where August Sommer lived at that time, now Emil Eckert's place. Well that was the end of our car ride. We then walked into August Sommer's place and asked him if he would be so kind and loan us his horse and buggy. He did, so we finally got to the end of our journey.

Now we were on our own to make a life together. It was not easy, as times were hard to make money. We milked a few cows, had a few pigs and chickens and whatever else we could make a few dollars from.

There was no electricity yet, and wood had to be cut and split with an axe to use for cooking and heating. In winter, coal had to be hauled to help keep the house warm. Our first house was not insulated. The wind went right through. The winters were cold then. In the mornings one hated to get out of bed.



August Knopp's first home on the farm. August peeling and sharpening fence posts.

On February 23, 1940 our son Gordon was born. It was a cold day. He was born at home with the help of a midwife.

As life goes on one experiences many disappointments — like hail wiping out our crops. Fortunately we still got feed, so we could feed our milk cows and could ship cream which gave us enough money to buy our groceries.

Our transportation was by horse and buggy until 1944. Then we bought our first car, which was second hand, and it was a lemon. It left us on the road many times. In 1948 we bought our first tractor from Lorn Wensel. It was new and a great help and a relief for the horses.

In 1950 we bought a new Chev. Now we had a car

we could depend on, and we had it for sixteen years. The following years, necessary buildings were built; we made improvements on the house and built a barn in 1955.

After farming twenty-five years we finally had a new house built. What a change that was, with central heating with an oil furnace. No more wood or coal to carry in and ashes to carry out. Best of all what a comfortably warm house we had. For the first time we had running water and a bathroom to take a bath anytime.

We farmed on that place thirty-three years, then we sold to Robert Grams in 1971, and moved to Camrose and here we enjoy our retirement.

Knopp, Edward

by Edward Knopp and Family

I was born August 25, 1900, to William and Julianna (Ertman) Knopp. I was the youngest of the family which has four boys and two girls. We lived in Ellerslie and attended the Lutheran Church. All of us went to Sandy Lake School and I went as far as grade three.

My first job was working for the railroad, then I came to Hay Lakes and worked for William Henschell on the farm. It was during this time that I met Ida Lede of Rosenthal. She was the youngest daughter of Frederick and Ida (Wienkleman) Lede, who emigrated with their family from Poland in 1903.

Ida and I were married November 17, 1920 at the Rosenthal Lutheran Church, which was about eight miles east of Leduc near the town of Rollyview. For two years we lived on a farm one mile west of Hay Lakes, which was known as the Soch place. We then bought a farm, five miles west and one and a half miles south of Hay Lakes, in an area known as Big Hay Lake. Here we worked hard to break the land and build a home for our family which we started in 1922 when we had a daughter that we lost. Our first son Wilfred was born in 1923 and in 1925 our daughter Rosalie was born. In 1927 we lost another child and our son Arnold Siegfried was born in 1929. They were all born at home with only a midwife in attendance. In 1932 our son Reinhold was born in the Camrose Hospital. The three oldest children walked three miles to attend the Canard School. They attended St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and were confirmed in the German language. We lived here quite a few years, working hard doing all the field work with horses and enjoying our neighbors who were mostly relatives.

We sold the farm in 1937 to Rudolf Nordin and moved to our new farm at SW 16-48-21-W4 about three miles west of Armena in March of 1938. The



The Ed Knopp Family 1942. L. to R., Back Row: Rose, Ida holding Eddie, Ed, and Wilfred. Reinhold and Arnold front.

moving all took place by horse and sleigh. The children now had only one and a half miles to Thornjold School—their teacher was Mr. Benny Lomnes and it was here Reinhold (Reins) started school.

Our last son Edward (Eddie) Norman was born in 1941 at the Camrose Hospital. When he was only about one year old my wife took sick and had to go to the hospital. There was much testing; they discovered she had T.B. Then she was moved to the Royal Alex Hospital in Edmonton and that left Rose to take over the care of the family. During this time, Wilfred had gone out working in B.C. for a few months.

In the spring of 1946, Rose got married and that left me with the rest of the children, although the youngest boy Eddie stayed with them for some time. It was during the summer of 1947, that I hired a housekeeper, Loha (Fredrick) Link and she had a daughter named Carol, aged eight. That fall Eddie and Carol both attended Thornjold School.

It was in the fall of 1948 when Wilfred had an accident with the 10-20 IH tractor which he was driving home a car's lights blinded him. He ran into the ditch upsetting the tractor, pinning him beneath and he lost his life. He was only ten days short of being twenty-five years old. This news was very shocking for my wife and she passed away in March 1949.

Loha and I were married October 27, 1949 in Vancouver, B.C. By this time things were easier for me on the farm, for now I had a tractor, a combine

and other machinery to make the work on the farm better. In the fall of 1953, Loha and I bought the cafe in Hay Lakes, while Arnold and Reins looked after the farm; but in the spring we returned to the farm. In 1957 Carol left the farm to work in Camrose and Eddie went to work in Calgary and lived with his brother Arnold.



Loha and Ed Knopp 1962.

Loha had a stroke in July of 1963. We stayed on the farm for a few more years and in the fall of 1965, we made sale and moved to Camrose. My wife spent a lot of time in hospital and also in Bethany. She had a number of strokes; then October 27, 1974, she had another, causing her to pass away on the day of our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. I lived our house in Camrose for the next three years alone.

In the spring of 1977, I met Ann Sjogren of Edberg and by September 8 we were married at Hay Lakes by Rev. Kemppainen. We live in my house in Camrose.



Ed and Anna's wedding 1977. Rose, Anna, Ed, Leo.

At the present I have fifteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Arnold — After quitting school at an early age, I went to work on the farm for my folks. I remember when my sister and I ran a bundle team, we weren't

very old, but we stayed with the crew for the entire fall. I left home in the fall of 1950 and went to B.C. to work for a few years. In 1953, I returned home and my brother Reins and I bought an oil truck together. We worked at Armena, Drayton Valley and in Red Deer. We dissolved our partnership in 1955, each buying our own truck and in 1960 I moved to Calgary and bought a house trailer. I continued to work for Forrester Transport hauling crude oil.

In September, 1969 I married Alyis Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Rae of Bowden. We had a son, David, in 1970 and our second son, Gary, was born in 1972. We bought a house in south east Calgary, in 1973. I am still driving truck, hauling crude oil, but the Company changed its name to Gibbs Transport.

Reinhold — I started school at Thornjold, which was a mile and a half from home. Later when the Armena School was built, I finished my schooling there. After quitting school, I worked on the farm for the folks until I got my first job in Camrose driving taxi for Pete's Taxi. This didn't last long for my dream was to drive truck and when the oil field at Armena started I drove truck for Ervin Fipkie. In the fall of 1953, my brother Arnold and I bought our own oil truck and started working for Forester Transport, first at Armena and then at Drayton Valley.

In April of 1955, I married Anna Hiller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Hiller of Clover Lawn. We bought a house trailer and moved to Drayton Valley, where our first son, Larry, was born.

In 1957, Forester Transport transferred me to Red Deer to haul oil and in February of 1959, our twins were born, a boy and a girl. By this time the trailer was getting a little crowded so in 1962, we bought a house. I hauled crude oil around the Red Deer area until October 1974 when I sold my truck and went to work driving for Gulf Oil, delivering gas to farmers which I am still doing.

A little about our children: Larry married Sharon Smith of Red Deer. They live in Penhold and have one son, Devon Larry, born November 1, 1979. He works as a sheet metal worker for Crest Metal Industries, in Red Deer.

Don took his carpentry training in Edmonton after which he moved back to Red Deer and is now working for Top Notch Investment. He still lives at home.

Deb works for Co-op Insurance in Red Deer and has her own apartment.

Eddie — When he left home he went to work at Red Deer, for awhile and then went to stay with Arnold in Calgary and worked at jobs there. Edward (Eddie) married Doreen Cox of Alliance, Alberta in February, 1965. They have three children. Twilla,

age fifteen; Bradley, age thirteen; and Denton, age ten years. They have their own house in Calgary, Alberta. At present he has his own oil truck and drives for Gibbs Transport.

Caroline Anne (Link) Brandon — daughter of the late Mrs. Leokadia (Loha) Knopp, went to work in Camrose at St. Mary's Hospital in July of 1957. In July 1960, she moved to Red Deer, Alberta and was employed at Deerhome.

Carol married Gerald Brandon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Brandon of Crossfield, Alberta on April 30, 1964. They have four children, Douglas Gerald — age sixteen years; Rodney Stuart — age fifteen years; Constance Diane — age thirteen years and Gregory Neil — age nine years.

Gerald is a sales manager for Jubilee Beverages in Red Deer and Carol is presently employed at Michener Centre.

Knopp, Gotlieb and Family by Tillie (Knopp) Chapman

Gotlieb, the third youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Knopp was born May 17, 1895, near Guberna, Poland. He was three years old when his parents immigrated to Canada. He spent all his young life around Ellerslie and his father's farm. As school didn't hold the importance of today, not too many years were spent in one. His job was to start the fire in the old pot-bellied stove and then he was off muskrat trapping — as the tanned hides meant cash, which was hard to come by. Gotlieb did get to grade three and knew his three R's, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, which was well done in those days.

At twenty-four, he met and married Ernestine Lede on September 30, 1919. They settled on the farm Gotlieb had homesteaded, six miles west of Hay Lakes. The lake was so high in those days, that the water was over the first embankment.

Ernestine was the daughter of Friedrich and Ida Arillia Lede, born in 1906 in the district of Gruberia, near Wolynski, Poland. She came with her parents to Canada when she was three years old, where they moved to a farm east of Leduc, now known as Rolly View. As they were five and seven miles from school and church, the only formal education she had was from her father, who taught her to read the German Bible. This was considered quite adequate in those days. At nineteen, Ernestine met and married Gotlieb Knopp. She made her own wedding dress by hand and covered a pair of shoes to match, with the same white satin. Ernestine was very proud of her dowry of seven cows. Five of their seven children were born at home with the assistance of midwives, either Mrs. Tober or Mrs. Frederick. The youngest,

the twins, were born at the home of a relative in Edmonton, with the help of a doctor.

They lived beside Big Hay Lake, so everything was east of us — Canard School and St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, which were three and one half miles away. The closest store was six miles at the village of Hay Lakes. Most of our entertainment was at one of these places. We either walked or rode the horse and buggy or sleigh — whatever the season — until Father bought the Model A Ford.

The oldest child, William Sigfried was born August 6, 1920, on the farm, like all of us were in those days, but when he got sick, medical assistance wasn't available and he died at seven months. As it was winter time with no funeral parlors, William had to be placed out in the granary, with grain for bedding, until a coffin was made by his uncle Bill Lede and a funeral could be held.

Ottillia (Tillie) was born in 1922, Hertha Ruth (Hattie) in 1925, Gerhart Alfred (Jerry) in 1928, and Ervin Arthur in 1930. The twins Edna Elespeth (Liz or Beth) and Adolph Adlebert (Bert) were born in 1935.



L. to R.: Lydia (Knopp) Hinz, Tillie (Knopp) Chapman, August Knopp, Hilda Lede, Walter Tober, Lydia's cousin, Helmut Knopp, Emma Knopp, Ewald Erickson, Ted Tober. Peeker — Bruno These?

In 1945, Gotlieb and Ernestine sold their farm to their neighbor, George Roper and they moved six miles south of Wetaskiwin, in the Bears Hill district. Here they settled with Jerry, Ervin, Beth, and Bert.

Tillie left home in 1938 and went to work in Wetaskiwin, where she met and married James Chapman in 1942. He worked at the creamery for eighteen dollars a week until 1944, when he borrowed from a friend and bought a second hand truck and did general trucking with a cream route west of Millet. In 1948 his father passed away, Jim sold his trucking route and went into the family business of Chapman Electric.

Tillie and Jim have three boys, George James, born in 1945, Walter John Randell in 1948, and Bruce Allen in 1950 and one grandchild.

In 1978, the family business was sold to the eldest son, George. this makes the third generation of Chapman Electric.

Hattie, the second daughter of Gotlieb and Ernestine left Hay Lakes in 1942 to work in Wetaskiwin, here she met and married Ken Olsen in 1944. They have five children. Hattie and Ken moved to Red Deer where he went into business for himself.

Gerhart (Jerry) the oldest son of Gotlieb and Ernestine, worked in Wetaskiwin as a truck driver. In 1950, he married Charlene Elliot of Millet. After their first daughter, Glorian, was born, they moved to Vancouver.

Ervin Arthur the second son moved to Red Deer and then to Calgary after the death of his brother, Jerry. Ervin met and married Delores Fletcher in 1953 and have three children, Cheryl, Kevin, and Jerry. Cheryl is married to Graham Willard and the boys are working in construction and are both C.B. Radio fans.

Elespeth or Beth as the family called her, worked in Wetaskiwin and the University Hospital as secretary after she finished High School. She met and married Hugh McAllister, November 1954. Hugh worked for North Western Utilities from the time he finished high school in Tofield. Beth and Hugh had three children, William Larry, Robert James, and Linda Darlene. Bill was seven and Bob five and Linda, one year old when their mother, Beth died after a brief illness in 1963. The children went to live with Aunt Tillie and Uncle Jim Chapman.

Adolph or Bert, the twin of Beth left home at sixteen to work for his brother-in-law, Ken in Red Deer. In 1956, he married Jean Wates and they have five children, Mike, Greg, Susan, Elizabeth, and Patti.



Gotlieb Knopp Family 1954. L. to R., Back Row: Elizabeth, Adolph, Gerhart, Ervin, Tillie. Front: Gotlieb, Hattie, and Ernestine.

This is the family of Gotlieb and Ernestine Knopp. We've had our good times and bad times, also our share of sorrow like most people. On November 11, 1963, G.G., our father died at the young age of sixty-eight. We all mourned a great father and husband, but we remember the fun times too. When one of us got into mischief and were threatened with the strap, we were all good runners and never waited around to take our medicine. We would take off and outrun him. But Dad loved the challenge. At one time, he chased Jerry, who headed for the well at the bottom of the hill. Jerry was young and nimble and jumped over but Dad was tired and older, he missed his jump and fell into the water trough.

In the evenings he often came out to play games with us. "Hide and Seek", among many, and was just as annoyed as we kids, when Mom called "Bed Time".

Dad drank very little in comparison to some today and very seldom at that, but I remember one winter day, when the horses brought him and the sleigh home. What kept him alive and warm was his big buffalo coat. Needless to say, Mother looked after bedding the horses that night. How Dad loved to shop for us, when he went to Edmonton in his Model A Ford. If he bought a jacket for Jerry, it was sure to fit Ervin. We all joined in and gave him a hard time about his knowledge of sizes. After everything was allotted, he would sit down to his supper and tell of all the exciting events of the day. To us this was far more fun than television is today.

When Dad died they had sold the farm to Jim and Walter Chapman and moved to Wetaskiwin. Mother lives there and was eighty-one on February 12, 1981.

Mother kept the family stabilized with her energy and great faith in God. But she had her amusing happenings too. Like the time they were loading pigs, she was asked to guard the hole in the fence, but the sow came through full blast and went between Mother's legs, and did she have a wild ride around the yard, riding backwards. She was scared stiff and sore all over while we laughed ourselves silly.

One time a skunk settled in the cow barn. It had to go or die, as it refused to go, it had to die with the help of Mom and her faithful collie. She just about had to sleep with him outside that night. We still tease her about that.

I remember one church picnic that was held on the Stelmaker farm just west of the Church. At that time bottled pop was the new thing. My uncle Ed offered to buy his son Wilfred a bottle of pop. Asked what kind — Wilfred replied "7 Up please". Uncle Ed replied in astonishment, "Isn't one enough?" The races at these picnics were the highlight for us. If

you won first prize you sometimes got fifty cents to spend or save for another time. Many times Dad saved it for us and we never saw it again, but times were hard and it was just part of the course. Who could forget the girls' baseball team (made up of girls around the Canard district). We called ourselves the "Canaries". The fun we had, competing against the girls from the district south of us, who called themselves the "Bluebirds". I don't remember the score of who "lost or won", but I do remember the good times we all had.

Of the barn dances that were held, especially when a new barn was built — why just everyone went, that could. When Christmas or Easter Lent came around, no dances were held as we all respected Lent time, regardless of religion or creed.

As we lived by the lake, the whole neighborhood gathered there to skate in the winter time. If it didn't snow too early in the season, after the lake froze over, we could skate for miles. Ervin remembers getting runners for skates somewhere and welding them to a pair of working boots and then sharing the skates because everyone didn't have a pair. The homemade skis we had. Mother grumbled every once in awhile when we had a washboiler on the stove with these boards in there soaking so we could bend the tips. When we were younger we loved to swim in the mud bottomed lake in the nude, but were told to stay out of it because of the blood suckers and other insects. But the sun would be hot and the water inviting so we often chanced the willow whip, and did it hurt, if we got caught!

These are all fond memories of the past but the one thing that always stayed with me was, that nobody ever spoke of being poor or considered themselves poor. We never had a loaded Christmas tree like my children have, but we do remember the times Mrs. Kinghorn and the Ropers sent over gifts for us and the picnics they had for George's birthday. But it never bothered us that we didn't have the same, we just enjoyed what we received. Mr. and Mrs. Roper had one whole wall of books, which they gladly shared with us and every Saturday we all wanted to run over to get the "Star Weekly" with the funny papers. How cross Dad was if you sat by a tree on the way home and read the comics first!

Now only Mother and four of the children are left. Hattie still lives in Medicine Hat and is a beautiful sewer and sews for all her girls and grandchildren. Ervin who quit school so young makes a very good living selling Real Estate in Calgary with his family around him. Bert, who couldn't hit a nail straight is now a very good carpenter and did all the finishing work on his house on his farm. My dream is to be a writer and painter — especially some of the fond

memories I have of Hay Lakes. Who knows, I might be another Grandma Moses.

Knopp, Gustave and Bertha (Jersch)

by Florence (Knopp) Dargatz

The history of the Knopp family can be traced back to 1875 when Grandpa Gustov Jersch was born in Russia. Otilia Zieger who was born in Volhynia, Russia (1874) married Gustov Jersch 1895. After coming to Canada they settled in the Rollyview district. Later they farmed in the New Sarepta district, where he was locally renowned. As Gustov's folks had an orchard in Russia, he planted fruit trees which were the first of their kind ever to be planted in Alberta. They lived there until 1935, then moved to Tomahawk, Alberta. To that marriage fourteen children were born four of which were still living in 1981. One of them was to live her history in Hay Lakes.

Gustave Knopp was born in Volhynia, Russia, April 10, 1893, to William Ludwig Knopp and Juliana Ertman. He had come when a small child and lived with his parents at Ellerslie, Alberta. Here he received some education. He met Bertha Helena Jersch (born February 20, 1897) daughter of Gustov Jersch and Otilia Jersch whom he married May 5, 1914.

To this union twelve children were born three of whom died in infancy. Florence was born in Ellerslie May 1, 1916. Robert, Helmut, and Adeline were born at Hay Lakes, September 29, 1917; October 27, 1918 and November 30, 1919, respectively.

Upon until this time Gustave Knopp rented a farm east of Hay Lakes. It was called the Gumbo Hill but in the spring of 1921 he bought his own quarter six miles southwest of Hay Lakes. (NW 22-48-22-W4). It was later purchased by Alan Hein. It was here that more children were born. Lydia, May 1, 1922; Leonard, November 17, 1924; Alice, December 10, 1926; Martha, November 9, 1929 and Reinhart, September 21, 1940.

Life on the farm was difficult. There were only four acres broke so it meant long hours of grubbing and brushing. Since we were a big family as soon as we were old enough we got out on our own so the pie could be cut into bigger pieces. After some of us had left home Dad left the family and farm. He worked in Vancouver until his passing on February 2, 1977. He is buried in the Langely Cemetery.

Mother, (Bertha Knopp) spent more than four years in St. Mary's Hospital Camrose, and the Bethany Nursing Home. She passed away January 12, 1967 and was buried in Our Saviour Lutheran Cemetery, Hay Lakes.

I, Florence (Knopp) Dargatz, born May 1, 1916, received my education at the Canard School. It was



Back Row, L. to R.: Bill, Rose, Fred Jersch. Front: Millie Jersch, Bertha Knopp, Tillie Pankratz — 1964.

in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church where I was confirmed September 7, 1930. In my youth I sang in the church choir. I played ball for the Canard team, and we seldom lost a game. I was always back-catcher. I was also a good candy maker. I remember one Saturday, Mother and Dad went grocery shopping, bought ten pounds of sugar at forty-nine cents. Sunday they went visiting and the Tober and Frederick kids came over and we used up most all the sugar making candy. I'd hate to tell you what happened the next morning.

At a picnic in New Sarepta, I met Herman Dargatz. We were married in Camrose December 21, 1933. To this union three children were born; Delene Hermina, August 19, 1934; Violet Gladys, September 27, 1935; and Herman Larry, February 19, 1941.

Since these were the hungry thirties or as some called them the dirty thirties, the going was rough. We lived on a farm, which Herman owned, in a one-room shack for the first year. We built another room onto the shack after our first child was born. Here we lived for ten years.

We worked hard and long. We had thirty acres broke. Wheat was eighteen cents and nineteen cents a bushel. Cream sold for one dollar and fifty cents for a five gallon can. As eggs were sold for four and five cents a dozen many were fed to the calves. We



L. to R.: Herman and Florence (Knopp) Dargatz, Bill Dargatz and Adeline Knopp.

needed cash for a doctor bill and had to sell a big cow for seven dollars.

Herman owned a threshing machine and did custom threshing. That meant I was left at home with the small children and all the chores but we made out as I was accustomed to hard work from home. After ten years of farming we gave up, made a sale and moved to Wetaskiwin where Herman was employed at the Canadian Pacific Railways round house. I started to cook for the Wales Hotel Coffee Shop and later managed and cooked for the coffee shop at the Cinema Theatre.

Herman worked for the C.P.R. but when the country was at war he had to work on the farm. After the war was over he worked for the C.P.R. again and still later a tire shop.

After six and a half years in his own business in Vermilion we sold out, moved to Edmonton where he served in the capacity of a mailman for ten years.

On October 15, 1973 we moved to Sicamous, British Columbia, where we bought a house on an acreage on Mara Lake where Herman indulged in fishing — an old wish — until the children wished us

to return to Alberta, since we were getting up in age, so we moved to Wetaskiwin.

Life at times was hard, but we had a good life. Since retirement we have travelled extensively — U.S.A., Europe, all over B.C., Alberta and Eastern Canada. God willing in 1983 we will celebrate our Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Robert was born to Gustave and Bertha Knopp on September 29, 1917. With his brothers and sisters they lived on Gumbo Hill until they moved west of Hay Lakes. After his father left, Robert took over the mixed farming operation with Mother and the family. On November 20, 1955, he married Martha Skadic of Tomahawk. He then moved to a farm he purchased six miles south of Tomahawk. A silver wedding was celebrated November 20, 1980. They have no children.

Helmut was also born on the Gumbo Hill, October 27, 1918. As soon as he was able to follow the labor force he followed his dad to Vancouver. There he met and married Ruth Henschel. They have three boys and one girl; Keneth, Donny, Ricky and Delores.

A serious back injury sustained while he was employed in a cedar mill necessitated surgery. For four months he was kept flat on his back on a board. After a lengthy recuperation he was a school custodian, near his home in Haney, B.C. As an arthritic condition developed the doctors ordered an early retirement. A short retirement was followed by a heart seizure which caused his death in 1978. He is buried in Sicamous, B.C. in the Solsqua Cemetery. His wife Ruth, Rickey, and Delores moved to Camrose.

Adeline (Knopp) Evans received her education at Canard School. She cooked in the Hay Lakes Hotel and the Killam Hotel, prior to leaving for Vancouver, where she met and married Norman Evans, December 21, 1942. To this union five children were born, Dallas, Leonard, Vernon, Gary and Valerie. They all live in B.C.

Norman and Adeline sold their dairy business in Langely, B.C. and moved into Fort Langely, B.C. They are semi-retired. Norman is a good musician and he has formed a band with his children and wife.

Leonard, born November 17, 1924 to Gustave and Bertha (Jersch) Knopp, also attended the Canard School. He served in the Army during World War II in England and continental Europe from 1944-1947.

He met and married Cynthia Woodrow of London, England, in 1946. Upon returning to Canada they took up residence in Edmonton where he took up the trade of plumbing and pipe fitting and worked on most major construction projects in the oil and gas industry.

He also worked in far away places such as South East Asia and the Middle East having worked in the Singapore area and Indonesia for a year and a half, and one year in Dubai and Egypt in the construction of production platforms for the off shore oil and gas industry.

Cynthia and Leonard had four children all born in Canada; Linda, Lindsay, Douglas and Susan, all of which reside in Edmonton.



Reinhart and Leonard Knopp 1948.

Rienhart Knopp was the last of the Knopp children born. He was also the first one born in a hospital (in Camrose) on September 21, 1940.

He stayed home with his mother till he got married to Myrna Johnson of Camrose on August 20, 1967. He is now divorced. He has two children, Heather eleven years and Collin eight years.

Rienhart (Riens) got his education in Hay Lakes. He now works for the Government Highways Department, and is now living in Drayton Valley.

Knopp, Ludwig and Julia **by Tillie Chapman (nee Knopp)**

Ludwig Knopp was born on a farm in Guberna district near Wolynsk, Poland, which is now under Russian rule. There he met and married Julia Ertman, who was born in Germany. Here in the Guberna

district, five of their six children were born. As times were nothing but a struggle and money hard to come by, they listened to the wonderful stories of homestead land in Canada — either free for the asking or cheap to buy. When their oldest girl, Amellia, was about eleven years old, they immigrated to Canada in the year of 1898. They finally settled in the Bretona district, south of Edmonton. They worshipped at the Ellerslie Lutheran Church and did their shopping at Strathcona, now South Edmonton. Here Edward the youngest was born. Samuel the oldest son married Olga Oswald and took over the family farm as his father, Ludwig died at a young age. The other five, all married and moved to homesteads in the Hay Lakes district. Amellia the oldest of them all, married Gottlieb Soch. Gus the third oldest married Bertha Jersh. Gotlieb and Edward married the Lede sisters, Ernestina and Ida. Albertina married Daniel Lede, brother to the two sisters.

After Ludwig died, his wife Julia made her home with Samuel and his wife Olga. We always loved to visit Grandma Knopp, as she told us Bible stories and then would take us to her room, dig in one of her chests of drawers and find a whole dollar for each of us. I always remember her as good natured, sincere, and loving, who lived there till she died at eighty-five years of age.

Kopf, Ludwig and Karoline **by Irmgard Samoil, as told to me by my aunt,** **Emma Lachman**

In 1901, my great-grandparents, Michael and Amelia Kopf, immigrated from Mostowka, Poland, to Nisku, Alberta.

The first sod-roofed log house and barn were constructed on land known as the Nisku Industrial Park today. The humble dwelling housed, Michael and Amelia, and their five children: George, Christ, Gus, Hulda, and Ludwig and his sixteen-year old bride, Karoline.

Emma, their first-born arrived in 1903. Their son was born in 1905. It seems that in the excitement of the formation of a new province, namely Alberta, out of the Northwest Territories, the Kopfs proudly named their new son Albert.

The one-room home was by now to say the least, crowded. Therefore, Ludwig worked at any job he could find; on the threshing crews, construction work, digging sewers for fifteen cents an hour, and at John Walter's saw mill. By 1907, he was able to build a single room shingle roofed house on a site on eighty acres now in use by the Edmonton International Airport. A second daughter, Martha, was born in June of that year.

In 1910, the Ludwig Kopf family moved to Hay



Karoline and Ludwig Kopf — 1910.

Lakes to the N.E. 26-48-22-W4, where a sod-roofed log house, shed, and a small barn were built with the help of Daniel Erickson, Karoline's brother. Homesteading at Hay Lakes began with two pinto horses which were brought along from Nisku. "Fitz", the white albino with one red eye was noted for his mischievous nature. He was liable to remove your hat from your head if you weren't watching, or pick up the oats bucket if he felt like it, and move it to another part of the pasture. Later, a Clydesdale mare was acquired and bred. After the colt was born, another Clydesdale was purchased to make up a team.

The first twenty acres were broken by a single plough. Seeding was accomplished by scattering the seed by the handful from a bag made out of a bedsheet which was slung from the shoulder. Then it was "scratched" into the soil with the harrows.

Ludwig dug an ice well approximately fifteen feet deep to store perishables. Rain water and thawed snow was used for cooking and washing purposes until a water well was dug seven years later.

Most of the furniture was handmade. The two-tiered kitchen cupboard and tables were built by Ludwig and his father. The wrought iron beds were painted white. The four-burner wood stove was pur-

chased at Leduc. The clothes closet consisted of a clothes line covered by curtains strung from the corners of the room.

Ludwig made and repaired many things by hand. He hand-crafted a metal vegetable shredder held by a frame, which never rusted. He also repaired all of the boots and shoes, whistling to his favorite tune, "The Anniversary Watz". I remember him, elf-like, bent over the shoe jack, patching and sewing for hours. At times he would become discouraged with the backlog of repairs, and would "escape" to find solace in his strawberry patch in the garden. Vivid memories of over-indulging in the strawberries remain with several family members today.

His skill as a gardener and his love of the land was obvious. Russian poplar which he planted grew strong and straight as sentinels along the perimeter of the garden and house. The farmstead was protected from the northeast by the growth of a thick caragana hedge. The bountiful vegetable harvest was stored in the root cellar.

Karoline's work was equally demanding. All the clothes were sewn by hand and kept clean over the washboard. The butter needed churning and was then packed into ten, twenty, and thirty pound wooden pails and delivered to the Litke store in exchange for groceries. Cottage cheese and sauerkraut was home made. Karoline was an excellent cook. Pies, kaesknopf and bachan, fried biscuit dough, bread, and doughnuts are a few of the delicacies I still savor. These household duties were attended to before or after the outside chores of milking, separating, and feeding the calves and other farm animals. The chil-



The Kopf Family 1909. L. to R., Back Row: Karoline and Ludwig. Front: Albert (4), Martha (2), Emma (6).

dren were dumbfounded at the speed with which their mother could milk a cow. Karoline would finish cow number eight, whereas daughter Emma was still "pulling" on cow number four. Karoline also learned to drive the new 1928 Model A Ford Roadster which facilitated the weekly delivery of cream and eggs into town.

By 1912 it was possible to build a log house with two large rooms out of the black and white poplar from the land. The interior walls were white washed. Later, tar paper and siding were added to the exterior which made the dwelling considerably warmer. Eventually, with the help of a carpenter, Ludwig Schmidt, a frame "vorhaus" was added. In this large room the cream was separated, shoes and harnesses repaired, and other farm tasks performed.

The hip roof barn which replaced the poplar sheds was constructed in 1928 with the help of Jack Churak. Ludwig and Albert built the feed storage shed and single garage flanking the west of the yard. Granaries were also made by father and son.

In the name of progress, the horses were eventually replaced by a McCormick Deering tractor. Other implements such as a seeder, binder and threshing machine were added. This mechanization was a welcome boon to crops in the short growing season and also made for more leisure time. A good milking and livestock herd was maintained as well as a hundred or more chickens and several hogs. The Ludwig Kopf farm evolved into the typical balanced mixed farm which proved successful until recent years.

Emma left the homestead on November 28, 1919 when she married Christ Lachman. Martha was sixteen years when she went to Vancouver to work in a restaurant and bakery. Albert remained on the farm, finding various outside jobs during the winter months. He met with his untimely death, December 23, 1949 at forty-four years as the end result of a brain injury sustained from a horse, as a young man. He was gifted and had many talents. His mechanical skills proved invaluable when it came to repairing farm machinery. He played the violin, but never had a music lesson. The accident with the horse was tragic, but he did the best he could under the circumstances to make himself useful.

The Ludwig Kopf farm held an auction in 1950. The land was purchased by his daughter, Martha and her husband Eugene Buob. Ludwig and Karoline retired to the village of Hay Lakes. Ludwig passed away in 1959 at eighty-two years, and Karoline in 1977 at ninety-two years.

Martha passed away September 2, 1979. She is survived by her husband, Eugene, director of Kingsway Toyota and Sun Motors in Edmonton, and one



Albert Kopf age 14, 1919.

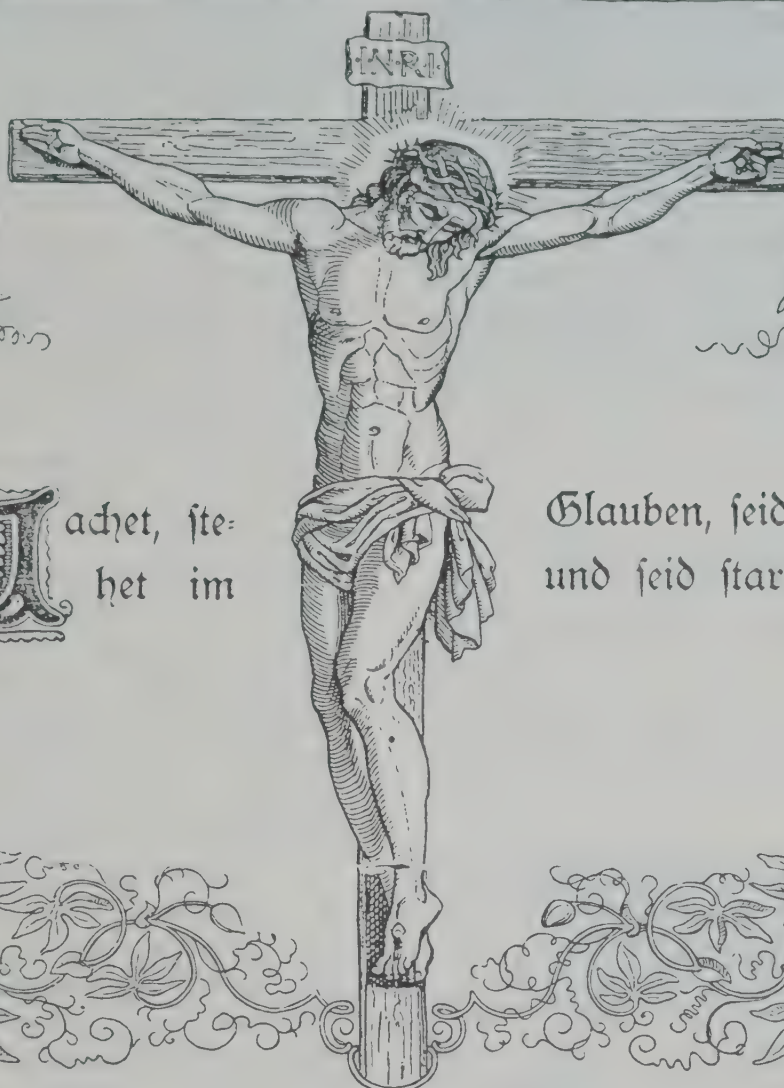
daughter, Irmgard, and three grand-children, Deanne, fifteen years, David, fourteen years and Erik, twelve years who reside on an acreage in Ardrossan.

Emma and Christ still enjoy country living at Ellerslie. They keep some cattle and chickens.

Their daughter, Lydia, and son-in-law John Leicht make their home in Edmonton and are the proud parents of four sons: John, Sherwin, Rickey, and Eugene. Five grand-children have blessed this family in recent years.

Leonard Lachman, who married Eileen Rost, also lives at Ellerslie and works in a steel company in South Edmonton. They have three children: Larry, Juli, and Donny.

Erinnerung an den Tag der Confirmation.



Wachet, steht
im

Glauben, seid männlich
und seid stark.

1 Kor. 16, 13.

Wache dich, mein Geist, bereit; wache, fleh und bete,
Daß dich nicht die böse Zeit unverhofft betrete;
Denn es ist Satans List
Über viele frommen zur Versuchung kommen.



Denkspruch

für *Karoline Erickson*

geboren in *Moskwa* den *8 Juli 1885*

getauft den *9 Juli 1885*

konfirmiert in der evangel. angeli. Kirche zu *Ratsynia*

Am Tage der Konfirmation:

Von Deinem Lehrer und Seelsorger:

v. 17 April 1900

Erst Schulz

Reg and Marian (nee Petruk) live at Nisku in a new home which was recently completed. They have five children; Christ, Danny, Anna, Jimmy, and Mark. They have three grandchildren. Reg and Marian keep busy with their band, "The Polka Dots". Reg also has an active interest in a taping company and several land investments.

The Ludwig Kopf homestead provided a good life which was physically demanding. The buildings remain today as a testament to this pioneer man and his work. In retrospect, it is with humble pride that we remember our forerunners for their hardships, sweat, and tears. May their symbol of faith and courage remain in the hearts of those who follow them.

Lachman, August

by Christian, Emma and Alice Lachman

August and Lydia (nee Werner) were both born in Volhynia, Poland in 1865 and 1871 respectively. They immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1900 with their three children — Christian, Rudolf, and Olga and their brother-in-law, Wilhelm Lechelt and family. They left Volhynia, Russia, in 1900, from Labovna



August and Lydia Lachman — 1920.

Port to Liverpool, England. They arrived in Montreal eleven days later. They went on to Winnipeg and Edmonton, where it was so wet that the water squeezed out of the railroad bed ahead of the train. After the long journey, they finally arrived in Alberta territory and lived for a brief time with Karl Lechelt, a brother of Wilhelm Lechelt. Imagine how crowded this pioneer farm was with three families living together with fifteen children in total!

The Lachman family soon moved to a farm in the Rabbit Hill area where they worked for Mrs. Wedman. In the winter of 1901 Lydia's parents, an uncle and an aunt immigrated from the old country and came to live with the Lachman family (parents — Gottlieb and Friederika Werner; uncle — John Werner; aunt — Molly Werner). It was a time of hard work, but they were happy to have their family reunited.

After about a year and a half in the Rabbit Hill area they moved to a farm north of Leduc, (the Hunker farm) where tragedy struck the family, as daughter Olga contracted diphtheria and died. She was laid to rest in an open field which is now about one mile north of the Nisku Industrial Park.

They moved again to a farm west of Leduc where a son, Emil, was born in July 1903. They seeded and sharecropped again. The family was progressing in their acquisition of machinery and livestock. August thought that it was about time to acquire a farm of his own, so he, Gottlieb Werner, and John Werner each took up a homestead in the Hay Lakes area. Through the summer after seeding they worked to build a sod house and a rough barn on each of the three farms. The logs were cut by hand. They didn't use nails, but made wooden pegs and wooden clasps for the doors. There was hay to make too. What a busy summer it was!

After the crop was taken off in the fall the family moved to their new homestead at section two, in November 1903. The move was difficult, as the trip from Leduc to Hay Lakes required them to stay out in the open overnight with their family, belongings, and a few head of sheep, cattle, and horses. It was a great disappointment to find that August missed the surveyor's peg and had built on the neighbor's land.

The next summer was spent clearing land, breaking, fencing, and seeding the crop. They also planted gardens and potato patches. They made barrels of saurkraut and picked lots of wild fruit. Rabbits and ducks were plentiful and a welcome part of the diet. August would shoot into a bunch of ducks and then shoot again as they flew away. He got as many as fifteen ducks at one time. Along with being tasty eating, the ducks supplied feathers for nice pillows, pillowcases were made out of flour sacks and tea

towels were made from sugar sacks. The first bit of grain on the Lachman farm was threshed by placing it on the frozen ground, driving the cattle over it and finally flailing the last bit out of the bundles.

After much very hard work, farming got a little better. There were lots of cows to be milked and butter had to be made from all the cream. The butter was packed in wooden pails of ten, twenty, or thirty pounds. There were no creameries, so the butter was taken to the store and exchanged for groceries. From the separated milk they made cottage cheese and pyrogys. In 1906, after two years in the sod house, a sound log house with a shingled roof was built. Here in February 1907 a son, Gus, was born. Another boy, Albert, was born May 1910. Lydia's parents lived with them plus their own family of five boys Chris, Rudolph, Emil, Gus, and Albert.

The Lachman boys were busy. Rudolph was the hunter of the family supplying rabbit, bush chickens, prairie chickens and ducks. They trapped muskrats and got up to thirty five cents for a good hide. In winter they would make around a thousand fence posts and sell them to the lumber yard for two and one-half cents a piece. Christian bought all his blacksmithing tools with the money he earned and soon was doing blacksmith work for the farm and for lots of the neighbours.

In 1914 they built the big house; the lumber was shipped by train from Camrose. Church services were held in Robert Stebner's home which later became the Theodor Mittelstadt place. Karl Heinz, August, and Karl Mittelstadt read the service. Later an old retired pastor came from Wetaskiwin named F. Bredlow. He stayed at various homes for a week or two in succession. He held church, Sunday School and Saturday School at the Lachman homestead. The Freidenstal Lutheran Church had its first confirmation on January 3, 1909. Christian Lachman along with two neighbour girls Christine Hein and Emma Stelmacher were confirmed. Upon the completion of Canard School, the building was also used for church activities. There were a succession of ministers including Pastor Turkheim, Pastor Schange, and in 1917 Pastor H. Walbaum.

In 1918 August helped with building St. Stephen's Church. People came from the surrounding area to attend the dedication. He also bought a share in the Grain Growers and helped build the elevator in Hay Lakes.

The area children attended Canard School. Mr. Rudolf Lechelt was the teacher.

Christian Lachman supplied firewood to Canard School. It would take him a day to cut a cord of wood with a bucksaw and deliver and pile it. He would



The August Lachman Family. 1915. L. to R.: Grandfather Gottlieb Werner, Albert, August, Emil, Lydia, Gus, Chris, and Rudolph.

receive two dollars per cord delivered. Mother was busy too. She raised turkeys, ducks, and geese and had a very big garden. In winter she would spin wool and knit socks and mitts. She also helped new comers with food and clothing.

In the early days it was impossible to market farm products because the trails were impossibly muddy. After the frost came, the grain, livestock and potatoes were hauled to market in Camrose or Edmonton.

The Weisers from Bittern Lake set up their steam powered threshing machine on the Lachman farm. They required a minimum of ten farms to set up their machine otherwise there was a surcharge of twenty dollars per farm. Some of the neighbours with little grain to thresh brought their grain to the machine.

The first building in Hay Lakes was the store that Lauritz Larson and Lars Maland built. Christian Lachman went to pick-up the lumber from a mill about fourteen miles west of Hay Lakes. When the lumber was loaded, the old batchelor at the sawmill suggested that they both have lunch. Lunch consisted of some whiskey mixed up with a raw egg that the old batchelor offered. It made young Christian shudder, but he drank it down and off he went to Hay Lakes with the lumber for the store.

The railroad arrived before World War I. August Lachman bought a new farm on Section thirty one, close to Hay Lakes. Lumber for the new house was shipped out from Camrose. In the fall of 1917 they purchased a new Maxwell car.

August loved the land and as the years went by, he was able to buy a farm for each of his sons. August died of a ruptured appendix in 1927, at the age of sixty-two.

Lydia married William Lechelt of Nisku. After being widowed again, she moved back to the Hay Lakes District to her son, Chris Lachman's farm. Her little house was moved into Hay Lakes where she resided for a few years. She was a patient in the Good Samaritan Hospital in later years. Lydia died on May 22, 1959, at the age of eighty-six years.

Lachman, Gustav

I was born in 1906 at the Lachman homestead, two miles west, one mile north of Hay Lakes, the fourth son of August and Lydia Lachman. My brothers, Chris, Rudolph, Emil, myself and later, Albert were all to become farmers. So we went from the cradle to the fields. And how we worked, clearing the land.

I went to school at Canard about 1913. School had little meaning in my life because we only went when there wasn't any work at home and believe me, there was always work.

My earliest memory at six-seven years old was the construction of the C.N. Railway. My brother Emil and I went down whenever we could to watch this exciting adventure. There were dozens of men and most of the hard work was done by horses. My Dad sold a lot of hay to the C.N. to feed all those horses. It was a good source of income for him. What I remember the most was the good natured cook the crew had. He always saved a piece of pie for us boys and what a rare treat that was.

When my brother Chris went to Camrose he always insisted I come along, not because he wanted my company but because he wanted me to open all the gates. Roads were unreal then, so full of curves, dips and dives. This was because of sloughs and heavy brush.

Our parents would not like the way we shop today. The grocery shopping at that time went like this: all week long my brothers and I would pound and shake a container, this would make butter. We would gather eggs, clean them and get everything ready. On Saturday, Mother would put on her best hat and off she'd go with the butter and eggs. How she looked forward to wheeling and dealing with Mr. Larsen (the local store man then) in exchange for staples such as coal oil, sugar, salt, etcetera. Mother would sometimes get very excited if the bargaining didn't go her way. But Mr. Larsen knew how to handle his customers, he would just pat her cheek and toss in a bag of candy for her boys and had her all smiling when she left the store.

Mother loved to visit and chat with all the neighbors. The ladies at that time spent hours looking at Eaton's catalogue. It is hard to believe how this pastime entertained the ladies. Today we would call it window shopping.

My closest and dearest friend was Albert Kopf. This friendship lasted throughout his life. We both loved pranks and got into a lot of mischief. Albert loved a good joke.

It was every young boy's dream to own a motorcycle. To earn it I worked at sawing wood, clearing land and working on threshing crews. I earned \$1.00 daily, for ten hours a day, which amounts to ten cents an hour. It was considered a good wage. My first motorcycle was a model called "Indian" which cost \$70.00, a great amount in those days.

It was time to settle down and in 1932 I married Lydia Mittelstadt, eldest daughter of Karl Mittelstadt. Courting Lydia was another adventure. When I would invite her to a picnic or any other event, her brothers and sisters would also be ready. So with the car packed to the rafters, we'd be off.

We settled on the Lachman homestead. With a new bride and Mother living with us many adjust-

ments had to be made. However, about three years later Mother remarried and we were on our own.

Chris and I jointly bought a threshing machine. There were about eight to ten families in our crew. Harvesting for all those families took at least thirty days. It always makes me wonder how the weather co-operated so long, when today it's hard with weather conditions just to get one farm harvested. This method lasted until the combine era.

To compare prices then with today's, my first tractor which included a plow cost \$1400.00. This was paid in three year installments directly to the John Deere Company. We spent about \$1300.00 for our threshing machine. This was also paid in three years directly to the company. Banks were not in style then.

My wife Lydia also attended Canard School. She was the organist at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church at a very early age. Later she continued to play for our new church, Our Savior Lutheran. Fitting into Lydia's family was always exciting. I can honestly say "Never a dull moment". Fence phones, our earliest method of communication was the only way in which she could keep in touch with her family during the long cold winter months. I remember one winter night she missed her sister Sally so much and someone had left a gate open, so that the phone didn't work. I went out to see where the wire didn't connect. All was well when I got back.

We lived in Vancouver for several years, but the little town of Hay Lakes, the loving families and friends always brought us back. We are now retired and living in Hay Lakes.



The Gus Lachman Family, L. to R.: Lana Muir, Dennis Lachman, Lydia Lachman, Ruth Radawetz, Gus Lachman. Missing — Jeannie Huie.

Our children, Ruth born in 1933 lives in Edmonton. Dennis born in 1935, lives in Calmar, Alberta. Virginia (Jeannie) born in 1942 in Nanaimo, B.C. and Lana born in 1950 lives in Victoria, B.C. We have eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ruth Radawetz — I was born in 1933 during the height of the depression. It was delightful to grow up in a small town like Hay Lakes. I was fortunate to experience a touch of the world being lost to us, like riding a sleigh cutter to school, lighting the lamp when evening came, listening for the cowbell so I could fetch the cows from way across the fields. My dad, Gus Lachman, would put my brother Dennis and myself on two binders behind the tractor of which he was the driver. We really had to concentrate so that we didn't miss the rows to dump our bundles.

My younger brother, Dennis was my only companion at home but he refused to play with dolls, so I went trapping weasels with him instead. I also had to hold while he skinned. The odor was overwhelming! We both attended Canard School. Standing out most in my memories of school was recess. When it was my turn to ring the bell I was thrilled. Canard was situated on a grand hill, so the winter months were spent on our sleds, and summers, with games like "Grey Wolf", "Hide and Seek", "Kick the Can" and ballgames galore. Teachers at that time: Mrs. Erna Mittelstadt, Miss Lena Koshman and Mrs. Louise Nordin.

My teen years in the 50's in Hay Lakes were great! St. Stephen's Lutheran church held a vital spot in my life. During the later forties and early fifties we had one of the largest Luther League Groups in Canada, of over fifty people.

Music was the most important part of my younger years. I sang with a trio called "The Ruby Sisters". I was also privileged to be the church organist of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church from 1950-53. My first experience of singing was in the church choir under the very able direction of my Uncle Reins Mittelstadt which so enticed me to choir music that I am still very much involved in it today.

In 1953, I married Julius Radawetz also of Hay Lakes. We settled in Edmonton. Our daughter, Sally Anne, was born in 1953 and is married to Jim Walls, and lives in Calgary. Our second daughter, Barbara, born in 1957 is married to Curtis Sims and lives in Edmonton. David, our youngest, born in 1960 lives at home.

Hay Lakes will always be special and as my dear Grandmother Rost used to say as we would come over the hill back to our town, "There is our wonderful Hay Lakes".

Lachman, Dennis **by Dennis Lachman**

I was born the second child, but only son, of Gus and Lydia Lachman, March 30, 1935. My youngest years were spent growing up on several farms surrounding Hay Lakes and attending Canard School with my sister, Ruth. Except for two short absences to B.C.'s Lower Mainland, once when I was eight years old and the other when I was fourteen years old, we grew up in the, then bustling town of Hay Lakes. Our family of four grew to six with sisters, Virgina (Jeannie) Huie of Nanaimo, B.C. and Lana Muir of Victoria, B.C.

With the opening of the oil fields around the town I began as many other Hay Lakes men to work in the oil fields and other related industries.

In 1956, I married Colleen Hladik of Gwynne. We have three children. Our eldest daughter, Laurie Lee, married Wilf Pipke of Busby and they have a daughter, Amber, two years old. Bonnie Rae and son, Shane, four years old live in Edmonton. Our youngest child, Kevin Keith, at home, attends school in Calmar.

After dairy farming in the Kavanaugh area for a few years we moved to Stony Plain and went into the Laundromat and Ceramics Business. Since divorcing in 1976, I have spent the last five years with companion, Marge, at Enderby in B.C.'s Okanagan Valley. Since July we have been living in Calmar. No matter where one wanders, come July 1st, my thoughts always drift back to Hay Lakes Celebrations and Ball Tournaments of past years.

Lachman, Otto and Ida

I was born to Ludwig and Amelia Lachman, April 5, 1915, in Kipling, Saskatchewan. I was fortunate to get grade eight in our country school, finishing my education in 1930. That was the year the southern part of Saskatchewan started to dry out, with the drought lasting for eight years. We were lucky to have potatoes and milk, plus some relief to live on.

As the trend "go west young man, go west", I did. I went to Rollyview to stay with my two uncles, Karl Roth and Emanuel Roth. The day I arrived, it was about thirty degrees below zero. I nearly froze before I got to Emanuel Roth's house.

I spent the winter of 1934 with them and was taken into the family of four boys and three girls. The boys always had to wrestle with me each evening to see if their muscle expanded during the day. I'm sure Uncle and Auntie were ready to throw us out, for all the noise we made.

For recreation in the winter, there were house parties. The ladies brought lunch, someone a musi-

cal instrument, and the fun began. At one such party, I met Chris Lachman and family. This was the first time I knew there was other relatives living in Hay Lakes.

In 1935 I came to the west Hay Lake District. I worked for Dan Lede. Mr. Lede had a portable hay baler, and after harvest, he took the outfit and some of the local boys baling in the Big Hay Lake until spring. The Federal and Provincial Government bought the hay to send to the drought areas. The wages were \$1.00 a day in 1936. In 1937 we went on strike for higher wages and got \$1.25 a day. We did this for three winters — even baling at Camrose. After supper on a nice night we would walk four miles to town to go to a show.

In the spring of 1937 I started working for the Gus Lachmans, two miles west of Hay Lakes. I was lucky to find such a nice family and had lots of good times. There was a large Luther League, which had many meetings and put on plays. Since everyone walked, the boys usually walked the girls home, which was a highlight of the evening.

Times were hard those years. Sometimes I didn't have twenty-five cents to go to a dance. Reins and Art Mittelstadt, who had an orchestra at that time, told me to go along as one of the players. I couldn't even play a note, but I got in free.

The road west of Hay Lakes was a very wide trail, and after a rain, it was almost impassable. Mr. Roper Senior drove to Hay Lakes in a Model T Ford and always had a harnessed horse tied behind when it was muddy. When he got stuck, he hitched the horse to the car, pulled himself out, unhitched it, and kept driving.

Harvesting in those days was by stook threshing. Chris and Gus Lachman had an outfit and our run was usually from eighteen to twenty-five days. They did their own, plus crops for Emil, Rudolph, and Albert Lachman. We worked hard, but still had time for fun. Some places we slept in the hay loft and the girls helping there were able to swipe our pants and sew the legs shut. Since they were never caught, they must have had help. It was fun to sneak up and tie the bundles to the rack and watch the guy unloading the rack, tug on it, trying to pull it loose. Someone would also tie the back wheels together so they wouldn't turn.

The winters were spent hauling wood, sawing it stove length and then splitting it. Coal was hauled in with horses from Dinant, just north of Camrose. Chimney fires were quite common in early spring, as soot and coal dust formed in the chimney. It was usually a windy day when it started to burn. Early in the spring of 1937, Gus Lachman and I were in town when the Lofgren house caught fire. Hilbert Lechelt,

who was working and living there at the time, saw three freshly baked pies cooling on the open window. He ran upstairs, grabbed the pies and then ran out. "I got the pies for my supper", he said, "so now it can burn". The fire was put out and the house was saved.

Cars in the early 1930's were mostly Chevrolets and Fords. Gas was hauled in forty-five gallon drums from Turner Valley, at about eleven cents a gallon. Lofgren Brothers had the Imperial Oil in Hay Lakes, one of the larger dealers and were also the International Harvester Dealers.

The Lofgrens also operated a 32 Volt power plant, which supplied the Village with power for several years.

In those days we had no stop or yield signs, and very few accidents. There was a fatal accident in 1950, when Mr. Herman Wesenberg and Mr. Sikstrom, driving at night, ran into a train.

An after harvest dance was usually held in Hay Lakes, in the latter part of October. In the fall of 1937 the dance had been well attended. The next morning, the storekeeper, Mr. Larson discovered his store was broken into, and a large quantity of dry goods had been stolen. Even though the times were hard, there were very few crimes.

During the years I spent working at Gus Lachmans, the provincial government paid the farmers \$5.00 a month for hired men and paid \$5.00 a month to the hired man. For that you did chores and helped as much as possible in return for board and room.

In 1939, I met Ida Tonn. She was visiting relatives in Hay Lakes, the Lachmans. Her parents, William and Fredaricka Tonn, from Humboldt, Saskatchewan, and her brother Gus, were down for a week. Mrs. Lydia Lachman Sr. and Mrs. Augustina Mogdans were Mrs. Tonn's sisters. The Lachman brothers were her nephews. We were married November 12, 1942.

In 1943, we moved to the former Gus Hein farm, west of Hay Lakes. I worked for Gus Lachman again, and kept what was raised on the farm for my wages. We got five chickens from Emil Lachman, two sows from Gus Lachman and a little calf from Albert Lachman for doing chores. Later we bought a cow from Mrs. Mogdan and our stock was complete.

The house we moved into had been vacant (except for skunks) for a number of years, and we had a lot of fixing and fencing to do. We shot nine skunks the first year.

As money was scarce until we got our first harvest, we put in a large garden, and lived on eggs, for breakfast, dinner and supper. Adolph Mittelstadt had the store in Hay Lakes and told us to buy whatever we needed and charge it, paying it off in the fall. Bless him. We did that for a couple of years, even paying



Otto and Ida Lachman.

part of our bill with potatoes the second year. Adolph helped many families with his kindness.

There were lots of barn dances and house parties. Oscar Mallas built a new barn, and had F.U.A. dances there. Also Henry Zucht used his large barn. Mr. and Mrs. Emil Keil had parties at the Hotel for New Year's.

In 1945, we bought a second hand 1929 Model A for \$245.00. Mr. Ewald Erickson had the garage in town, and I took the car there to be repaired. I walked to town every day to help fix the car, which they practically rebuilt. They did a good job, for we had that car for fifteen years.

Our eldest daughter was born in 1946. In the spring of 1947, we moved to Camrose. We farmed there for twenty-five years, then sold the farm, and moved into Camrose, where we are semi-retired.

Betty is married to Ken Leonhardt and lives in Drumheller. They have three children. Our other daughter, Sandra, is married to Wayne Nelson. They live in Camrose and have one son.

We enjoyed the years we lived in the Hay Lakes area. With all the relations, our cousins, the Lachman brothers, Ida's aunts, Mrs. Lydia Lachman Sr. and Mrs. Mogdan and her uncle Mr. Albert Werner (her mother's brother), and their families, we were

never lonely. Also we made many friends and remember the good times we had with them.

Lechelt, Albert Jr.

by Evelyn Rogers (nee Lechelt)

Albert James Jr. and Marilyn bought the Lechelt home farm in 1979 (NW4-49-22-W4). Albert worked at the Camrose Pipe Mill from 1964 to 1966. He moved to Witby, Ontario where he worked at Lasco Steel Mill for a year and a half. He moved back to Hay Lakes and started working at Stelco Steel Mill in Edmonton and worked on the farm. He married Marilyn on February 14, 1970 and moved to Edmonton for six months. They returned to the farm and do the farming while continuing to work at Stelco Steel Mill. Albert Jr. and Marilyn were married in Our Saviors Lutheran Church by Pastor Otto Frank. They have three children, Tammy Lynn was born April 21, 1970 in Edmonton. Albert Arlin was born October 23, 1973 in Edmonton. Tanya Susanne was born October 30, 1974. All three children attend Hay Lakes School.

Albert Jr. and Marilyn purchased Edmund Frederick's farm in 1971. Edmund and his brother Ernest moved to Camrose until Ernest's passing. Edmund returned to live with Albert Jr. and family until 1980 and now resides in the Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose. Albert Jr. and Marilyn purchased Carl Hintz's farm in 1978. Albert Jr. is a member of Fish and Wildlife of Hay Lakes. Albert enjoys fishing, bird and big game hunting. His quality time spent with his family is done in the living room, playing guitar and singing for and with his family. We're happy to announce the dogs no longer howl when he plays and sings.

I remember when Albert Jr. built the cow-barn. When he and brothers Edgar and Vernon got the sand from the pasture for the foundation and floor, they



Albert Lechelt Jr. Family: Albert Arlin, Marilyn, Albert Jr., Tammy, and Tanya.

dug tunnels for yards. When Albert Sr. came to the farm for a visit they took him out to show him the tunnels. Albert Sr. got down on his knees and crawled in. He was several yards into a tunnel when they heard a muffled call. He'd gotten stuck and lost in the many forks. They helped to get him out.

Lechelt, Albert Sr.

by Evelyn Rogers (nee Lechelt)

Albert Lechelt Sr. was born April 6, 1906 near Nisku, Alberta, the oldest son of Charles and Helena Lechelt. At the age of three the family moved to the New Sarepta area. Albert lived with Helena's parents near Nisku to attend school. When he was older he attended Canard School. He married Erna Diewert on April 15, 1932, second oldest daughter of Edward and Adella Diewert. They resided at the Charles Lechelt home on the farm for one year. Albert and Erna bought the farm six miles west of Hay Lakes in 1933. They have twelve children, twenty-three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Our favorite Sunday afternoons were spent playing baseball in the summer. We used to make so much racket the neighbors came over to join us, ending up with a picnic.

In the winter we spent our Sunday afternoon's singing and playing instruments. Albert Sr. bought a violin, mandolin, guitar and an old accordion and told the children to leave them alone. All the kids learned to play them on the sly. He knew what he was doing! Sometimes the noise was so bad the dogs would howl and the old tom-cat would climb the curtain. After a while the instruments would end up in the corners. The music did get better. Albert Sr. lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

Erna was born May 6, 1913 near New Sarepta. She is the second oldest of nine children of Edward and Addella Diewert. At age seven years her family moved to The Dalls, Oregon for nine months, then moved back to the same farm. She attended New Sarepta Rural School. Her classmates knew her as Annie. She did a lot of visiting their neighbors, with her sisters and brothers while the parents were away, but were always sent home. They didn't approve of their means of transportation — apple boxes put on wheels, six in a row, fastened together with an upset doghouse in the lead, pulled by a horse. Erna lives on the farm, bought by Albert Jr. in 1979, in her own self-contained suite. She is still active doing the chores and as she jokingly says "throwing the cows over the fence some hay."

Albert and Erna's oldest child was born May 28, 1933 — Alfred Albert. He died December 7, 1933, resting in the Hay Lakes Cemetery.

Arthur Reinhardt was born May 3, 1934 near Hay



Erna Lechelt and Albert Lechelt Sr. 1942. Children: Arthur, Fred, Evelyn, Rubin, Edwin.

Lakes. Arthur married Ester Weber in 1957. They have three children, James, Conrad, and Roxanne — and one grandchild.

Ralph (Fred) Frederick was born December 18, 1935 near Hay Lakes. Fred married Pearl Weber in 1966, they have two children, Daniel and Janice.

Evelyn Helen was born August 31, 1937 near Hay Lakes. Evelyn married Edwin Hunter in 1966. She has two children. Cindy and Clint, four stepchildren, one grandchild. Evelyn married Richard Rogers in 1977 and lives in Fox Creek, Alberta.

Rubin Alexander was born September 4, 1939 near Hay Lakes. Rubin married Maxine Stang. Two children Correna and Barbara-Ellen and three grandchildren comprise their family.



Albert Lechelt Sr. Family 1957. L. to R.: Albert Jr., Agnes and Harold. Front: Edgar, Eleanor, Vernon.

Edwin Erwin was born May 20, 1941 near Hay Lakes. Edwin married Margaret Knight in 1966. Two children also bless this family — Teresa and Jeffery.

Albert James Jr. was born July 20, 1945 near Hay Lakes. Albert Jr. married Marilyn Mellot in 1970. They have three children Tammy, Albert Arlin, and Tanya. They live on the home farm at Hay Lakes, Alberta.

Harold was born January 9, 1947 in Edmonton. Harold is single and lives in Edmonton.

Agnes Alice was born June 26, 1948 in Camrose. Agnes married Robert Steele in 1969. Their three children are June, Sharon and Robert Jr. They live in Kingston, Ontario.

Edgar Richard was born December 20, 1949 in Edmonton. Edgar married Diane Baer in 1974. They have a son and daughter — Tracy and Amanda.

Carl Vernon was born August 9, 1950 in Camrose. Vernon married Lynda Ropcean in 1978. Evan and Carrie are their children.

Eleanor Margaret was born February 5, 1953 in Camrose. Eleanor married Donald Clarke in 1977. They have two children — Sheila and David.

Arthur being the oldest attended Canard School, but the next four, Fred, Evelyn, Rubin and Edwin attended both Canard and Hay Lakes Schools. The rest of the family attended only Hay Lakes School, as Canard was moved and the children were bussed into town.

The Arthur and Fred Lechelt families live on acreages at Sherwood Park. The families of Reuben, Edwin, Edgar, Vernon and Eleanor live in Sherwood Park.

Lechelt, Carl C.

Mr. Carl C. Lechelt was born in Volhynia, Russia, on May 11, 1880, of German descent. He came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Lechelt, in the spring of 1892. The family of nine settled in the Nisku district.

On July 16, 1905, Carl married Helen Burghardt, also of Nisku. They made their first home on a farm adjoining his father's. In 1907, however, Mr. Lechelt took up a homestead at New Sarepta, on which he erected a log cabin that served as their home for six years.

Land was cleared of heavy bush with a grub hoe and axe, and broken by horses pulling a breaking plough. The only hay that was available for the team of horses and two cows was wild slough grass, which Mr. Lechelt and his wife cut by hand with a scythe, coiled to dry, and then stacked by hand.

Wild berries, which were plentiful in those days, were the only fruit Mrs. Lechelt could preserve for the winter months; canned fruits on store shelves

were a convenience of the distant future. Wild ducks, geese, partridges, and prairie chickens, plentiful in summer, and jack rabbits in winter, were their primary sources of meat. Since both Mr. and Mrs. Lechelt were avid hunters, "marketing" was also their recreation.

Mr. Lechelt also hunted coyote for their pelts. The price of furs and rat skins provided a substantial income for the family. On one occasion, Mr. Lechelt carried his game, a coyote, slung over his shoulder for many miles, wading through deep snow. Upon arriving home, hungry, exhausted, and icicles hanging from his moustache, he flung his limp trophy into the woodshed and went into the house to eat and rest. After some hours Mrs. Lechelt sent Ida, who was about five or six, to fetch some dry firewood. When she opened the woodshed door, she looked directly into the face of a bewildered, pacing coyote. She was so frightened to see this fierce animal at such close range, that she barely managed to close the shed door before racing back to the house to tell her mother why she was unable to bring her wood.

The family continued to prosper, and so did the area. By 1913 Lechelts had many new neighbours: the Hodgson family on the north; the John Handke family to the east; and John Mittelstadt to the south.

The Lechelts had four children at this time. There were Albert and Walter, who were born at Nisku, and Alice and Ida, who were born in the log cabin at New Sarepta. They found that the family had outgrown the cabin, so they built a new house. Frank Hodgson, their neighbour, was the carpenter.

Since all new settlers were poor and there was no church building in the area, the Lechelt home served as the house of worship for several years. The pastor travelled from Leduc every other Sunday, by horse and buggy in summer, and horse and cutter in winter. There was a special chair reserved for the pastor's use only. Later, St. Stephen's Lutheran Church was built approximately four miles from the Lechelt home. Mr. Lechelt served on church council. He also served on the municipal council for many years and took an active part in various community affairs.

As more settlers became a part of this community, schooling became a necessity. Canard School, a single classroom with a cloakroom, was built four miles from the Lechelt home. It stood on a gently sloping hill, along with a small red barn, which had stalls for four horses, two privies, and a neatly stacked pile of wood. This school, though fondly remembered, was replaced with a larger, many-windowed building, which in turn was not used after school buses started transporting students to larger, central schools.

The Lechelt family continued to prosper finan-

cially and also grew in numbers. In 1918, Mr. Lechelt purchased his first automobile, a Maxwell. This car became the focus of a very humorous incident in the Lechelt history. To help make ends meet during the depression, Mrs. Lechelt, a resourceful and diligent worker, sold butter, eggs, and fowl at the Edmonton Public Market. This meant a trip by car to the city every Saturday. Since the older children attended Saturday Bible studies and could not babysit, Mrs. Lechelt left her baby at Mrs. Pointer's house in the city while she sold her produce.

One Saturday, a heavy rain fell and turned the dirt roads into seas of mud. At one point during the journey home, even mud chains would not help move the car through the deep ruts. So Mrs. Lechelt left her baby, Edgar, in the back seat where she had been riding and got out to push. And push she did! The car started going again and left Mr. Lechelt so excited that he forgot to stop to let his wife back into the car. After several miles of mud-ploughing and involvement in a one-sided conversation, he finally stopped at Hodgson's gateway. As he turned to smile with relief at his wife, an astonished Mr. Lechelt realized he was alone with the baby. It was quite some time before Mrs. Lechelt could smile as she spoke of the incident.

The Wensel's General Store in New Sarepta was a great blessing to the surrounding area. It extended credit to its patrons when they had no money to pay for food and clothes. The L. Larson General Store at Hay Lakes was seven miles farther, which was a long distance by horse and buggy over winding dirt roads.

In 1926, Mr. Lechelt purchased a Waterloo tractor. With the help of Albert and Walter, his oldest sons, who were eager to exercise their skills and strength, the bush and prairies were transformed into cultivated land. The hand plough was thereafter used for cultivating the garden and potato patch.

In time, Mr. Lechelt acquired three quarter sections of land in the nearby area. One quarter is still owned and farmed by his oldest son, Albert, and his family.

Mr. Lechelt eventually bought his own threshing machine. His family, with the help of one hired man, operated three or four bundle teams as were required. This meant no more waiting for the Ted Kalis steam-engine threshing crew to get the crop off after the snow had fallen.

Mrs. Lechelt and Alice did the cooking while Ida and Herta operated a bundle team at harvest time. Everybody had to work very hard, but they were happy.

Walter was especially good at cheering people up with his "Jimmy Rogers yodelling" and recitation of

poems. One of the poems with which he entertained the young people went as follows:

Mr. Moses killed a skunk
Mrs. Moses cooked a hunk
Little Moses ate a chunk
Holy Moses how he stunk

In 1929 there were five Lechelt children attending public school. The walking distance, four miles one way, was considered too great a hardship in cold winter, so the family moved to the Leduc district where the Sunnyvale school was situated on Mr. Lechelt's land. A beautiful home was established where the family spent many happy years together.

Mr. and Mrs. Lechelt lived to see some of the greatest changes taking place in a life time: from horse and plough and seeding grain by hand to power machinery and combine; from wash tub and glass washboard to electric washer and dryer; from ice house in which to store meats during hot summer weather to deep freeze; from horse and buggy and sleigh to automobile; from gramophone to radio and then television; from milking cows by hand to electric milking machines; from coaloil lamps and lanterns to brilliant electric lights at the flick of a switch; from barbed wire telephone to phones in every household.

The pioneers accepted these modern conveniences with appreciation and thanksgiving. However, the serenity that prevailed then, providing time for morning prayer and evening family devotions, and the awareness of man's full dependence upon God, seems to evade men in this period of affluence.

Mr. Lechelt died Janury 29, 1961, and Mrs.



The Carl C. Lechelt Family 1954. L. to R., Back Row: Walter, Albert, Arthur, Edgar, Charles. Row Two: Alice, Beatrice, Ida, Helen, Edith, Herta, Lily. Carl C. and Helene Lechelt. Pictures on the wall are the parents of Mr. Lechelt.

Lechelt died February 14, 1973. They were buried in the Nisku cemetery, on land which was donated by Grandfather Karl Lechelt. Surviving members of the Karl Lechelt family are: Mrs. Lydia Burghardt of Wetaskiwin, Mrs. Martha Grigat of Leduc, and Mrs. Adolf Lechelt of Edmonton.

The family members presently residing in Edmonton are Albert, Ida, Edgar, and Alice (Mrs. Ewald Jeske). Herta (Mrs. Otto Grigat) and Edith (Mrs. Richard Harsch) live in Leduc; Lily (Mrs. Rudolph Schultz) in Camrose; Arthur in Devon; Helen (Mrs. Lawrence Grigat) in Ponoka; Charles in New Sarepta. Beatrice (Mrs. Francis Riley) died September 3, 1965.

Lede, Daniel and Albertina by Esther (Lede) Richmond

Born in Volhynia, Poland, in 1895, Daniel Lede immigrated to Rollyview, Alberta, at the age of eight, living there until the age of 22, when he bought a farm in Hay Lakes in 1918.

In 1919, he married Albertina Knopp and took his bride to his new log home of which he was justly proud. Being mechanically minded he devised electric lights powered by a 6V Windcharger and battery for which he built his own propeller, giving him one electric light in his log home. He elaborated on this idea and used a 32V Windcharger and batteries and his own propeller and had complete electricity in his new home built in 1938. He did custom baling throughout central Alberta with his baler which he converted into a gasoline powered baler.

In the fall of 1927, Daniel's parents moved into another smaller home on the farm. His father,



Albertina and Dan Lede and Family. Olga, Evelyn, Lawrence, Esther.

Friedrich, died in 1928, and his mother lived with the family until her death in 1945.

In 1936, a new barn was erected with the help of many neighbors and friends, later this was to be the site of many neighborhood barn dances.

Daniel and Albertina raised four children: three daughters, Olga, Esther, and Evelyn, and one son, Lawrence. They were members of St. Stephens Lutheran Church with Albertina being president of the Ladies Aid for a number of years.

Their oldest daughter, Olga married Lawrence Henrickson of the Armena district, now living in Kelowna, B.C. They have five children: Douglas of Armena, Ronald in Calgary, Shirley in Leduc, Jerry of Regina, and Eleanor of Kelowna.

Esther married James Richmond of Ponoka, now living in New Norway, having one son, James living in Raleigh, N. Carolina.

Evelyn married Albert Birtch of Vancouver, now living in Schelt, B.C. had five children; Kenneth and Linda in Edmonton, Stephen in Merritt, B.C., Catherine and Gordon in Kelowna, B.C.

Lawrence married Barbara Morgan of New Norway, living in New Norway had five children: Bruce, Roxanne, Cheryl and Douglas in New Norway, and Deane in Camrose.

In 1947, the Ledes sold their farm and moved to New Norway, where they resided until their deaths, Albertina passing away in 1963, and Daniel in 1970.

Lede, Friedrich

Friedrich Lede was born in Germany. As a youngster, his parents moved to Poland because they wanted to buy land and it was to be more available and cheaper. There he met and married Ida Arillia Winkleman. They had ten children. The two oldest Amalia and Oillie, died in Europe.

In those days everyone worked in the fields, which was done by hand. Mother's packed their babies with them and only stopped to nurse a child. At night they slept on straw pallets for a mattress. As they were still renting land, they moved back to Germany, where his brother-in-law, William Winkleman, wrote from Canada, telling of all the land available for homesteading. Friedrich prayed to God for guidance. A voice said for him to go, but he still held off and drew straws. After the third straw in favor of Canada, they came.

They homesteaded east of Leduc, now known as Rollyview. Here the youngest child, Martha, was born and died as a young girl. Carl married but died in his early forties. Maria left home at fourteen and worked in Edmonton. She married an American by the name of Handley and moved to a ranch near Glasgow, Montana. Wilhelm married Lydia Kitz-

man and Daniel married Alberina Knopp. The two sisters, Ernestina and Ida both married Knopp brothers, Gotlieb and Edward. All four couples settled on homesteads west of Hay Lakes. Hulda Lede married Emanuel Rode (Roth) and farmed not far from her parent's homestead. After all their children were born and in school, they sold and moved to the Hay Lakes district.

Friedrich and his wife Ida Arillia retired to a small house on the yard of son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lede. Here he died at seventy-two years of age. Ida lived in her little house for many years, babysat Olga and Ester Lede and did what she could. We all loved to visit her and listen to stories of the old country and the hard times they had to endure. She also spoke of the Gospel and tried to make upright and Christian people of us all, to carry on to the next generation. She was a strong person for her age, mentally and physically, she even split her own fire wood a few days before she died at the age of eighty-four years.

Lede, Wilhelm and Lydia

by Mrs. Wm. Lede (nee Florence Wesenberg)
and Hedwig (Lede) Erickson

Wilhelm Lede was born to Friedrich and Ida (nee Winkelman) Lede, on December 27, 1890 in Wolynsk, Russia. The family moved to Canada in 1903 and settled on a farm in the Rolly View district.

There were ten children in the family. As the children married and became self-supporting, most of them moved to the Hay Lakes district. On their retirement the parents also joined them and lived on their son Dan's place until their death.

As a young man, Wilhelm worked in Edmonton at the Walter Lumber Co. He met Lydia Kitzman in the city and they were married in Trinity Lutheran



The Wilhelm Lede Family, about 1937. L. to R.: Hedwig, Wilhelm and Lydia, Elsa, Hilda. Front: William, Herbert and Ernest.

Church, Strathcona, on December 2, 1914. They then moved out to a farm, five and one-half miles southwest of Hay Lakes.

Lydia was born to Julius and Pauline (nee Hintz) Kitzman on May 9th, 1896, in Wolynsk, Russia. They moved to Edmonton in 1909 and lived in the Ritchie district. They had ten children, but only three daughters survived and came to Canada with them. After retirement the parents lived with Wilhelm and Lydia on the farm until the death of Pauline. Julius then lived with his daughter, Caroline, until his death.

Eight children were born to Wilhelm and Lydia. Two died in infancy. They built a two-room log house at the north end of their farm. They used one portion for themselves and the other half for their livestock. After one year they relocated and built a four-roomed log house beside Rushy Lake. Later on they added a kitchen on the north side. Other owners since have added onto this house, but it is still standing today. A ditch was made and Rushy (Washing) Lake was drained into Big Hay Lake. It has been dry land for many years.

In the twenties, Wilhelm and his brother Dan bought a threshing machine and did custom threshing. On those days people would haul their stooks of grain and stock them in their yards. That was so they could thresh after the snow came and one year Wilhelm did not come home until the night before Christmas. The family belonged to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church which he had helped to build.

When we were quite young, Father and Mother would drive all the way to Rolly View with horses and sleigh before Christmas to get a tree from the Grandparents' farm. There weren't many roads so they took a short cut where Big Hay Lake starts. The days were quite short and we got lost, so Father let the horses go where they wanted and they took us home.

Christmas Eve, the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, — three miles west of Hay Lakes — had a program for the children. We each, or in groups, went in front and said a recitation and sang songs. Beside the pulpit they put up a big tree that almost reached the ceiling. They put tinsel and ornaments on it and real wax candles. While they passed out bags of treats to the children the candles were lit and it was a beautiful sight. The council men stood by with long sticks and when a candle burned down they put it out.

At home, Christmas was in the German style. The folks decorated the tree, then the children sang some Christmas songs and got their gifts. We were taught that the gifts came from the Christ Kind.

Father was a good family man — also a very handy man — and did carpentry, mechanics, blacksmithing etc. He built kitchen cupboards for relatives

and us. It was about four feet wide and seven feet high with two shelves on top and two on the bottom. He had fancy scroll work. He sharpened his plow shares and made hinges for the barn doors and gates on the place. When our shoes wore out, he repaired them and could even bake bread if Mother was sick. In winter he went out and brought in frozen willows and peeled them to make baskets. He made a frame and handle. The rest he split into strips over his knees and then wove it into a basket with a special design at the handle.

Mother had a spinning wheel to spin wool which she knitted into stockings, socks, mitts, and scarves for the family. She also sewed our dresses and the underclothes which were made from bleached flour sacks. Our bed sheets were also made of flour sacks sewn together. She baked a lot of bread and at Christmas time she put raisins in it with sugar and cinnamon on top.

If they butchered an animal when the weather wasn't real cold, they would put it in brine in a crock and put it down the well, where Father had built a shelf. The well was about three feet across and water fifteen feet or so from the top. The shelf was about twelve feet, so they put a ladder down and tied a rope to my oldest sister who went down to bring up some meat.

To raise chickens we set some clucking hens on eggs in the attic of our chicken barn. If the eggs hatched it was fine, but to throw away the rotten eggs that didn't hatch was a smelly, messy job if they broke. The turkeys we had, went across the road to nest and hatched the eggs in the neighbor's bush. In fall we had to round up all the turkeys and by then they were pretty wild.

Lydia, besides doing the many things that every



Wilhelm Lede farm home at Hay Lakes.

pioneer housewife had to do, also helped with cutting and raking of the hay, and cutting the grain for as long as they used horse-drawn machinery.

The family circumstances changed very much when Father developed cataracts on his eyes and was blinded in the prime of his life. Most of the farm work had to be done by the children. After a few years he had an operation and some of his sight returned. He passed away April 19, 1949. After several years Lydia and her son Ernest sold the farms in Hay Lakes and moved to the Leduc area, settling in the Fredricksheim district. She lived there until the time of her death November 6, 1973.

Elsa, the oldest daughter of Wilhelm and Lydia married Rudolph Stebner in 1936. They lived on a farm in the Nisku area for a few years. They then moved to Leduc where Rudolph was involved with his construction Company. They now lived in Edmonton.

They had seven children. Two sons, Arnie and Len died as young men. The oldest daughter, Doris, married Don Urquart. He works for an oil Company in Calgary, where they live. They have four children. Eleanor and her husband, Garth Hampson have two children. They live in Ottawa, where Garth is the vocalist with the R.C.M.P. band. Lillian lives in Edmonton with her husband Walter Lechelt. He works at Healy Motors. They have four children. The oldest son, Donald Stebner, and his wife, Marlene, have two children. They live in Calgary where Don works with Heating and Air Conditioning. Randy and his wife, Ann live in Edmonton. He works for the Utilities Company as a computer systems analyst.

Hedwig Erickson is the second daughter of Wilhelm and Lydia. Their daughter Hildegard married John Fulford and they live in Summerland, B.C.

Hilda Lede married Louis Schoepp, a Lutheran clergyman and they have served several congregations in Central Alberta. They are now living in Edmonton and enjoying Louis' retirement. They had four children. Their son Wayne died at the age of eight. Their daughter Louise lives in Pineview Residence and does volunteer work at the Misericordia Hospital. Ted married Dixie and they have two children. They own a Red Rooster Store in Kelowna. Tim and his wife Marilyn live in Edmonton. They have three children and Tim is an electrician with the C.N.R.

The oldest son of Wilhelm and Lydia, William (Bill) married Florence Wesenberg in 1946. They moved to Leduc, where he began developing the Leduc Construction Company. He was president and manager of the company for thirty-three years. Bill was a member of the Leduc Town Council for twenty-

four years, serving twelve of them as Mayor. In 1977, Bill received a certificate of appreciation from the A.U.M.A. after twenty-one years in volunteer civic service.

Bill and Florence have four children. Dave, who is married to Marlene Bishop has one son, Richard, and they live in Edmonton. Lydia, lives on a farm near Leduc with her husband, Gary Hackney, where they train horses in their spare time. Cliff lives in Edmonton. Both sons are employed with the construction co. Their youngest daughter, Diane is enrolled in the Medical program at the University of Alberta. Bill passed away in September of 1980.

Ernest lives on his farm and is manager of L.B.L. (Lede Brothers) farms. The operation of the farm consists of raising purebred Hereford cattle and grain farming. Ernest enjoyed curling as a sport for many years. He belongs to Peace Lutheran Church in Leduc and has served on the Church Council for several years.

Herb and his wife, Pat, live in this area also. They have two children — Jennifer and Mark — who are attending school in Leduc. Herb has been involved with heavy construction and has been a partner with his brother in the Leduc Construction Company Ltd., for many years. He also enjoys helping Ernest with the farming operations of L.B.L. farms of which he is a partner.

Lenz, Arthur and Helen (nee Gehlert) **written by their daughter Shirley**

While farming at Brightview (near Wetaskiwin) my father met "my mother to be" at Golden Spike (near Spruce Grove). They were married at Golden Spike on June 15, 1937 but continued farming at Brightview until 1943. It was there that three of their seven children were born, Lillian, Melvin and Ruth. They then purchased a farm at Golden Spike and lived there until 1951. Here the family increased by three more; Ernie, Walter and myself. In 1951 we moved to Bruderheim and farmed there until 1956, at which time we moved to Edmonton with the final addition to the family, Robert.

In Edmonton my father worked for the City of Edmonton and the Department of Immigration, but as he could not get farming out of his system he began searching for another farm. On November 11, 1960 Mom and Dad, Ernie, Walter, Robert and myself moved to Hay Lakes, purchasing the farm of Reinhold Summers (originally Gus Mittelstadt's farm).

My parents always remember the warm welcome they received from their neighbours. In the summer of 1962 many neighbours and relatives joined in



Arthur and Helen Lentz 1962, 25th Wedding Anniversary.
Albert Gehlert and Emma Winter.

celebrating my parents' twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

In October of 1965 my parents moved to an acreage three miles south of Sherwood Park. Here my mother enjoyed her smaller gardens and flower beds. She passed away on March 3, 1969. My father was employed by the Edmonton Public School Board until September, 1979 when he retired. He now resides in an apartment in Sherwood Park.

Lerke, August by Ernest Lerke



Christine and August Lerke, children: Otto, Dorothy, Helen.

Christine Hein arrived in the Canard School District in 1905 at the age of eleven, to reside on her father's homestead. August Lerke came to the area in 1913. They were married that same year. They had four children — Helen, Dorthea, Otto, and Ernest. They also lived ten years in Hay Lakes before leaving the area in 1940.

Some memories of early homesteading days — log buildings, scarecrows in grainfields to keep blackbirds away, and the team of oxen running into a slough to get away from the insects, and having to be coaxed out with a pail of grain so work could be continued.

Lumpe, Bernhard

I was born February 20, 1928 in Krasnajarischka, Ukraine, the fourth child of eight born to Friedrich and Kathrina Lumpe. In the Ukrainian schooling system, I attended school to the fifth grade.

On October 17, 1943, we fled the war-stricken Ukraine by means of horse and wagon, and on foot, to arrive in Poland, March 13, 1944 to begin a more pleasant life. There I found work planting and caring for spruce trees from April 1944 to August 3, 1944. On August 4, 1944, I left Poland and planned to attend Agriculture School in Germany. On May 8, 1945 the war ended and what a relief it was for a young fellow like myself. I then worked on a farm in Bavaria, Germany (Krautostheim near Nuernberg) and also attended school one day per week for several years.

After years of searching for family and relatives, aided by the Red Cross, I was able to learn that I had two uncles and one aunt and their families in Hay Lakes, Alberta, Canada. I had a great desire to see my relatives and Canada. My uncle, Mr. Adolph Huebner was willing to sponsor me for my immigration to Canada, to whom I am forever indebted.

I left Bremen, West Germany, on the ship S.S. Beaverbrey, and landed in Quebec, P.Q. on June 8, 1950. I then travelled by Canadian Pacific Railways to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and then travelled to Hay Lakes, Alberta, by Canadian National Railways arriving June 12, 1950.

I earned my first dollar, hauling sand for the foundation of the now, older section of the Hay Lakes School. I prized my first dollar in Canada which was paid by Mr. "Dick" Gellert on June 13 or 14, 1950. That summer I helped Mr. Arnold Huebner of New Sarepta for a few days planting seed on his farm, and Mr. Leonard Schneider of Nisku for the remainder of the summer doing general farm work. That winter I worked in the Rabbit Hill coal mine, paying room

and board to Mr. and Mrs. William Sutherland, half a mile from the coal mine. For the next three years I helped Mr. Edward Schneider and family, and Mr. William Schneider and family in the summers, (I couldn't resist their generous hospitality) and worked the winters in the coal mine.

Having found the country of my choice, I now needed choice company.

Irmgard Lumpe (nee Mueller)

I made my appearance in the world on April 24, 1926 in a small town in Germany. Here I grew up, was educated and later went to work. In 1953, a girlfriend and I decided to cross the ocean for a view of Canada. My fare was paid for by my husband-to-be. It was a sunny May 10th, when we docked in Montreal. After four days on the train, we arrived in Edmonton, where I parted company with Eva who continued on to Prince George, B.C. On September 5, 1953 in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Edmonton, Bernhard and I were married. Our first home was in Rabbit Hill, where Bernhard worked in the coal mine. Keeping house, gardening and feeding the sparrows was not enough to occupy my whole day. Early one morning, after seeing Bernhard off to work, I sat down to sew a suit, and discovered a lack of thread. Being a self-reliant person, I grabbed my purse and began to stroll to the nearest store — which happened to be in Edmonton. It was five o'clock before my blistered feet found relief at home in a tub of hot water. Our time in Rabbit Hill was enjoyable and on April 6,

1955 our first daughter, Ingrid Elsa Kathrina was born, in the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

In April of 1956 Bernhard began working for Canadian National Railways and we moved to Edmonton. We built and moved into our own house October 1956. My time was occupied with our new home and child. It was fortunate that the baby clothes were kept in storage, as Bernice Isabel was born on "Mother's Day" May 10, 1959. Ralph Bernard entered the world on March 30, 1963, exactly eight years less one week after Ingrid. Bernice and Ralph were also born in the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Since Bernhard and I both enjoyed the country life, it was in 1964 we decided to sell our house in Edmonton. On May 8, 1965 we purchased our farm in Hay Lakes from George and Olga Schultz. SE-3-49-22

Ingrid currently lives in Edmonton, Alberta and has been the production manager of a monthly magazine, is a business partner in an advertising company, and is looking for new challenges.

Bernice, also in Edmonton, Alberta works for the Government of Alberta and is hoping for a career in photography.

Ralph has just graduated from Hay Lakes High School and is currently considering various career goals.

The Mallas Family

Adam Mallas arrived in Edmonton, Canada from Volhynia, Russia, in 1912. In 1914 he was joined by his wife, Bertha, and three children, Olga (6 yrs.), Oscar (4 yrs.) and Paul (2 yrs.) and brother Ludwig. As 1914 was the beginning of the first World War, the trip across was made on a neutral Holland ship. I, Oscar, at a little over four years of age can still remember the ship being stopped at sea by war ships and a huge storm at sea where the waves swept over the huge liner.

After some months of drifting, the Mallas family, in 1915, moved on the Chris Lachman farm (SW 31-48-22-W4) and by this time the family had increased by one (Otto, born in Rolly View). There Adam helped clear land and helped harvest in the fall.

In 1917 Adam Mallas decided to move to a city to give his children a better opportunity for an education. So off they moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan where Adam had a married sister. His brother Ludwig went to a small town in Saskatchewan where he later passed away. While in Saskatoon the family was increased by one boy Arthur and two girls, Martha and Margaret. During their eleven year stay in Saskatoon Adam worked most of the time for the C.N.R. In



The Bernhard Lumpe Family: Irmgard and Bernhard Lumpe, Bernice, Ralph, Ingrid.



The Adam Mallas Family — 1927. L. to R., Back: Oscar, Adam, Bertha, Paul. Second Row: Arthur, Otto. Front: Martha, Olga, Margaret.

the fall of 1927 the economy started falling and he was laid off.

In the spring of 1928 they decided to try farming and chose to go to Sturgeon Valley (a Postal Area) northwest of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, where he took up a homestead and bought an adjoining quarter of land. They farmed until 1948, at which time he retired, moved to Hay Lakes, and bought a house from Mrs. Emilie Schmidt. (now Randy Paul's house). After some illness Adam passed away in 1949.

His widow Bertha and son Arthur then alternated their home by living in Hay Lakes during winter and farming in Saskatchewan in summer. She passed away in 1960 at Prince Albert.

I, Oscar Mallas, came to Hay Lakes in the early spring of 1931 along with Dan Hohm and Max Gerull with the intention of taking up homesteads north of Evansburg. However our lust for homesteading died the first day. We took the train from Edmonton and arrived in Evansburg before day light, then walked twelve miles north, stopping for lunch at a friend of Dan's, and then walked another six miles further.

After resting our weary feet, we walked all the way back to Evansburg, arriving after sunset, and caught the train back to Edmonton with all thoughts of homesteading out of our minds.

Jobs in early spring were practically non-existent so we stayed with Henry Bittner's. (Mrs. Bittner was Dan Hohm's sister; SW30-48-22-W4) and while there helped build a much needed log barn. When spring arrived we were fortunate enough to get work at Otto Metzgers farm (now Waldemar Metzker's) picking roots at \$1.00 per ten hour day which lasted two weeks. Then another week picking roots for Herman Wesenberg.

Times were hard with no jobs, so we had to create our own. Helmut These (father of Otto and Bruno) wanted land cleared but had no money, but offered plenty to eat. So we contracted to clear twenty acres of land for him, the price being ten bushels of wheat per acre — five bushels the first year and five the second. After working long hours and after the last wheat was sold we averaged about \$1.00 per day, however we were satisfied as Mrs. These fed us well and we had some place to sleep. We then made a similar contract with Ed Knopp and then did brushing for the Municipality of Leduc which kept us busy for the summer. During harvest time I worked for Chris Lachman (Rodney Rost's farm) earning \$25.00 per month, stooking and driving his team at August Rost's threshing machine. That fall we threshed for thirty days.

During the winter of 1931-32, Dan and I spent some time at Gus Wahls but in spring I returned to Chris Lachman's where I stayed until I started on my own. The pay was \$200 for eight months work. The other four months I helped with chores for room and board which was greatly appreciated and enjoyed as I was able to get involved in community activities.

Recreation at the time was mostly self-made. A lot of it centered around the Church. There was a Young People's Society and a choir that met one evening a week in the church basement. During the winter at least one program was put on by the young people which included plays, skits, choir songs, and debates. During the summer softball was the thing. The men's team was called the Maroons (all wore maroon colored shirts) and the ladies' team was sometimes called the Canaries. There was a lot of walking done attending local and neighboring picnics to play ball. When it was necessary to go farther afield, August Rost, who farmed and trucked, was hired to haul us on his truck. As there were no gravel roads in those days, many-a-time everyone had to get off to push the truck out of the mud and sometimes for a good part of the way. The young people held a picnic once a year to raise money for these excursions.

sions. We would net approximately \$100.00 which would pretty well cover expenses during the year.

In 1935 I married Selma Mittelstadt and rented a half section of land from Herman Lechelt (E½-25-48-22-W4, now Zenon Goclon farm). There was no place to live in but an old log house and no windbreak surrounding the yard. It was not uncommon to wake up some winter mornings with snow on your bed. However with the good old feather bed and young spirits we managed to keep warm.

The barns were also built of logs with straw roofs and every fall meant plastering the cracks in the walls and the handiest and quickest was to use the "stock fertilizer" for this purpose.

Farming in those days was tough and little money was made. Hogs sold at \$2.00 to \$5.00 a piece and a good milk cow could bring up to \$20.00. Five gallons of cream netted about \$2.50 and eggs were six cents a dozen. But most everyone was in the same shoes so one did not mind too much.

It was here in this environment that two of our children were born. Ronald in 1937 and Lorraine in 1941. Here is also where my brother Otto and sister Margaret came to live with us for a while.

Communications were a bit of a problem. Government telephones got too expensive and people couldn't afford to pay the fee so they were discontinued. However, farmers connected themselves together via the fence lines and when the weather was right, you could communicate a distance of about eight miles. All the equipment required was a set of ear phones, a Ford coil used for signaling, and a battery.

In the spring of 1940, brother Otto married Martha Mittelstadt and they moved to a logging camp in British Columbia. Three months later he was killed in a logging accident. That same summer sister Margaret married Arthur Mittelstadt who had been teaching as Big Hay Lake School.

In 1941 I purchased the NW¼-11-49-22-W4 from Ed Schlender which was all bush at that time. We cleared and broke forty acres that first summer. In the fall we moved a building from Hay Lakes to the farm for a house. After spring work, in 1942, we moved to our new home where plenty of work awaited us. Our first animal shelter was a straw barn with two-foot straw walls and a straw roof.

It was during the war years while my brother Paul was stationed at Wetaskiwin that he became involved in the Hay Lakes area. After the war he took a job as grade operator for the Municipality of Leduc and thus spent many a weekend at our place.

My brother-in-law, Gus Lachman, had the school land lease on the E½-11-49-22-W4 and when he decided to move to B.C., Paul and I bought his lease

— Paul the S.E. quarter and I the N.E. quarter. After having about twenty acres brush cut, Paul decided to move to B.C. and sold his lease to Bruno These.

Despite all the work, there was always time to get involved in community affairs — Selma in choir and Ladies Aid; myself as Secretary Treasurer of the Farmers' Union for a number of years, Sec. Treas. of the Armena Rural Electrification Association and about twenty years as caretaker of the local cemetery.

We were fortunate in having good crops and thus prospered reasonably well. Our family also increased with the birth of Jim in 1945 and Judy in 1950.

After a short illness, Selma passed away on December 25, 1950 to the sorrow of everyone, at the age of 35 years.

But life must go on, so after a bachelors life for two and a half years, I married Helma Severin in 1953, from Langenburg, Saskatchewan and we continued farming.

In 1960 Lorraine married Harvey Kalis and they now live on an acreage near Ellerslie and operate a tree moving/tree farm operation.

In the same year Ronald married Lillian Beattie and bought a house in Rolly View soon after.

In 1962 the country congregation of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and St. Lukes in Hay Lakes amalgamated and built a new church in Hay Lakes. I became deeply involved and spent a great deal of my summer as volunteer worker.

In the fall of 1966 I was elected as Councillor in Division Seven in the County of Camrose and held that position for the next eight years. In 1969 we were fortunate in being able to take a memorable seven week tour in Europe.



The Oscar Mallas Family and Related Members — 1978. L. to R., Back Row: James Mallas, Lorraine Kalis (Mallas) Harvey Kalis, Oscar Mallas, Wynn McLean, Ronald Mallas. Seated: Maureen Mallas, Christel Kalis, Jacqueline Kalis, Helma Mallas, Shandy McLean, Judy McLean (Mallas) Dianne Mallas, Lillian Mallas, Bruce Mallas.

In 1972 Judy married Wynn McLean and now resides in Camrose, where they operate a men's clothing store. In 1976 Jim married Maureen Love. They both teach school and live in Edmonton.

There comes a time for everyone to make a change in one's life. In 1972 we decided we had farmed long enough and since our son Ronald and wife Lillian were interested in farming, we sold out to them. We moved temporarily to Armena and in 1973 bought a house in Camrose where we now reside.

At the present time, sister Olga (Mrs. Harry Adams) is widowed and lives at White Rock, B.C. Martha and Lloyd Fillmore have retired from farming and now live at Shellbrook, Saskatchewan. Paul and his wife Oddny are living at Plamondon and Marge and Arthur Middlestead are retired in Fort Saskatchewan. Brother Arthur is living in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Mallas, Selma (Nee Mittelstadt) as prepared by her daughter Lorraine Kalis

Selma (Sally) was born in May 1915 on her own mother's birthday. She attended Canard school and spent the whole of her short life in the Hay Lakes area.

She was a very talented person so things like sewing, drawing, cooking, crocheting came easy to her. (I remember as a little girl, the hours she spent making pretty dresses and coat and hat sets for me and my dolls on her treadle sewing machine.) She was deeply involved with ladies aid, the softball team and sang alto in the church choir. At one time her sisters Martha, Bertha and herself sang as a trio under brother Art's direction.

In 1931 she met Oscar Mallas, a new boy in town, and they became a twosome. In March 1935, in the cold of winter, they were married. Three hundred and fifty guests attended their wedding celebration held at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. August Rost. Apparently the celebrating lasted for three days. Her sister Martha, remembers them baking and preparing for weeks ahead and storing the goodies in the attic of their house in order to keep it cold.

Their first home was a one-room log house that had "natural" air conditioning, cockroaches at times, and a whole lot of visiting friends and relatives.

Here their first two children were born — Ron in 1937 and I, Lorraine, in 1941.

In 1942 they bought a well-treed farm, cleared a spot for a yard, moved a building on for their house, erected a straw barn and started farming on their own. Mom must have loved gardening as we had a huge raspberry patch and large gardens, from which



Oscar and Selma.

she and my Grandma Rost preserved and pickled for weeks. The opening of the Hay lakes Locker was exciting for them as they could freeze vegetables instead of can them. I remember my Mom carefully blanching, then sealing every bag shut with the clothes iron, marking and dating each package and then quickly sending my Dad off to town to put them in locker #51.

In 1949, after my Dad had tarred the roof of our old house for the umpteenth time to keep out the rain, and after an increase in the size of the family (Jim in 1945), they moved into a larger house.

In August of 1950 Judy was born and that same summer Mom became ill. On Christmas Day, 1950, she died, leaving her loving family — the oldest child being thirteen years old and the youngest just nineteen weeks.

Mallas, Ronald

I, Ron, the eldest child of Oscar and Selma Mallas, was born in July, 1937. When I was four and a half years old we moved to our farm located on NW

11-49-22-W4. I started school the following year and attended Canard for seven years until the schools were amalgamated in 1950 and we were bussed into Hay Lakes to attend classes.

Canard school, located about two miles south of our farm, was built on a sloping hill that lent itself so well to sleighs, as well as our other recess and noon-hour activities. Our mode of travel to and from school varied, but the most vivid in my memory were the swift rides home that we got with our neighbors, the Berkholtz brothers. The horses were housed for the day in a barn located near the school building. As soon as the classes were dismissed for the day the horses were hitched and everyone jumped into the sleigh or buggy — as fast as possible — and off we would go. Who would make the church corner first, the Berkholtz or the Radawetz brothers? It sure beat walking!

During my early teens some of my favorite pastimes were hunting and trapping. I remember spending many hours in the heavy bush surrounding the farm looking for pheasants and partridges. Often too, neighborhood freinds and I would collect magpie and crow eggs. I wonder if Lorne Zucht recalls the time he fell out of a tree while climbing up to retrieve some of those eggs. At first I used Dad's "Rabbit 22" rifle for hunting. Later I was able to purchase my own rifle for \$60.00, after I got my first job working for Calgary Power in the early 1950's when the new power lines were being constructed in our area. My wage was eighty cents an hour.

There was always lots to do on the farm. Of course there was the usual field work, which by the time I was old enough to help, was done mostly by tractor, a Minneapolis-Moline Model Z. However, I also got a taste of that "pioneer spirit" by picking roots, burning brush, hauling trees from the bush by sleigh — then splitting them until we had a huge pile of firewood for winter use — and also in binding, stooking and threshing. Many school days were missed in the fall season to help with the harvest, as was the case on most farms at that time when all hands were needed.

When Reins Mittelstadt was the leader of the Hay Lakes Community Band I spent a few years playing tenor and baritone in the band. We played at functions at Hay Lakes as well as in surrounding communities. Sometimes we would even venture as far as Elk Island Park or Wetaskiwin.

I worked one fall for a contractor, helping to build the Hay Lakes Elementary School under the head carpenter, E. J. Mittelstaedt. In 1956, along with two pals, I set out for Edmonton, working at Grosser Parts for four months; then I started at Premier Steel Mills — later this company became known as Stelco

— where I was employed for the next sixteen years until the fall of 1973.

It was in the city that I met Lillian and we were married in 1960. After a few months of city living, I decided I preferred to live in the country. Lillian quit her job and we moved to Rollyview, where we rented a house and I commuted to work from there. Later when the acreage came up for sale we decided to stay, purchased the property and proceeded to make major improvements in the following years. It was during this time that our two children were born, Bruce in 1962, and our daughter, Dianne, in 1966.

When we were offered the chance to purchase my father's farm, I thought I would like to try my hand at the "good life". We moved to the farm in 1972, but I also continued to work at Stelco for another year and a half. We acquired hogs and more cows, but decided to go into dairying, which has necessitated over the years, the construction of new buildings, renovating others, as well as establishing our dairy herd. These few "short" years that we've spent farming have been busy, often challenging and also rewarding years for us and have meant the involvement of all our family in the operation. The government had to throw in another curve — to make things more interesting — the "Metric System".

Our son, Bruce, graduated from the Hay Lakes High School in 1980 and is presently attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology at Edmonton in his second year, taking Industrial Engineering Technology. While attending school he participated in all sports, but got to enjoy playing basketball in particular. Although Bruce was active in the Scout movement for only a short time, he recalls those years now, with fond memories. In 1977, he had the privilege of attending the Scout Jamboree held in Prince Edward Island — along with the Scout leader, Walter Busenius, and other Scouts from Hay Lakes — where some eighteen thousand Scouts from all over the world assembled.

Dianne is a High school student at Hay Lakes. Besides being an excellent student, she participates in and enjoys many sports. She is also fond of animals, particularly her horse, Lady Tahara, with whom she spends many enjoyable hours.

McGhan, D'Arcy and Evelyn

D'Arcy and Evelyn (nee Coxon) moved to the Hay Lakes district in the summer of 1971, along with their four children. They built up a sizeable dairy farm on N.E. 10-49-22-W4. A number of cattle bred by the McGhan family won ribbons in cattle shows across Canada.

D'Arcy was involved in coaching hockey teams from Hay Lakes as well as New Sarepta. He also

coached a midget ball club from Hay Lakes, which won the county championship for two consecutive years. Evelyn lead the Girl guides for two years and helped with Brownies.

The McGhan children were members of the hockey and ball teams and the 4H Dairy Club. Shelley and Robert aged twenty and eighteen respectively, are employed at jobs outside the farm. Winston aged sixteen and youngest daughter, Gwen, aged thirteen, attend Hay Lakes School.

Lester and Gwen McGhan, parents of D'Arcy moved from the Wye District (Sherwood Park) in 1978 and relocated in the Hay Lakes district on land located just north of D'Arcy and Evelyn. (SE 15-49-22-W4)

McLean, LeRoy and Lena

Roy McLean was born in Lucan, Ontario in 1883 and came west to North Battleford, Saskatchewan, with an uncle and a car-load of horses in 1906. Here he continued his blacksmith trade specializing in shoeing horses. In 1908, he moved to Strathcona and opened a shop which he operated until 1911. It was in Strathcona where he met Lena Heinz, who was working in the dining room of the Strathcona Hotel. She had come from Austria with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Heinz to the Canard district of Hay Lakes in 1904.

In 1909, Roy and Lena were married and had three children: Charles in 1910, Mildred in 1911, and Thomas in 1912.

After selling his blacksmithing shop in 1911, Roy accompanied by his wife, Lena, and two children, Charles and Mildred, made a trip back to Lucan, Ontario to visit the old home and family there.

In 1912, Roy bought a team of horses and did team work for the University when it was under construction, besides hauling coal along the Saskatchewan River.

In 1916, Roy and Lena McLean and their three small children moved with horses and a hay rack loaded with their possessions to the Canard School district to SE 9-49-22-W4, and made their home there.

Roy McLean and family raised sheep for many years in the 1920's and later went into raising chickens.

In clearing the land, stumping powder, axes and horses were used. After school, the children, with one horses and a stone boat, picked stones and roots from the fields.

Highlights of the years were the annual Christmas Concert at the Canard School and the first of July picnic at Hay Lakes.

The McLean children walked a mile and a half to



Charles, Thomas and Mildred McLean. Children of Roy and Lena McLean.

attend Canard School. Charles recalls when he had to be at school an hour earlier each morning to start the wood fire as he was the janitor and was paid twenty-five cents a week to keep the fire going and sweep the floor. Every morning, during the winter, the water pails would be frozen solid.

The only spending money on the farm came from trapping and the County paying one cent a gopher tail. Charles remembers putting gopher tails in a tobacco can for a couple of months and taking them to C. C. Lechelt, who was Councillor at the time. He opened the can, proceeded to count tails, then quickly put the lid on again and said, "How many did you say there were?"

Lena and Mildred looked after the household duties of carrying water, washing clothes on the washboard and hanging them on the clothes-line to dry in summer and winter. Bread baking was a long procedure. The sponge, using hard, dry yeast cakes was set in a big bread pan in the evening then covered well to protect it from the cold and draft. In the morning, more flour was added and it was made into a dough, then into loaves and baked. Ten to twelve loaves was a usual baking.

The making of butter was a big job. The cream was put into a large wooden churn and churned and churned sometimes for an hour or two until the butter separated from the buttermilk. The butter was removed and washed in cold water and salted, then stored in crocks for future use. Summertime was busy berry picking time; then came the canning for winter.

Thomas took a correspondence course in radio repair which put him in good stead when he opened an electric shop in Athabasca some years later. Roy McLean loved his horses and never owned or drove a car. He was proud of his team in their Scotch tops, fancy spreaders and the sleigh bells in winter. He kept his horses sharp shop and they were in the barn at all times. During road construction, Roy was asked to use his team as a snatch team to fill scrapers when four horses were required.

Charles married Alpha Welda, daughter of Jacob and Anna Welda in 1936. They reside in Hay Lakes. They have three children: Donna, Keith, and Dianne.

Mildred married Eric Lofgren, son of John and Edalina Lofgren, in 1938. Their three children are Richard, Ireta, and Allen. Eric passed away in May, 1977, and Mildred presently lives in Hay Lakes.

Thomas married Helen Leicht, daughter of John and Margaret Leicht, in 1939. They had two children, Corinne and Wayne. Thomas passed away in December 1979. Helen lives in Athabasca, Alberta.

Roy and Lena McLean lived on their farm until 1968, when Roy was hospitalized with a broken hip. He passed away in May 1971, at the age of eighty-eight years and is buried in the cemetery of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes.



The McLean Family. L. to R.: Charles, Mildred, Thomas, Lena and Roy.

Lena continued to live on the farm until 1975, when she moved to Westrose, Camrose. She is ninety-two years old and enjoys exceptional health.

Mielke, John

by Doreen Graham (Mielke)

John Mielke arrived in Canada from Poland in 1928, and worked as a farm laborer for the Bittners. His wife and young daughter Lydia soon arrived from Poland to join him. Shortly thereafter his wife died, leaving John to fend for himself and infant daughter.

In 1929 he met and married Adele Mundt. Adele had also emigrated from Poland to Canada and worked at a home in Bruderhiem.

After John and Adele were married they rented land six miles west of Hay Lakes, on the shore of Big Hay Lakes. To this union five daughters were born, Adeline, twins Doris and Doreen, Lorene, and Ruth. Ruth passed away at four months of age.

They resided at the lake until 1942, then rented the "Spitzer Place" three miles west of Hay Lakes until 1944, when they bought a farm east of Camrose. A big year for them was 1944 as that was the year their only son Jerry was born. They farmed in that community until their retirement in 1969, when they sold the farm and moved to Camrose, where Adele still resides. John passed away in 1979.



The John Mielke Family. L. to R., Back Row: Bill, Adeline, Ernie, Doreen, Myron, Lorene, Ed, Jerry. Front: Lydia, John and Adele Mielke, Doris.

The family are pursuing their interests in different parts of the world: Lydia and Bill McAllister in New Zealand; Adeline and Ernie Adolf in Coquitlam, B.C.; Doreen and Myron Graham in Camrose; Doris and Norman Lyseng in Bowden; Lorene and Ed Adolf in Trochu; Jerry in Camrose.

The Mielkes have seventeen grandchildren.

Mittelstadt, August
by Emma (Tober) Mittelstadt)
Olga (Mittelstadt) Spitzer

August, son of August Sr. and Karoline (Lechelt) Mittelstadt, was born in Poland March 11, 1870 and moved with his parents to Volhynia, Russia.

In June 1902, August came to Canada and two years later his wife Eva (nee Lechelt), born September 2, 1876 and their three children, Gustav, Karl, and Olga, joined him, together with his nephew, Adolph Kropp (son of his sister who had died in Russia). In Hay Lakes four more children were born to August and his wife Emil, Ella, Adolph and Emma. Gus, Karl, Emil, Adolph, and Ella are now deceased. Olga lives in Barrhead, Alberta, and Emma lives in Kelowna, B.C.



Eva Mittelstadt, wife of August 1952.

They came from Russia because there was no future there and the new world promised a better living.

August arrived in Leduc and stayed with his uncle, while he cleared some land and built a three room log house for us to live in. Our main diet for awhile was duck and rabbit, until the rabbits got a disease and we could not eat them anymore. About fourteen years later a new home was built with four rooms on the main floor, three bedrooms upstairs and a veranda. At this point in time food never seemed to be scarce because there was always a very large garden and we raised our own meat.

When August settled in the Hay Lakes district there was little or no development in the area. The first few years we only had twenty-five acres of land cleared, which was enough to look after a couple of cows and pigs. August cut hay with a scythe and raked it together by hand with a homemade rake made of wood. The hay that was cut was only that in the sloughs. In the early 1920's people did not have modern machinery and had to use walking ploughs and also had to walk behind harrows.

Travel was by horse and wagon and later by horse and buggy. There were no roads and often we got stuck with the horses.

August and brother Karl Mittelstadt were among the first in the district to purchase cars in the year 1918. Upon returning with his new car, August took his wife and family for a drive. When he turned to ask his wife how she liked the car, he also accidentally turned the steering wheel and promptly "hit the ditch". His sons drove the car after that.

When John Mittelstadt bought a car he drove it over to show August, but when he got in the yard he couldn't stop it. After driving around the yard a few times and hollering "Whoa, Whoa", while pulling back on the steering wheel, he headed towards the woodpile. It stopped!

Adolph, youngest son of August, later acquired his father's car and was one of the few guys on "Wheels". He offered to drive the gang around many-a-time and the price . . . A can of gas!

There was no doctor readily available until Olga was approximately fourteen years of age. Mother Eva, and grandmother doctored the family at home.

The August Mittelstadt family were one of the first families in the area. Later Julius Schultz and family moved in about one-half mile away. Then the John Werner, John Mittelstadt, and Theodore Mittelstadt families moved in.

The Mittelstadt children attended Canard school. The building was built of logs with a rough board floor and heated by a wood heater. When it was very

cold outside everyone would sit around the heater to keep warm.

The first church services were held in the Canard school. Once a month a minister visited the services. Later the family attended St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. August helped build this church and often held the services. Some of the ministers were Pastor Hempl and Pastor Bradlow.

August (as were all the Mittelstadts) was very active in the community and he was a member of the first council of St. Stephens. There was a three member council at that time and a membership of forty-seven families in the church.

People visited and socialized a lot and had house parties, so it was not all that lonely. Everyone would get together at someone's house and play music and dance. Someone played the accordion and violin and a good time was had by all. Later on, August bought an organ and the boys played violins in a band.

On March 13, 1912 thirteen farmers (including August and brother Karl) volunteered to haul lumber for the first store in Hay Lakes. The lumber (all poplar) was bought from a farmer who had a sawmill in the neighborhood of New Sarepta.

The Mittelstadt brothers were very instrumental in building the first school, church, and store, as well as building roads. Road taxes were paid by labour — \$1.00 per day per man or \$2.00 per day for man, team and scraper.



The four Mittelstadt Brothers: Carl, Adolph, Gus and Emil — 1952.

August farmed in the Hay Lakes area until his death on May 14, 1930 at the age of sixty years. His wife, Eva, continued to live in the area with her children until going to reside at Rosehaven in Camrose. She died on January 24, 1966 at the age of eighty-nine years.

When August died, his son Adolph farmed the land for a certain period of time, then sold to Edward Tober, another Hay Lakes resident.

Mittelstadt, Gustav by Emma (Tober) Mittelstadt

Gus, born in 1897, was the oldest son of August and Eva (nee Lechelt) Mittelstadt. He came to Canada as a small boy in the early 1900's.

Gus helped his father farm until he married in 1925. His wife, Emma (nee Tober) was a sister to Mrs. August Rost (formerly Mrs. Karl Mittelstadt).



Gus and Emma (Tober) Mittelstadt — March, 1925.

They settled in the Hay Lakes area on a quarter section of land on Section nine, Township forty-nine. The road going past their farm is now highway twenty-one. Their closest neighbors were the Gus Henschels across the road about a quarter mile distance.

Four children were born to Gus and Emma: Ruth (1926-1926), Lorence (Lorne) born in 1927, married to Emma Hammermeister, have four children, living in Edmonton; Gerhart (Gary) born in 1929, married to Lovella Mayan, have two children and live in Edmonton; and Violet, born in 1932, is married to Gordon Borchert. They have three children and they also live in Edmonton.

There are now nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In the spring of 1927, Gus and Emma moved into the town of Hay Lakes and rented out their farm. Gus went into business with Herman Lechelt, who had a machine shop. The year 1927 was a good year — they sold thirty binders and other machinery. They were kept very busy, as binders were shipped in separate parts and had to be set together. The following year in 1928 business was fairly good, but nearing the hungry thirties, business became slack. Gus then bought a grinding mill and was grinding feed grain for the surrounding farmers. After four years, in the spring of 1932, Gus, Emma, and family moved back to their farm.

During the years of 1937-1947, Gus was the municipal councillor and at that time was paid \$285.00 per year.

In the spring of 1947 Gus bought Dan Lede's place, four miles west of Hay Lakes and a half mile south from Frederick's corner. Their neighbors were the Albert Werners, William Ledes and the Ropers. They farmed this land until 1959. Gus died on November 8, 1959.

Gus and Emma both sang in the choir at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church for a number of years. Emma also was a member of St. Stephen's Ladies Aid. The ladies aid started sometime during the middle 1930's and was very active until the 1940's.

On March 19, 1950 relatives and friends surprised Gus and Emma on their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Among them were, Mr. and Mrs. August Rost, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Lachman, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mallas, the Ropers and many others.

In their married life, they spent thirty-four years in the Hay Lakes area, thirty on the farm and four living in town.

After Gus passed away, Emma kept the farm for one more year, then sold it, as the children had jobs in the city.

Emma lived in Edmonton for ten years, then went



The Gus Mittelstadt Family about 1941. Back, L. to R.: Lorne, Violet and Gary. Gus and Emma.

back to live in her house in Hay Lakes, where she remained for seven years. In 1976 she sold her house and moved back to Edmonton again. Emma lives at the Academy Place Apartments at the present time, 1981.

Gary, the second son of Gus and Emma Mittelstadt, went to work catskinning for Leduc Construction in 1950, taking time off to help his father during seeding time and harvest. In 1956 he moved to Edmonton where he worked in the warehouse for Imperial Oil Limited. In 1960 he bought a house in Jasper place and his mother lived with him there for four years.

In 1964 he married Lovella Mayan, and moved to Swan Hills, Alberta. They have two children — a son, Derek and a daughter, Karen.

In 1973 they moved back to their house in Edmonton, where they still reside today. Gary is still employed in the "Oil Patch".

He has many fond memories of Canard school — like playing "old sow" at recess and lunch hour! It was the annual early spring game until the battered old can hit someone on the noggin' and teacher put a stop to it!

Gary and his family return every year to enjoy the Hay Lakes picnic and keep in touch with Hay Lakes happenings through relatives and friends in the area.

I, Violet, was born and raised in the Hay Lakes district. My parents were Gus and Emma Mittelstadt. I attended Canard school.

One of my first jobs was working in the Hay Lakes Hotel for Helen Berkholtz. I met my husband Gordon when he came to Hay Lakes to work in the oil fields. We were married in 1954 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church by Pastor Keitel. Most of our married life we have lived in Edmonton. We hobby-farmed about six miles west of Hay Lakes for seven years and spent many enjoyable week-ends there.

We have three children — Terry and Lori who are married, Bruce who is working but still living at home, and one grandchild, Ryan.

We always enjoy coming back to Hay Lakes for many different events such as July 1st. picnic where we can renew old acquaintances and would like to thank all the people there who work hard and give of their time to make these days so enjoyable.

The Karl Mittelstadt — August Rost Family

We have made a combined story of our family as it is difficult to divide an ongoing story of what was really one family.

Karl Mittelstadt (father of Lydia, Arthur, Selma, Reinhold and Martha) was the third son of August Mittelstadt Sr. and Karolina Lechelt. He was born in Volhynia, Russia in 1884.



Karl Mittelstadt about 25 years of age.

August Rost (father of Bertha, Ruby, Eileen and Donald) was the son of August Rost Sr. and Pauline Sagert. He was born in Zhitomir Russia in 1892.

Augusta Mittelstadt Rost (nee Tober) was the oldest child of Samuel Tober and Rosalie Treichel. She was also born in Volhynia, Russia in 1891 and came to Canada in 1899.

Karl Mittelstadt immigrated to Canada with two of his brothers (August Jr. and Theodore) in 1902. All three spent some months in the Ellerslie-Nisku district and then acquired homesteads three miles west and one to two miles north of what later became the village of Hay Lakes. The other brother, John, arrived here in 1904 and took up a homestead just to the north of the others.

Karl was active in social and community affairs. He was one of the three original members of the school board when the Canard School district was established in 1909. He was also one of the first councillors of the Black Mud Municipal District (now partly in Leduc County and partly in Camrose County). One picture we had showed him in attendance at a United Grain Growers convention in Calgary as a delegate. He was a member of the Church Band and was very much involved in the building of the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, which he helped to erect in 1918.

We are left with the impression that he was a fair and popular man in the community. In our young years we had conversations with many people who remembered him as a councillor and member of the Church, where he often read the sermons on the Sundays when no minister was available. Ironically, his was the first funeral service to be held in the new church building.

Tragedy struck when he was thirty-five years old. In March, 1919, while helping saw wood at the home of his brother's widow (Theodore had died of double pneumonia in 1918), the circular saw, rotating at a very high velocity, suddenly broke, propelling fragments in several directions. Fortunately, only one of the five or six men in the crew was struck — it was our father. The saw fragment severed his jugular vein and killed him almost instantly.

The homestead on which we lived was one hundred and sixty acres of poplar and willow trees, plentifully supplied with sloughs, and with only the odd small natural clearing. Naturally, these with a little enlarging became the first fields to be broken. Thus, we had a number of small fields ranging from three to ten acres in area with trails leading to them through the bush.

These woods, teeming with birds, wild fowl and small animals seemed a veritable paradise for us children in our young years. In addition, a whole section of School Land, all wooded, adjoined our farm and that of our neighbors, the Lachmans. Everywhere there were rabbits, prairie chickens, bush partridges, gophers, weasels, saskatoon trees, gooseberry and hazelnut bushes and patches of wild raspberries. Every summer Mother preserved oodles of wild berries and prepared delicious meals from the wild fowl. We ate lots of wild partridge meat in those days — and how good it was! We also snared rabbits, which we sometimes ate and sometimes just skinned to sell the fur (for about five cents a pelt). These were the small rabbits, not the jackrabbits which came later.

The roads were trails which tried to follow the road allowances but had to make numerous detours

to dodge the sloughs. It was some years after Father's death that we saw our first road-grading operations. Our neighbors, the Zuchts, purchased a 16-30 Rumely tractor and this, because of its weight, was the first tractor in the district to be able to handle a grader. (It probably wasn't a grader — more likely a maintainer, but it cut narrow, shallow, sloped ditches on each side of the trail).

As to cars, August, John, and Father, bought brand new Model T Fords in 1918. Since the new church was in the process of being built, services were still being held in the Canard School — that grim, grey, log school on the hill. Below the east side of the hill was a slough which had been made cross-able by building a corduroy road (poplar rails had crossways with some dirt hauled on them). The first time we went to church by car, Father found the road too narrow and we got stuck, halfway across. We children were terrified when we looked at the water on both sides. The two smaller ones (Selma and Reins) started crying. Fortunately, we were close to our destination and the people waiting outside the school saw us and came to put us back on track.

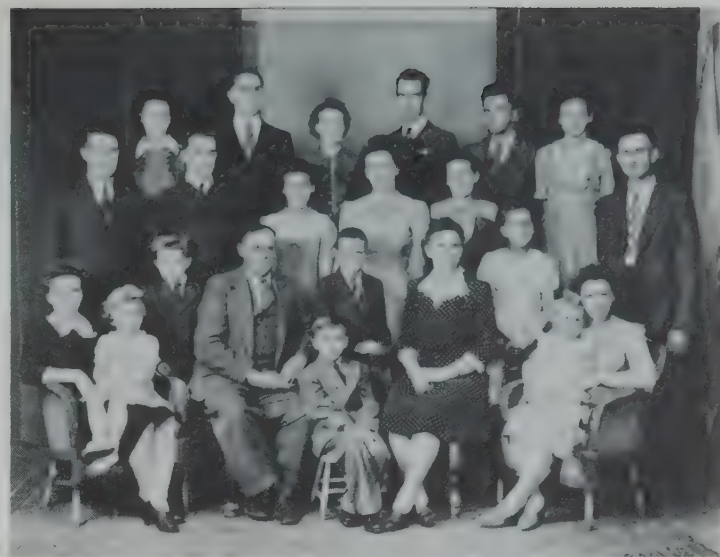
Model T's were not the only cars bought in those years. Of our neighbors, the Zucht's had a Chevrolet 490 and the Lachman's had a Maxwell Overland. Other people had such cars as a Baby Grand Chevrolet (a space of about a yard between the front and back seats) and a McLaughlin-Buick. The Boon's on the west side of Big Hay Lake had a Reo Flying Cloud.

None of us can remember very much about our father as we were very young when he left us. The children of Karl Mittelstadt were: Lydia (Mrs. Gus Lachman) born 1912, now living in Hay Lakes; Arthur, born 1914, now living in Fort Saskatchewan; Selma, (Mrs. Oscar Mallas) born 1915 — died in 1950; Reinhold (Reins), born 1916 — died in 1978; Martha (Mrs. Tom Dodson) born 1919, now living in Chilliwack.

On the death of Karl Mittelstadt our mother was left with two quarter-sections of land and five children — the eldest not quite seven and the youngest a little over a month old. She got help from the neighbors to help her through the 1919 crop, but it was very difficult for her to cope. When August Rost came along and courted her, she accepted him and they were married on April 7th, 1920.

August Rost immigrated from Russia to Canada in 1913. He worked in various parts of the province before he began to stay in the Hay Lakes area. He joined the Church Band and worked at several farms in the Canard area. So now he had his first real home in Canada and a ready-made family.

August must have liked large families because he added four more members, all still living: Bertha



Back Row, L. to R.: Bertha (Rost) Roper, Reinhold and Irna Mittelstadt, Thomas Dodson, Art Middlestead, Ruby Rost. Second Row: Oscar Mallas, George Roper, Eileen Rost, Martha (Mittelstadt) Dodson, Marge (Mallas) Middlestead, Gus Lachman. Front Row: Selma (Mittelstadt) Mallas, Lorraine (sitting on lap), Ronald Mallas, August Rost, Dennis Lachman (standing), Donald Rost (sitting), Auguste Rost, Ruth Lachman, Lydia (Mittelstadt) Lachman (with Jeannie on lap).

(Mrs. George Roper), born 1921, living in Hay Lakes; Ruby (Mrs. Wm. Yoner), born 1930, living in Hay Lakes; Eileen (Mrs. Len Lachman), born 1931, living in Ellerslie area; Donald, born 1937, now living in Rollyview.

Progress seemed faster in the next years, probably because times became more prosperous. August Rost was one of the more progressive farmers in our community. Since the threshing outfits of the Zucht's and Lede's could no longer handle the vastly increased number of stooks, he stuck his neck out in 1924 and bought a 15-30 McCormick-Deering tractor and a 28-46 threshing machine. (The neighbors shook their heads and said that he was surely going to "go broke".) With good weather and luck he had a very good threshing run — so good, in fact, that the next year a number of other farmers and groups of farmers bought outfits too. After that, very few made any real money threshing grain.

In 1926 he bought a breaking plow and couldn't keep up with orders for breaking land. However, in a few years almost everyone who had a tractor also had a breaking plow and the price of breaking went too low to keep him interested.

Now he turned to trucks. That 1918 Model T we had became a truck. (He removed the rear seat and put a six foot long rack in place of it.) At first he hauled only our gasoline and sometimes hauled a few pigs to market. In the fall of 1930 he bought a one and a half ton Ford truck (Model A). In those days this was a good-sized truck for our area. So he began to

do commercial trucking — cattle, grain, lumber, coal etcetera. After World War II started, he found out that he was on some kind of preferred list, making it possible for him to buy a new truck. This was quite a break for him as new cars and trucks were very hard to get at that time. He bought a three-ton Ford and spent a lot of time away from home wheeling this “big” truck. He finally tired of trucking and sold it to Bill Sware.

Soon after he first began doing commercial trucking (1930-31) he began to bring lumber in from the west of Thorsby. He hauled a lot for our neighbors, who found it was cheaper than buying at the local lumber yard. His favorite source out west was Benson at Warburg. Whenever he was able to get particularly good quality dry lumber, he stock-piled it for the house he was going to build. By 1933 he had the required materials. He put his cousin, Julius Sagert, a well known carpenter in the Hay Lakes district, in charge and so the house was built. It still stands on the farm three miles west and one mile north of Hay lakes. It was the first house in that area to have stucco instead of wood siding. The interior took a few years to finish, till about 1938. It was then equipped with a 32-Volt Delco light plant with storage batteries, and after a new well had been drilled, a pressurized water system with bathroom and indoor facilities.

This house became a focal point for many of the young people in the community. The district softball diamond was only about a quarter of a mile from the house. Almost every Sunday the Maroons played ball there and a crowd gathered. Some of the young poeple got into the habit of staying for supper, music and cards. Today we wonder how the folks were able to bear it.

Dad loved music and brought this love of music into the family. He bought band instruments for Art and Reins and insisted they play in the Band (which they loved anyway). He bought a good phonograoph and a brand new piano. Then, as he saw we were beginning to play together as a group, we got more instruments — a banjo, guitar, violin, clarinet and a complete set of drums. Reins bought his own accordion and Art his own Saxaphone. Well, we filled the house with music, but no matter how late we played, or how loudly, the folks never told us to “shut her down” even though we must have kept them awake.

In 1950 the folks sold the remaining two quarters of land to Gus Lachmans. Dad went to live in a house in Hay Lakes (just north of the Hay Lakes Hardware warehouse) and there he lived until his death in July 1965. He had hoped Mother would come to live there.

Mother lived with Gus and Lydia for a period of



Some of the instruments in the Rost household. Back, L. to R.: Ralph Rost, Adolph Mittelstadt, Reins Mittelstadt, Loha Frederick, Sally Mittelstadt. Front: Art Middlestead, Lydia Mittelstadt, Martha Mittelstadt.

time and then bought her own little house, which was moved to Leonard and Eileen Lachman's farm (the present Rod Rost farm) where she lived from 1952 to 1957. She then had her house moved into Hay Lakes (the second one south of the school) where she lived for eighteen years. She enjoyed her life to the fullest in the latter part of her years, which included working in her garden and especially her flower garden in the front of her house. When she was eighty years old, a family reunion was held in the new Hay Lakes hall and nearly all her family, including grandchildren and great-grandchildren attended, (numbering into the nineties at that time). In 1976 there was a Mittelstadt reunion in Eilerslie, she then, at eighty-five years of age was the only surviving spouse of the original Mittelstadt brothers, receiving a special tribute — a bouquet of flowers, on that ocasion. She spent a few winters in Chilliwack B.C. with her daughter Martha Dodson and her last year with George and Bertha Roper until she was admitted to the hospital where she died in July, 1978.

Martha Dodson — I was born in February of 1919, the fifth in the Karl and Auguste Mittelstadt family. I was only five weeks old when on March 7th my father was killed in a tragic woodsawing accident, which was devastating to our family. My mother faced terrible hardships by herself. She grew a lot of potatoes that summer which she sold in the fall to support her family through that first winter. Later on she married August Rost. Although times were hard, my childhood was a happy one. We didn't lack for entertainment and as a family we enjoyed a togetherness which I treasure to this day.

My school years were spent at Canard school, a one-roomed school with a pot-bellied stove and in the winter time it was sometimes a pretty cold place.

That did not stop us from getting the good education available at that time.

My first memorable experience came when my step-father bought us a piano. All five of us, wanted to play at once, so to get around that I had to get up early in the morning to get my turn at the piano. I learned to chord first and as I got older I gradually learned to play the piano by ear. A good friend of my brother Art, also a teacher, by the name of Art Adams, came to our place a lot and played the piano by the hour. Listening to him and watching him was my greatest enjoyment. He really motivated me to learn to play by ear because music lessons were unavailable to us at the time. By copying him I learned to play and have enjoyed it through the years. We always had all kinds of musical instruments in our house, thanks to my step-father who bought them for us. We had many great jam-sessions at our place from the piano down to the drums, till late at night, but our parents (because of their love of music) never objected to the "noise".

My brother Reins played many different instruments, also composed some beautiful songs (later sung by Ruby, Eileen and Ruth). Brother Art sometimes wrote orchestrations for our little band; both of them were so talented that they taught themselves to read music.

That little band or orchestra was formed at that time with my brother Art, Reins, myself, Otto Mallas and others, and we called ourselves "Melody Rangers". We played at different halls around this area and sometimes we would play from nine p.m. until four a.m. for a commission of fifty cents. I can see now more than ever, that we did not play for the money, but for the sheer enjoyment that we got out of it. For instance, in the cold winter months we had to travel some distance to a hall with sleigh and horses. On arrival, Reins would always have to spend time thawing out his accordian before we could begin the dance. Sometimes the crowds were small due to the cold weather, but that didn't deter us, we played and enjoyed ourselves.

Also in the winter months we would take the local train to Looma, play at the dance till the wee hours of morning, then stay the balance of the night at the home of Albert Wensel, and in the morning we'd take the train back to Hay Lakes. The train fare took most of our earnings, but the fun and excitement we had playing at Looma was worth it and more. The hospitality of the Wensel family will always be remembered and this period of my life in Hay lakes will always be a treasured memory.

I also spent a small part of my life at that time working for the Cohen family in the Hay Lakes General store, which was also enjoyable.

The only communication of that time was the fence phone, which gave us many hours of pleasure talking to five or six people at once, especially on cold winter nights. That ended with the coming of the West Hay Lake Mutual Telephone Company.

In July 1940, I was married to Otto Mallas and we went to Vancouver, B.C. almost immediately. Otto got a job working as a chaser in a logging camp in Rock Bay (Vancouver Island). There we lived for a short time in the household of August Zucht. On September 24th of that year, Otto was tragically killed in a logging accident. This was a very frightening time for me and so I went back to Hay Lakes for a while. Once again I returned to Vancouver and worked for a few years. In July of 1943 I was married again, to Thomas Dodson, who worked as a long-shoreman on the waterfront, loading and unloading ships.

Our daughter Janet, born in 1945 and son Richard in 1947 — both grew up in Vancouver. In 1963 Janet was married to David Kelly of Millwauki, Wisconsin, U.S.A. They went to live in Seattle, Washington where David joined the Fire Department. They have two daughters, Trishana, fourteen years, and Keonna, eleven years and at the present time they live in Salem, Oregon.

Richard and Toni have two daughters, Serena, six years and Jennifer, three years of age. They have always lived in Vancouver, B.C.

In 1966, I lost my husband Tommy in death at fifty-one years of age. I worked and lived in Vancouver until 1970 when I sold my house and moved to Chilliwack, B.C. where I reside at the present time.

Don Rost — I, Don, youngest son of August and Auguste Rost, was born on December 9, 1937 on my uncle's farm a few miles west of Leduc. My younger years were spent on the family farm where I attended Canard school. I was lucky then, as the Berkholtz boys (Lawrence, Irvin and Ron) went by our gate with horse and buggy or sleigh, which provided transportation to school. I especially remember the exciting races we had with the Radawetz boys from school to the church corner.

When the farm was sold, I went to live with my dad in Hay Lakes for awhile and then with my sister Eileen. During this time, I finished school, was the janitor for the hall, and helped my brother Art operate the projectors for the shows he provided for Hay Lakes and surrounding area.

Living in Hay Lakes during the oil boom was exciting. I acquired a great fantasy for oil rigs and spent a lot of my idle time watching them. It was then I decided to build a model drilling rig of my own. It stands about five feet high and is now on display in our rumpus room.

In April of 1956, I ventured to Edmonton and found my first full time job. I worked for Premier Steel Mills (which later became Stelco) for seventeen and one-half years. In 1973 I purchased a school bus which I operate in the New Sarepta area and also worked for L. Trempler and Son. On October 11, 1957, I married Velma Lehman of Rolly View. Although I first met Velma in Edmonton, our parents had known each other for a long time. Velma and I preferred country living so we moved to Rolly View where we presently live. We were blessed with two daughters. Donna was born on October 30, 1959, and Brenda was born on March 22, 1963.

Music has been a big part of my life, although I never got interested until I was married. For the past twenty-one years I've played with various bands, Meolody Kings, Comancheros, Cimarrons, and now presently head Day Break in which my wife Velma is also a part of. We certainly have enjoyed playing for the many weddings and socials in the Hay Lakes area.

Mittelstadt, Theodore by **Walter Mittelstadt**

Theodore Mittelstadt was born in Volhynia, Russia on January 2nd, 1888. He came to Canada and the Leduc area in 1902, and worked in the Nisku area.

On December 29, 1907 he married Mathilda Stebner who had come to the Hay Lakes area with her family in 1900. They purchased her parents farm in 1908, after the Stebners moved to Nisku.

Theodore farmed one and a half quarters of land. They lived in the two-roomed house Robert Stebner had built and continued using this house as a place of worship every Sunday. They added another room to the house making it into a T shaped affair that stood the test of time.

Theodore Mittelstadts were very very active in the community, in the Lutheran Church especially. He was a very good cornet player and played and marched with the church band. This was during the time of the first World War.

The Mittelstadts had six children. Olga was born in 1908 but lived only two months. Bertha was born in 1909; Walter was born in 1912; Rudolf in 1913; Willie in 1916 and Leonard in 1917. The only family picture taken has only the four older children in it. Leonard arrived shortly after.

Dad was busy in the summer with improving the farm and building district roads. The existing roads were only wagon trails through the bush. In winter, all farmers were busy making firewood, and hauling lumber from the mills located farther west. This had to be done in winter because of the lack of summer roads. Dad would take a load of wheat to Leduc and



The Theodore Mittelstadt Family. L. to R.: Mathilda, Bertha, Theodore, Walter. Front: Willie and Rudolf.

bring back a year's supply of flour. People had no cars, but did have democrats. These were a type of light wagon on springs.

In the early part of 1918 the local Lutheran congregation held a meeting at the Mittelstadt home and decided to build a church three miles west of Hay Lakes. Dad was on the organizational committee and/or the building committee. The church was built in the summer and dedicated in fall.

Unfortunately Dad never lived to see the church built. In the early spring he was helping saw wood at C. C. Lechelt's, his neighbor. It was a cold windy March day. But the working man perspired freely so he laid aside his sheepskin coat while he worked. The sawing finished just before dusk, so he grabbed his coat, put it on and headed into the wind for home. The dramatic change from working to putting on a cold coat and walking into the wind produced a bad cold which turned quickly into pneumonia — actually double pneumonia. Roads being near impassable, a doctor was called from Camrose who had to come out by train and was brought to our home by a neighbor who galloped his team all the way. It was too late. Dad passed away after only a little over three days. This marked the beginning of the flu epidemic which called many people to their eternal rest. In our house the only one who was not really down in bed was myself. But, being only six years old I could only carry water to slack the everlasting thirst of the sick. Olga Mittelstadt came to help but she, too, went down with the flu and remained bedridden with the rest until it was finally over. Adolph Kropp was a patient at our place too. The only healthy adult was a school teacher by the name of Wahlbaum (taught at Canard school) and he did all the chores and did all the cooking until everyone recovered.



The Theodore Mittelstadt home (this was the original Stebner homestead where the first church services were held). This occasion was the wedding of Mathilda Mittelstadt and Wm. Mogdan. August Mittelstadt driving the first sleigh, where the wedding couple are riding.

In December 1918 my mother re-married, William Mogdan, and they kept on with the farming.

In March of 1919 my uncle, Karl Mittelstadt, stopped by on his way home from a councillor's meeting (he was our local councillor) to see if the wood sawers would finish and be able to come to his place on the morrow. He took his place at the saw — just to help finish — and the saw blade broke in pieces, killing him almost instantly.

In March of 1920 Mother went into hospital in Edmonton for a bladder operation from which she never recovered. On the day of her funeral, we, the children, were dealt off to be brought up by members of mother's side of the family.

Bertha and Willie went to Grandma and Grandad Stebner's at Nisku. I, Walter, went to Aunt Lydia, Mrs. Jack Wedman. Ralph went to Aunt Olga, Mrs. Edmund Schmidt, and Leonard to August Dreberts who soon afterward moved to B.C.

As of today, Bertha has passed away, Ralph lives in Leduc, as I do, and Leonard lives in Armstrong, B.C.

Mittelstaedt, Johann **by Hattie Perkins**

Johann was born on December 26, 1877 in Volhynia, Russia. In 1904 he followed his brothers August, Karl and Theodore to Canada. In 1906 he married Wilhelmina Litke, born September 20, 1888.

Johann and Wilhelmina and baby Olga moved to Hay Lakes from Leduc in 1909 and took up farming on SW 12-49-22-W4. In 1910, they moved to SW 15-49-22-W4 and took up NW 9-49-22-W4 as well. There they were blessed with nine more children.

John was a cabinet maker by trade. He liked to design his own furniture. The altar, lecturn and bap-

tismal fount were some of his own creations for which he used his own patented equipment for creative work. These were used in St. Stephen's Church, which he served for many years on the board, until he resigned as secretary in 1947. After the church was no more in use, these pieces were donated to the Provincial Museum. All nine children born at Hay Lakes were baptized in St. Stephen's, and all ten children were also confirmed there.

Olga, born in 1907, is Mrs. Albert Myers. They have three children: Evelyn, David, and Adolph.

Elsie, born in 1912, is Mrs. Cliff Pearce. They have two children: George and Irene.

Lydia, born in 1915, is Mrs. Tex Haeber. They were blessed with one child, Del.

Edward, born in 1917, is married to Emma Miller. They also have one child, Linda.

Edmund, born in 1919, is married to Rita Dehlman and they lived in Vancouver, B.C.

Martha, born in 1921, married Alex Whitza. They have two boys: Mark and Edward.

Otto, born in 1924, is single and lives in Hay Lakes.

Ted, born in 1925, married Fern Armstrong. Their three boys are: Larry, Dwayne, and Bobby.

Hattie, born in 1928, is Mrs. Lloyd Perkins. They have two children: David and Karen.

Henry, born in 1930, married Marlene Tober of Hay Lakes. There are four children in this family, namely: Murray, Kevin, David, and Karen.

John was an asset to the community, as he was also a casket maker for a large area. This took many evenings of hard work for him and Wilhelmina, as time was also limited. His two sons followed in his footsteps; Edmund is a building contractor in greater Vancouver and Ted, an interior decorator and instructor in a technical school in Metro Toronto.

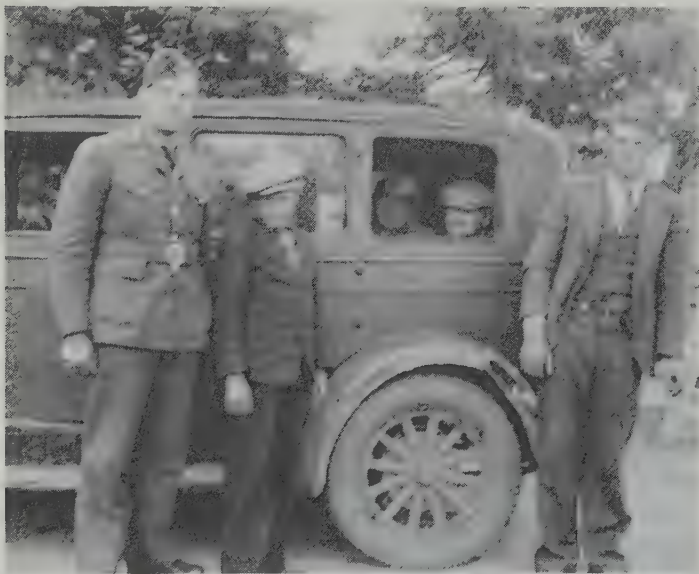
John loved to play the accordion and Wilhelmina spent her spare time at the spinning wheel. John loved to dance and was a hearty singer.

On the evening of November 10, 1947, John passed away suddenly from a heart attack. He was sixty-nine years old.

Mrs. Mittelstaedt, being the backbone of the family, continued to farm with her sons. She was always a strong person and a hard worker. No job was ever too much for her. She moved to Hay Lakes in 1960, and enjoyed looking after her garden and attended regular church services. She took sick in March, 1972, and underwent an emergency operation for gallstones and recovered remarkably well. This led to more sadness, as it was found that she had cancer of the pancreas. On the afternoon of July 1, 1972, she passed away at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose, at the age of eighty-three years.



The John Mittelstaedt Family. In the car Olga and step children Hertha and Lily. John, Lydia, Martha, Hattie sitting on her mother's lap, Wilhelmina, Ted, Otto, Edmund, Edward and Olga's step daughter Agnes.



Edmund, Harry, Wilhelmina and John in car, Edward.

Edmund J. M. — Edmund was born and raised in the Hay Lakes area but attended New Sarepta Rural School.

In 1940 he joined the Army, the Loyal Edmonton Infantry Regiment, and took his basic training at Currie Barricks, Calgary. In 1943 due to illness he was transferred to the Royal Canadian Army Service

Corp. headquarters at Suffield, Alberta, where he served as a Butcher-Baker.

Upon his discharge, he took up construction work, which took him from Hay Lakes to New Sarepta, Leduc, Fairview, and Manning.

In 1956 he left his shop in Hay Lakes, settling in Vancouver, B.C. where he continued in carpentering. There he married a widow, Rita Dehlman, who with her husband Herman, at one time owned and operated the Hay Lakes Locker Plant.

He is now the supervisor of the Royal Hudson, which is an Old Scenic Steam Locomotive, which operates from Fort Steele to the Yukon.

Edmund is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 341 and the Foresters. He also belongs to the lapidary club and is presently President of the Recreation Society of Burnaby.

Theodore — Ted was born in Hay Lakes, attended Canard and South Busenius Schools.

Ted joined the Anti Tank Corp. in Little Mountain, B.C. He took his Basic Training in Vernon, B.C. and was later transferred to Camp Borden, Ontario where he held rank of Sergeant. In 1943 he was sent overseas, and his army days were spent in France and Holland, where he was an M.P.

He returned home in 1946 and left for Toronto where he married Fern Armstrong. They have three sons and one grandchild.

Ted started his own business as a interior decorator. He is now the foreman of a school board maintenance crew in Toronto. He also is an instructor of carpentry and interior decorating at a technical school in Toronto. He lives in Willowdale, Ontario.

Hattie Perkins — Hattie was born on July 29, 1928. She attended Canard School for two years and took the rest of her schooling at South Busenius, but went back to Canard for her grade nine.

In 1970, after separation from her husband at New Sarepta, she rented a house from Gus and Lydia Lachman in the village of Hay Lakes. She spent a very short time there before moving to Camrose. She enjoyed living in Hay Lakes with her two children, David and Karen. She was active in the Girl Guide Movement, of which she was the Captain. She enjoyed camping with the girls. She curled all winter and coached the Mosquito Girls in fastball and for the first time, Hay Lakes took the Camrose County trophy.

After she moved to Camrose, she worked at Bethany Home for many years, and now with her husband, Lloyd, operates L & H Restaurant Supplies. She is an active bowler, belongs to a dart club and was chartered into the Lioness Club, October 14, 1977. She plays bingo with the Senior Citizens and is in her second term of 1st Vice President in the Ladies' Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion in Camrose.

Mittelstaedt, Otto

Otto Mittelstaedt, known to everyone as, "Jake," was born September 12, 1924. He attended new Sarepta Rural School for one year and finished the rest of his schooling at Canard.

At an early age, Jake started to work for Carl and Martha Nordin at the Hay Lakes Hotel. Part and full time he gave service to the Hotel for twenty-six years.

After his father's passing, he went back to farming, but continued to work part time in the hotel.

In 1972, he sold the land and lived with his mother in the village. In 1974, he purchased the Best Value store which is now Big M Foods. Jake enjoys his curling and has always been an active community worker. He is a member of the Hay Lakes Church. On March 14, 1981, Jake was chartered into the Lions Club.

Mogdans, George by Alice Lachman

George Mogdans was born on the 23rd of September, 1903. He immigrated to Canada in 1923.

Shortly after arriving in the Hay Lakes district, he started working for other people, beginning at Joe Kreamer's place.

He was very active in the church youth activities. In the winter he worked in a logging camp. By saving his money, he was able to buy a farm in the Ardrossan area. In summer he worked on the farm. In winter he worked in Frazer's saw mill. He did a lot of carpentry work in the 1940's, especially in Devon for the oil companies.



George Mogdans.

He sold his farm in the early fifties and moved to Edmonton to retire. He enjoys, playing the horses, movies, the library and the museum.

Mogdans, Gottlieb by Alice Lachman

Gottlieb Mogdans, as a widower, immigrated to Canada from Russia in 1913. He worked at Weiser's

farm near Camrose. Gottlieb married Augusta Slecht, a widow, a few years later. He moved to the Slecht farm which is now known as Emil Lachman's sixty acres. In 1923, Gottlieb sent for two of his children, George and Adele, who were in Germany.



Gottlieb and Augusta Mogdans.

They farmed on a small scale, with a few pigs, chickens and about eight cows. He had those cows so well trained that they wouldn't mess on the yard, but waited until they were through the gate in the pasture. He worked for other people when he had spare time. Everything was kept very tidy, and in good repair. The house had flowers all around it.

Gottlieb sent for his second daughter Emma, (Mrs. Pgetzke) and her family in 1925. His third daughter, Anna Radtke and her family arrived in 1929. So now the family was complete.

Gottlieb Mogdans died June 11, 1934 of cancer of the stomach. His wife, Augusta lived with the Emil Lachman family until her death on August 18, 1949.

Mohr, A History of the Adolph Family by Violet Reinke

Here is the history of Adolph Mohr, October 18, 1893 to May 18, 1951, who came to Canada March 27, 1926. He bought a farm owned by Ed Holmberg. That first year he lived in a hole dug in a hill just east

of Hay Lakes. After working for Martin Henkleman he built a twelve by fourteen feet granary.

Ottilia Heldebrandt, born Sept. 1, 1903, emigrated from Poland in 1926. She worked as a housekeeper for the Wensel family in New Sarepta. Here Adolf found his life partner. Their first two children died. This marriage was blessed with four other children.

Violet, born at Hay Lakes, October 7, 1933, later became Mrs. Arnold Reinke. Walter Mohr born July 30, 1935, in Edmonton. Clarence joined the family February 27, 1938 and June 26, 1942 Marlene Mohr was born in Edmonton.



The Adolf Mohr Family — 1948. L. to R.: Violet, Ottilia, Marlene, Adolf, Clarence, Walter.

Adolf had two sisters who also lived at Hay Lakes — Mrs. Adolf Reinke and Mrs. Paul Heibner.

We were never told how poor we were, because everyone else was poor too. Sometimes we got second hand clothing from a family in Edmonton. We opened sweaters to knit gloves, stockings, and caps. Mother made us slippers from discarded sweaters. We sold butter and eggs, even if it were only four or six dozen.

Walter Mohr who served as a missionary in Indonesia for eighteen years, now resides in Hamilton, Ontario. Clarence works at the A.G.T. office in Edmonton. Sister Marlene Ehrenholz is married and is living in Barrhead. We now are at New Sarepta.

This life brought our family close together. We appreciated everything and wasted nothing.

Ottilia Mohr lives in Edmonton and had her seventy-seventh birthday September 1, 1980.

Moser, Camille and Elsie by Elsie Moser

I was born at Millet, Alberta, the third child of Mr. and Mrs. John Zerbin. Camille was the fourth child of Mr. and Mrs. Roaul Moser of Leduc. We were both raised on farms and both attended Heimdal School.

We were married in Edmonton in 1943 when Camille returned from serving in the Armed Forces.

In 1956 we bought the Imperial Garage at Hay Lakes from Dick Gellert of Red Deer. We moved into Hay Lakes on August 1st, 1956. The garage had been closed for a number of years, so we renovated and opened for business that year. Camille operated this business until 1978.



Camille Moser in his Imperial Garage.



The Camille Moser Family. L. to R.: Camille, Lois, Elsie, Lawrence.

In 1963 we built the house next door to the garage, in which the Albert Werners now live. We lived there until 1970. During our stay Camille served on Village Council in 1963 and 1967 and was the mayor of Hay Lakes in 1964 and 1968. He was also a member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Canadian Legion. I was a leader of the Hay Lakes Brownie Pack for several years and also a member of the Ladies Circle "S" Club.

We purchased the Paul Bittner farm, SE34-48-22-W4th, in 1970 and still reside there.

Both of our children were born while we lived in Hay Lakes. Lois in 1963 and Lawrence in 1966. Lois took all her schooling in Hay Lakes, graduating in 1981. She married Harry Hartmann in 1980 and lives on a farm two and one-half miles from the village of Hay Lakes. Lawrence is presently attending Hay Lakes High School.

Nordin, Rudolph and Louise

Louise Roper was born in Camrose Hospital October 31, 1914, but nearly died a few months later from bronchial pneumonia. (No permanent damage to lungs or larynx!) On March 7, 1915, she was christened in Holy Angels and All Saints Anglican Church, Halley. Grades one to nine were completed at Canard School, senior matriculation at Camrose High, Business Education at Camrose Lutheran College.

After graduating from Camrose Normal School in 1933 with a First Class Certificate, came the trauma of beginning teaching in the home school, Canard: one room, grades 1 to ten, 54 pupils — and one of them her younger brother!

After three years of hard and satisfying work here, she felt ready for the next test — marriage on October 11, 1936, and a move to a little house in Hay Lakes, where husband Rudolph Nordin was employed by D. Cohen, general merchant. Later, Louise served as village secretary-treasurer. However, the call of the farm took them in April, 1939, to their newly purchased land, NW-28-28-22-W4. Another traumatic experience, for the house was unpainted, windows were broken, attic filled with rubbish, interior battered, housing BED BUGS! A strenuous and successful war was waged; weapons were burning sulphur and liberally used turpentine. And that first fall the farm produced enough Canada Thistle to seed all of Alberta. Survival in what they called "The Outpost" was a struggle, but with the help of nearby family and Mrs. Kinghorn, the latter giving them several pure bred Ayrshire heifer calves from which they eventually built a small but fine dairy herd, progress was made. But Lady Luck refused to smile: hunters shot the first cow, sleeping

sickness took a fine young horse, a young sow lay on four of her litter of seven.

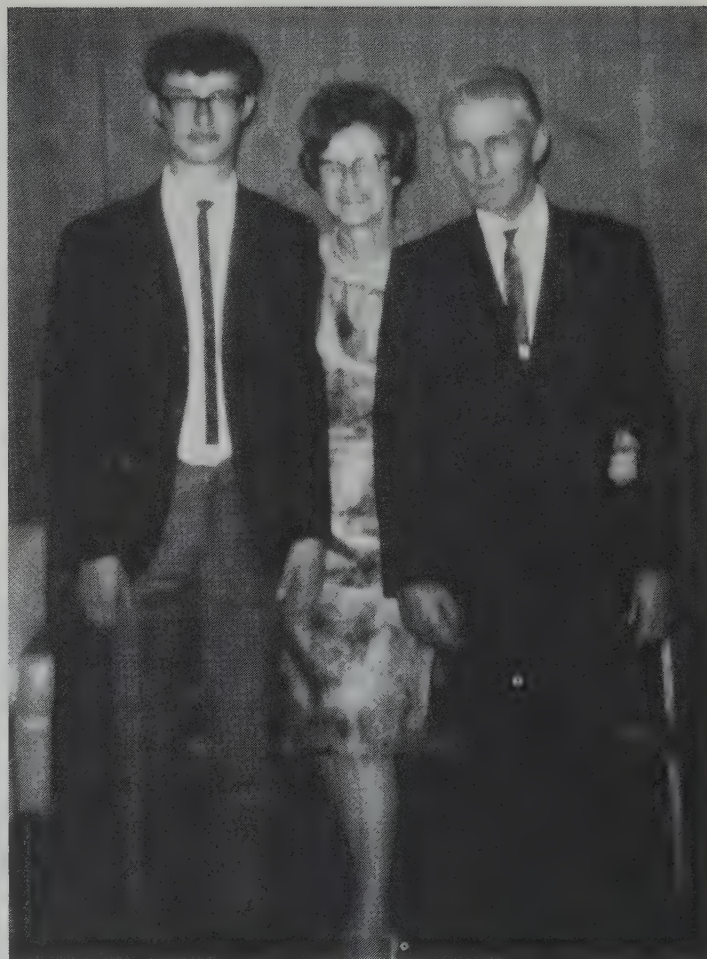
Over the years, the old farmstead has been transformed into a reasonably attractive one.

When Canard's excessive enrolment made a second room essential, Louise returned to teaching. What was meant to be a very temporary schoolroom in a two-car garage in Bill Wesenberg's yard served pupils to grade eleven from 1940 to 1944. Inspected by curious hogs at the door opened for ventilation in summer and serenaded by turkeys on the roof in the fall, pupils and teachers displayed great zeal and ingenuity in coping with the varied problems posed by this unique school facility.

Louise continued as principal when the "school on the hill" was enlarged to two rooms, resigning in the spring of 1946. However, she answered frequent calls for substitute teaching at both New Sarepta and Hay Lakes until 1958 when she agreed to become a full-time member of the former staff until 1960; later, 1961-1964, she served on the Hay Lakes staff.

Rudolph enlisted in the army in December, 1941, going overseas with the R.C.A.S.C. of the Fourth Canadian Division the next September. After serving in England, France (including the Normandy landing), Belgium, Holland, and Germany, he returned to Canada on the "Queen Elizabeth," reaching Edmonton just before Christmas, 1945. After several months of treatment and physiotherapy, he returned to the farm. Before long his skills were required by Leduc Municipality: road-building in summer, machine repair and snowploughing in winter. In January, 1953, Imperial Oil called; in his more than 19 years with the company, Rudolph knew well the Joarcam, Redwater, Judy Creek, Swan Hills, and Carson Lake fields. Early retirement, enforced by ill health, came in 1972. The farmstead, retained when the farm was sold, now serves as an escape from the city, a haven in which to indulge in his favorite occupation — repairing engines and machinery.

In the Hay Lakes Municipal Library and, later, in the combined school and municipal library in the Hay Lakes School, Louise's professional interest in library development first found expression. After completing her Bachelor of Education (with distinction) and Master's degrees at the University of Alberta, she spent ten years as Assistant School Library Supervisor with the Edmonton Public School Board. School Library courses were also taught at Summer Sessions, University of Alberta. To find time for other pursuits, the decision to retire was made. Since the end of 1977, days have been filled with various projects in genealogy, historical research, philately, photography, gardening. Travel, too, has been a major interest.



June 15, 1968. Hilary, Lousie, Rudolph Nordin.

Rudolph's interest and participation in sports are well known. Baseball was his first love, proudly wearing his first uniform, made by his mother, in 1924. He has played every position. In hockey his role as goalie earned him a twice-broken nose, memento of those pre-mask days.

In May of 1949, son Hilary was born. After attending school in Hay Lakes, New Sarepta, and Victoria, he completed high school at Strathcona Composite in Edmonton. In 1970 he married; he and Kathy now (1981) have their home on the west side of Lac la Nonne, commuting daily to places of employment in Westlock.

Olson, Halvor **by Dagmar (Sikstrom) Hermanutz**

This very fine gentleman was a friend of my dad over many years. I grew fond of him as he was very kind to children and was never happier than when he was able to do little things for them.

Halvor Benjamin Olson was born in North Dakota, U.S.A. in September, 1870. He was at one time binder man in North Dakota where his job was to keep the binder in repair. He was provided with a saddle horse and when a binder stopped it was up to him to repair it and get it moving.



Halvor Olson, Jim Hodgson, Adolphe and Noel Kelly at Halvor (Papa) Olson's place.



Halvor (Papa) Olson and grandchildren Alan and Gordon Olson.

He worked at Pollard's brickyard, east of the high level bridge in Edmonton, as a steam engineer. The next thing we know about him is that he homesteaded at Sandy Lake about 1900 previous to settling by a very large long lake known as Big Hay Lake. A great deal of hay was put up around this lake. He broke all the land himself with horses (NW 5-49-22-W4).

Halvor married Josie Williams in 1902 and to this union four children were born; Tina 1904, Hattie 1905, and Alice 1907. Mrs. Hodgson was the mid-wife when George was born in 1910.

Papa Olson as we fondly called him was a very fine old-time fiddler. He travelled many miles to play for dances as well as play at home for young people who gathered for a dance or sing song.

Halvor would walk to Edmonton from his home-stead to buy necessities.

I remember him saying that he was working in the fields on March 5, 1905.

Papa Olson passed away in April, 1945 and was buried on the day that President Roosevelt died. His son, George, took over the farm after Papa Olson passed away. George married Dagmar Sikstrom and from this union nine children were born, two of which are deceased. The remaining family are; Dennis, Phyllis, Doris, Arlene, Alan, Willard and Gerald (Jerry). George passed away in 1962 and the old farm was sold in 1963 to Ed Kinas and later to E.O. Berryman.

Dagmar married Antony Hermanutz and they presently live in the Hay Lakes district.

Paul, Bill by Alma Paul

Bill Paul was born at Schular, Alberta, 1918, the third child of a family of seven to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Paul. They lived in Southern Alberta for a few years, renting land. When he was eight years old they moved to Veteran, renting land again, as times were very hard, and they could not afford to buy their own land. He attended school there, along with his sister, and at a young age had to help with the farm work. In 1930, when he was only twelve years old, his dad passed away leaving his mother to raise the family alone. He and his older brother Emanuel, along with their mother kept on farming to help clothe and feed the family.

When he was a little older he went out working to help along. The wages weren't very much at that time. He was paid fifty cents a day. People called those years the dirty thirties.

In 1937, he came to Hay Lakes with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Leicht. It was hard to make a living there, the government gave them free freight cars to move out of the drought stricken area, if they had a place to go. He stayed with them

for room and board during the winter and worked during the summer months for a small wage. From there he found work around Edson, working in lumber camps, and then found work at Trochu.

In 1939, he was called to go in training for one month at Camrose, after which he went farming with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Stang, at Preddis, Alberta. It was tough going and land had to be broken to be able to seed some grain, hoping to harvest enough to feed their horses and cattle. In 1944, he came back to Hay Lakes to work for Herman Lechelt. It was at this time we met.

I, Alma (Tober) was born, September 24, 1924, fifth child of Edward and Tillie Tober, at Hay Lakes and lived there all my life. I attended Canard School to grade eight passing into nine. Not many went to high school at that time, as most of us had to stay home and help with farm work. We didn't have too much entertainment except to go to an occasional dance, held in Hay Lakes or New Sarepta and of course barn dances. Sometimes we walked, as not too many boys had cars. The boys were charged fifty cents at the dance and ladies went in free. Most of the time lunch was included.

Our life centered mostly around our church which was attended regularly. I sang in the choir and went to Young Peoples, where we had many social evenings. I, like a lot of young girls wanted to earn a few dollars of my own money, so in 1943, I went to Edmonton to get a job as a waitress, earning \$15.00 to \$18.00 a week. At that time it was a lot of money. After a year and a half I came home to help mother again as she wasn't well. I met Bill in the spring of 1945 at a church picnic held at Hastings Lake. We were married November 27, 1946. I continued singing in the choir for many years, taught Sunday School, was an L.C.W. member, and served as vice-president and president.

Bill served on the Church Council about twelve years and also on various committees in the community. We left the farm and we are enjoying semi-retirement in Camrose.

We were married November 27, 1946 in St. Stephens Lutheran Church, Rev. L. Koss officiating. Our first home was Gus Lachman's farm which we rented, now owned by Erwin Lachman. We had no power, phone, or car, but had some cattle and pigs. Times weren't too bad then and we soon made headway. Bill bought two horses and we bought a buggy from my brother Ewald. We travelled in that fashion for two years. He also bought a small tractor which came in handy to make our visits in that style. I often helped Bill at binding time, baling hay and straw, and driving the tractor.

The fall of 1948, we moved to another farm. We

rented Ervin Lechelt's place and farmed there for eight years, (now owned by Zenan Goclou). We bought our first car after we moved, from Ralph Hickey. It was a Model A Ford. We could sure travel with that. There was no gravel on the roads, and it took us through many a muddy road.

We moved again in 1956 to a larger home, as by now we had three children and the house was a bit too small. We rented my home place, which my mother still owned. There we had power and were happy to be there. On June 15, 1957, Randy, our fourth son, was born. We farmed there for three years when it was sold to Allen Stang (now owned by Darcy McGhan).



The Bill Paul family — 1978. L. to R., Back: Lorne, Randy, Douglas. Front: Bill, Alma, Brian.

In 1959 we moved to the Gwynne area and rented three quarters of land from Clarence Maygard. While living there, the boys attended school at Gwynne. We only stayed for three years. By this time we wanted to buy our own land, which we did. In 1962 we bought NW¼ 27-48-22-W4 and SW½ 27-48-22-W4 from Mrs. Bill Lede and moved back to Hay Lakes and were happy to own our home.

We lived there for fourteen years, also renting more land. With all the boys, Bill had lots of help. He rented Dick Drake's farm for two years, then Albert Werner's for two years and also Jim Gallaher's for two years. In 1974, I came down with rheumatoid arthritis and was unable to do any work. We decided to sell. The boys were all gone by then. In 1976, we did sell and had a farm sale.

We bought a house in Camrose and at present are still there. Bill got a part-time job working for the County of Camrose. Our biggest joy was when we flew to Hawaii in March, 1980.

We are still members of Our Savior Lutheran Church at Hay Lakes. It's still home to us and we visit

our many friends often; our hearts are still there. We were blessed with four children.

They are:

Douglas, born March 17, 1948 is living in Edmonton and is the yard foreman for City Lumber. Lorne, born December 13, 1951, and is married to Terry Metzker. They have two children, Shauna and Jason. They live in Edmonton and he works for Dar West Oil Services. Brian, born January 24, 1953 is married to Rosemarie Stabel. They live in Millwoods and he works at Nisku. He is a dispatcher for Kwikasair, a trucking firm. Randy, born June 15, 1957 is married to Rhonda Amy. They have two children, Robert and Philip. They live at Hay Lakes and he works in Edmonton for Watson Sheet Metal.

Prier, Robert

Robert Prier was born in 1919 the son of August and Hulda Prier who farmed on NW15-49-22W4. He attended school at Canard and New Sarepta Rural. In 1942 he joined the Canadian Armed Forces and served in Canada and the North Pacific. He was a gunner when discharged in 1944.

On November 14, 1944 Robert married Irene Lang whom he had met in Vancouver during the war. Irene grew up at Beiseker, Alberta. They then came to the home farm at New Sarepta. Robert took charge of the farm in 1947 after his father's death but continued to do some barbering. He served as a barber in Fort Saskatchewan in 1946 and later barbered in Calmar, New Sarepta, Hay Lakes, and Ponoka.

In 1969 the farm was sold to Walter and Hertha Falk and Robert purchased a farm near Calmar. This was sold in 1976 and another farm purchased in the Usona district, near Wetaskiwin, where they still reside.

Robert and Irene raised a family of three sons and

two daughters. Wayne is a barber at Thorsby and is married to Donna Gatzke. Ivan lives in Calgary and is a geologist. He married Linda Nikiforik and they have two children. Douglas, the youngest, lives in Edmonton and is employed in the meat processing industry. He is single. Connie married William Sutherland and lives in Terrace, B.C. Gladys is employed in Rycroft, Alberta.

Prier, August

by Harry and Edith Prier

August Prier was born in 1880 and Hulda Prier was born in 1885. August and Hulda and their small son Rheinhold immigrated to Canada from Volhynia, Russia in 1913. They lived in the Ellerslie area for a short time, then they purchased a farm north west of Hay Lakes (NW 15-49-22-W4). My oldest brother went to the Canard School which was three and one-half miles away and that was the school division to which we belonged. Later on, the rest of us children went to the New Sarepta Rural School till the teacher died and then we attended New Sarepta Village School. We had a distance of three miles which we walked every day, morning and evening, except in very cold weather, we drove with horse and sleigh.

August and Hulda Prier had to face many hardships during those pioneering days.

The land was cleared by hand with grub hoe and axe. Horses were used pulling the machinery and for travelling to the store and church services. To earn a little extra money my dad would go and work for some farmers in the Ellerslie area. He would walk all the way to work and walk back. And when it rained and they didn't have any work for him, he walked back.

Their house was a two room shack, twelve feet by twenty-four feet. It was heated by a wood stove and the coal oil lamp was used to give light in the house. The lantern was used to carry around outside where ever you needed, to harness the horses and to feed and milk the cows.

There were no clothes closets in the house. Each child when he was old enough got a big nail in the wall to hang up all his clothes that he wore. In spring the children would move their beds into granaries to sleep and we had lots of fresh air till the frost came in fall. We then moved our beds back into the shack.

Most of our food was home grown and canned. Potatoes and vegetables were stored in the cellar. The cream was sold and some times made into butter. It was sold at Hay Lakes, New Sarepta and some times at Leduc and Camrose.

In 1934, my parents built a modern new home. It had eight rooms, a built in stoker and was enjoyed very much. A well was drilled close beside the house



The Robert Prier Family — 1963. Back Row, L. to R.: Wayne, Ivan. Row Two: Connie, Robert, Irene. Front: Douglas and Gladys.

and it was real easy and fast to pump a cup of water whenever you needed it. Later on more buildings were built. A windmill pumped water for the cattle. Later on more land was purchased and us four boys were kept busy.



August and Hulda Prier, Irene Prier — 1945.

My parents had seven children, some children died in their infant years.

Martha married Al Madu of Rollyview they have four children, Raymond, Lorne, Elaine and Violet.

Hertha married Ford Atchison. They have four children, Bruce, Roy, Diane and Linda.

Evelyn married Herman Riehl and they live in Leduc.

Reinhold married Agatha Greenling. There were three children, Audrey, Levilla and Vern.

Robert married Irene Lang. They have five children, Wayne, Ivan, Connie, Gladys and Varden. They reside in the Wetaskiwin area.

Herbert married Elsie Oscar of the Rollyview area. They have five children, Marvin, Marlene, Ronald, Jean and Eileen.

I, Harry was the youngest of the boys. I finished my grade eight class in the New Sarepta village school. I would have liked to receive a higher education, but the funds were not available. My parents said, "Stay home and farm with us." They needed



The August Prier Family. November 8, 1976. L. to R., Back: Reinhold, Herbert, Robert, Harry. Front: Martha Madu, Evelyn Riehl, Hertha Atchison.

my help since my two older brothers were married by then and Robert was in the Army. So I obeyed and stayed home and worked on the farm till I was twenty-four years old. Then my brother Robert came home from the Army and I moved.

On November 17, 1944, I married Edith Nitschke, daughter of Wilhelm and Helene Nitschke of the Rollyview area.

After we were married we lived with Edith's parents for five months. During those months we looked for a farm and were able to buy Ludwig and Hulda Eidick's farm (NE 30-49-22-W4).

On March 31, 1945 we moved on our own farm with three horses, five head of cattle, one sow and thirty hens. Our first cream cheque was \$3.60 for five gallons of cream.

Those early years were hard for us, but not as hard as those early forefathers had to endure. Our land was clear and we were able to have a good crop the first year. We also had a big house with lots of farm buildings on the place, much better than I had at my parents' place.

In 1947, we bought our first vehicle, a green half ton Ford truck and used it for many years. In 1948, we bought our first new Oliver 60 tractor. In 1952, we bought a new weed sprayer and did a lot of custom weed spraying and we still are using it to spray weeds. In 1952, we bought a new 1952 Pontiac car and that was a real luxury. In 1953, we got our telephone. In 1954 we were hooked up to Calgary Power. Our combine was bought in 1959 and as the years passed by more land was purchased and bigger machinery was bought.

In 1964, we built our new house and we are enjoying all the modern conveniences that it has.

We sold our dairy in October, 1978 and enjoy an easier life with some grain farming. I also work for the County of Leduc for the Agriculture Service Board during the summer months.

We have four children, our oldest son Lyle married Iona Jespersen of Spruce Grove. They have three children, Lloy, Brendyn, and Lynelle. Lyle is a teacher at Edson.

Sharon married Rev. Gunter Flemke. They have one son, Chris, and live in Barrie, Ontario and he works for the Canadian Bible Society.

Beverly married Jerry Mathis. He works for the United States Air Force as a Space Systems Operations Officer.

Clifford, our youngest son is still single and works for Palm Dairies in South Edmonton.

In 1947, my dad, August Prier passed away at the age of sixty-seven years and was buried in the New Sarepta Lutheran Cemetery.

to live with us for four and a half years. Afterwards she stayed at Robert's place a short time and the last year and four months she stayed at Park Land Nursing Home in Leduc. She passed away in 1976 at the age of ninety-one years and four months. She is buried at the New Sarepta Lutheran Cemetery.

Radawetz, Julian

researched by Olga St. Louis

written by Ruth Radawetz

Julian Radawetz (Julius) was born in Makowisho, Austria on August 2, 1883. Very little is known of his childhood. He had one sister older than he, Mrs. Anna Kohut, who also settled in the Hay Lakes district.

He served in the Austrian army for several years. Also in the army was Nick Sapelak who grew up in a neighbouring village. The two became good friends which lasted throughout their lives.



Daniel and Hulda (Prier) Schweitzer — 1954.

In 1949, my mother Hulda Prier married Daniel Schweitzer of Hay Lakes. Dan Schweitzer worked for Hay Lakes Hardware for many years. He passed away in 1959. Mother then lived by herself in Hay Lakes till she was eighty-two years. Then she came



Julian (Julius) Radawetz.

It was through letter correspondence of Nick Sapelak, who had friends already in the Hay Lakes area, that they decided to immigrate to Canada. So in 1913 Julius, his brother-in-law Mike Kohut and Mr. and Mrs. Nick Sapelak set out from Austria. They settled temporarily in Camrose, a small village then. The men worked at the Dinant coal mine and Julius also worked at laying sewer lines for the town of Camrose.

In 1917 with careful planning and saving he was able to purchase a quarter section farm two miles west and two miles south of Hay Lakes. It is believed that Mike Kohut and Nick Sapelak purchased neighbouring farms at that time also.

His father died in Austria. In 1921 his mother Maria and his sister Anna Kohut, two nephews John and Steve arrived in Hay Lakes from Austria.

He met Kathryn (Katie) Karpowich at the Fred Rubis farm. In June 1918 they were married and began farming.

In 1921 he helped with the construction of the Holy Cross Greek Catholic Church. He loved singing and had a good voice. He was the first choir cantor for that church. Later Alex Marusak accompanied him and eventually they formed a choir. Julius liked to put on his good suit and enjoy himself at various community events, but singing was always his favorite pastime.

His wife Katie was born in Hrabowitz, Austria on July 7, 1899. She immigrated to Canada at the age of four years with her parents Mike and Marina Karpowich. Katie had six brothers and two sisters, also a sister who died at age six. In 1904 the Karpowich family settled in the Thorsby district. In 1916 her father purchased land three miles west and four miles south of Hay Lakes. So it was that Katie came to this district and met her future husband.

Katie and Julius had the misfortune to lose their first two children. John born in 1919 and a daughter Hazel in 1920. They were the first burials on the Holy Cross Cemetery. The children of Katie and Julius:



The Julian (Julius) Radawetz Family. Back Row, L. to R.: George, Julius, Henry, Joseph, Alex. Front: Wilmer, Olga St. Louis, Katie and Peter. Missing: Michael Radawetz.

Michael born in 1921 — married to Greta Stuver live in Westbank, B.C. They have three children; Rina Johnson of Regina, Sask., Michael of Smithers, B.C. and Kelly at home.

Peter born in 1923, bachelor, lives in Hay Lakes.

Henry born in 1926 married to Elsie Stolarchuk live in Smokey Lake. They have three children; Joyce

Atcheson and Loreen in Edmonton and Jerome at home.

Alexander born in 1927, bachelor, lives in Hay Lakes.

Julius born in 1929 married to Ruth Lachman lives in Edmonton. They have three children; Sally Anne Walls of Calgary, Barbara Sims in Edmonton and David at home.

Wilmer born in 1931 married to Shirley Bolt, lives in Hay Lakes. Their three children; Joanne Soch, Jennifer Roper and Jim all of Hay Lakes.

George born in 1933 married to Marge Anderson, lives in Edmonton. Their three children; Donald, Georgina and Randy all in Edmonton.

Morris born in 1935 — died in 1957 in an oil rig accident.

Joseph born in 1937 married to Shirley Davidson, lives in New Sarepta. They have three children; Darrell in Edmonton, Theresa Bufford of Camrose and Kathy at home.

Edward born in 1938 — died 1938.

Olga born in 1939 married to Norman St. Louis. Olga lives in Edmonton and her children Valerie, Vaughn, Kevin, Karen and Marilyn reside there too.

Donald born in 1940 — died 1940.

Katie and Julius faced a difficult and challenging task with the raising of such a large family.

In his declining years Julius developed diabetes and through this illness had a leg amputated. Infection eventually set in on the other leg. He died in October, 1960 at the age of seventy-seven. Katie also developed diabetes and died September, 1975 at the age of seventy-six. The farm is presently being operated by sons Alex and Peter.

Reinke, Arnold Family History by Violet Reinke

This is the history of the Arnold Reinke family. Arnold was born July 4, 1926 in Emilufka, Russia, son of Adolf Reinke and Ernestine Wolter. His father (Adolf) was taken from his home in 1936, and never heard of since. Arnold is the only member of his family in Canada.

Arnold came to Canada through a bursary from the Leduc Lutheran church. He first worked for Wm. Wedman of Leduc, thereafter, wherever he could find employment.

Again the church indirectly played a role in Arnold's life. While visiting at St. Joseph's Hospital, Edmonton, he met a cheerful, dark-eyed lady named Violet Mohr, who was employed there. Violet, who was from New Sarepta, became his bride May 15, 1954.

The family lived on five different farms in the New Sarepta and Hay Lakes districts. They sold one

farm to buy the next, or they rented. The last farm sold in 1974, to Herbert Anton, was located four miles west of Hay Lakes, on Highway 21.

On the last farm which they had in 1974, from twelve cows they kept, they had four sets of twin calves. In the same year, two others cows were sold which also delivered twin calves. These cows were not fed anything but the usual hay and straw. This happened over a three month period. This was the year of the flood in Hay Lakes area, making 1974 a memorable year for us.



The Arnold Reinke Family — 1979. Arnold, Raymond, Violet, Ervin Reinke and Ruth and son Keith de-la-Salle.

I, Violet Reinke (nee Mohr) was born at Hay Lakes, October 7, 1933. Due to my father's illness I left school at fourteen years of age to help mother with the farm. This enabled my younger brothers and sisters to continue with their schooling. Later, I spent one year at Hilcrest Bible School, Medicine Hat. I was employed in Edmonton at the University Veterans Hospital 1953, and St. Joseph's Hospital in 1954.

The highlights of my homemaking includes, quilting and being at home for my children and my grandchildren.

Ruth, born December 24, 1956, is married to Douglas de-laSalle and their son is Keith. Ruth went to Hay Lakes School for nine years, where she took her Grade twelve. Mrs. Helen Heinz taught Ruth, her brothers, her mother and her Uncle, who served as a missionary in the Far East.

Raymond Reinke, born June 5, 1955, took grade twelve at Hay Lakes School and later was employed

at the Army and Navy, Turnbull Motors and now works on an oil rig.

Ervin Reinke born November 5, 1958, completed his grade nine and part of grade ten, then had to quit school due to road conditions, as he had to drive to New Sarepta.

My husband Arnold, had the misfortune to lose an eye, when he was pulling a nail, the nailhead broke and struck his eye. In spite of this, he is in much demand in various types of work and does building and carpentry work in the area and even in Leduc.

Roper, George

George was born in Camrose on July 7, 1920 — the youngest son of W. T. and W. N. Roper. He grew up in an atmosphere of family love, living in the grace of God. This precious gift he has learned to value more than anything else in this world.

Surviving early sickness, he went to school at Canard from 1926 to 1928; then in Camrose at the John W. Russell school for three years; then back to Canard for three years and finally finishing up in the Hay Lakes school. Several events are always remembered — riding a Shetland pony, who had a habit of expanding her belly so that the cinch would never be tight and the saddle would roll — rider and all. Also, in spring when the waters of the creek through which he had to ride twice a day were deep and turbulent, having Mrs. Kinghorn wade across in water up to her armpits, leading the pony for fear it would dump him into the water. Depending on the weather and season it was pony, bike, "shanks mare" and later on a full-sized saddle horse which he rode to Canard and to Hay Lakes while in High School. Riding to Hay Lakes in thirty below temperatures was a common experience. He can also recall, when walking to Canard with his sister Louise (Mrs. A. R. Nordin) when she was the teacher, on bitter blizzardly winter days having to rub the calves of her legs because they were freezing. Ladies in those days didn't have the luxury of slacks or ski-doo outfits like her modern counter-parts.

He was introduced very early to the shooting sports, and hunting became a very much indulged in activity. All forms of sports were taken part in. Tennis — played on the home court, or in Hay Lakes or Camrose or even in Vancouver was just one. Softball (later to develop into fastball), baseball for many years both before and after World War II, curling, hockey, badminton, bowling, horse-shoes, all took a place in his life. Recreation, personally, and on the community level, has interested him all the time. Helping found the Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association has been very rewarding, serving some

nine years on County and Regional Recreational boards filled many hours in an ever-learning task.

George likes music — whether it is of the “swinging” type, operatic or the strains of beloved hymns and spirituals. He played guitar for many years in dance bands led by his brother-in-law Reins Mittelstadt. Since 1938 he has been an active member of the choirs at St. Stephen’s and Our Saviour’s and of late with the New Sarepta Community Choir. During the last war he played bugle with the #3 Wireless Drum and Bugle Band (R.C.A.F.) in Montreal and followed that with playing trumpet with the Hay Lakes and Camrose County Bands for many years. He maintains nothing soothes the tired body as much as beautiful music — especially when rendered by family or friends.

George will readily admit to being badly “spoiled” as a youngster by his “fairy Godmother” Mrs. Kinghorn. A typical event was the gift of a new 1938 Deluxe Ford car on his eighteen birthday, equipped with all the extra. This car — in the days when most felt lucky to have a good bike or horse — brought much attention of mixed variety and motives.

In 1941 he enlisted in the R.C.A.F. as a wireless operator, taking his training in Calgary and Montreal. On graduation he was posted to Prince Rupert (#4 Group Headquarters) where he helped maintain communications with land, sea, and air patrols along the Pacific Coast. While there he joined a local entertainment troupe and played at army and airforce outposts, helping to break the monotony of life there. Of this part of his life, one thing will always be remembered — travelling by landing barge on the turbulent waters of the straits around Prince Rupert.

On August 28, 1942 he married Bertha Rost at St. Stephen’s Church Hay Lakes — with Rev. L. Koss officiating. After helping with the harvest he returned to Prince Rupert, and found a small place where they could “live” while he was stationed there. In the spring he was transferred to #5 A.O.S. Winnipeg. Bertha returned in April and moved into a small cottage owned by John Grahn (later owned by Mrs. Gus Kiel) in the village of Hay Lakes, where Bertha lived for one and a half years.

George had many exciting things happen while in Winnipeg. On his flight the observers (in training) got mixed up in their calculations, and got lost they would not believe the direction finding bearings he gave them, so they ended up about one hundred and fifty miles from where they should have been, almost out of fuel, and very lucky to find an air field. Flying those remarkably steady Ansons — he had several “near misses”. Both engines cutting out on take-off



George and Bertha Roper (Rost) August 28, 1942.

— both engines cutting out in mid-flight — ground-looping on landing at the field, wrecking the air craft and narrowly missing being ploughed into by a Mosquito fighter-bomber that was landing right behind them on the same runway, and finally crashing into the Riding Mountains while descending in a power glide on a completely “socked in” April day in 1944. The pilot was killed and one navigator seriously injured but George came out of it with a cracked leg bone. Once again there was Someone watching over him.

But it was not flying but hockey which ended his airforce career. While practicing with the #5 A.O.S. team on the station open air rink his skate stuck in a crack while he was skating “full out”. The resulting fall “blew the bottom” out of his right lung. Only by the steady transfusion of gallons of blood and the great around the clock attention of some dedicated nurses — plus — the help of God — did he survive. So in the spring of 1945 it was back home to Hay Lakes, to his wife and by now a daughter Connie born January 5, 1944 and a son Russell born January 27 in 1945.

Most of that first year back home was spent recuperating — in hospital often, and under continual surveillance. In 1946 he felt ready to try farming full time and the family moved to the nineteen acres farm site, bought from Trevor Roper (who had bought the original Gottlieb Knopp homestead) where they still reside — the SW¼ 28-48-22-W4. They purchased Mrs. Kinghorn's farm and her herd of dairy cattle. Along came their second son — Kenneth — in July. That year George helped start the #201 Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion — being a charter member and its first president. Through the years the family kept growing, the farm increased in size, yet there was always time for community life in every aspect. The church was always prominent in their activities, and of course all types of recreation, including all sports, and dance band and brass band playing.

The George Ropers had one very important assistant all these years — Mrs. Kinghorn. She was undoubtedly the most reliable helper anyone ever had, and it gave Bertha and George the chance to participate in any activity they felt drawn to. It gave George the chance to “work out” — as motor-scraper and “cat” operator with Leduc Construction for two years, as an inspector with Phoenix Pipe Mill in Edmonton for a year and for several years as clerk in the Hay Lakes Hardware operated by R. Mittelstadt.

During this time Bertha was raising the family, doing everything a farm wife had to do and often much more. A firm believer in God and the strength of His word, she did her utmost to keep the family close to the church and its life. Her heart and home were and still are open to the world community around her, and today she mixes in Macrame, Ceramics, working with the Good Shepherd Society in Wetaskiwin; L.C.W.; chairing the World Day of Prayer program in this area, choir singing, and caring about and for ten grandchildren, with all her gardening and general home duties.

George, who worked with his brother Trevor most of the time, was forced to take over the whole farm when Trevor was confined to hospital. He had been forced to give up the dairy operation in the early 1970's when his lungs became very badly inflamed and doctors ordered him to either get rid of the cows or get rid of himself — leaving little choice. In 1978 he had a knee operation which meant someone else had to take over the farm operation. In the fall of 1978 Ken and his family bought Trevor Roper's farm and now with the help of the other sons will be taking over the whole farm.

George is now a land agent with I.C.G. Utilities (Plains Western) Ltd. Bertha and he are looking forward to a bit more relaxed life from this day on.



The George Roper Family — 1975. L. to R., Back Row: Ken, Russell, Marge, Jack, Randy. Front: Linda, Bertha, George, Connie and Alyson.

They have four sons, Russell, married to Anne Tochek — living in Prince George; Kenneth, married to Shirley Lenz — with two daughters Michelle and Deanna; Randy, born in January 1951 — married to Lynn Lomnes — with son Michael and daughter Stacey; living in Sherwood Park; and John Trevor (Jack), born in March 1957 — married to Jennifer Radawetz — living in Hay Lakes, with a daughter Tina and son Trevor. They have four daughters, Connie — married to Dr. J. A. Brook — living in Ottawa, with two sons, George and David; Linda, born in April 1948 — married to Al MacDonald — with two sons, Dean and Scott and living in Edmonton; Margaret (Marge), born in March 1953 — living in Edmonton, working as secretary-accountant at the Allan Grey Auxiliary Hospital, and Alyson, born in June 1959 — at present attending university in Ottawa and playing Volleyball there and with Canada's National Team.

Life has been full for George and Bertha, yet they had time for other people too. Looking after and providing a home for parents and dear friend Mrs. Kinghorn while they were needing help was “just natural”.

Today, George has his job, plus being secretary of the Armena R.E.A.; a member of Fish and Game (Hay Lakes); Recreation Association; church council; Unifarm; the Senior Citizens' group — enough to keep him “out of mischief”. Bertha is still the homemaker, with her community work and hobbies keeping her fully occupied. With the blessing of God they hope to maintain this lifestyle for many years to come.

Roper, Bertha (nee Rost)

I was born in January 1921, the first child of the second marriage of Auguste Mittelstadt to August Rost. I grew up with a love for the outdoors and my job as a youngster was to keep that wood-box filled in the kitchen and to make sure the cows were home at milking time, which wasn't an easy task to find them in the heavily wooded pasture.

I attended Canard School (where I received all my education) which was on top of a hill. I remember the fun we had sliding down that hill in the winter time and playing softball in spring. We looked forward to practising for the "field day" (track meet) at Camrose. We would all get in back of Trevor Roper's truck and travel to Camrose, sometimes with misgivings as roads were terrible in those days (especially after a shower).

I attended St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (services were in the German language) and was confirmed there. I sang in the choir which was led by my brother Reins, then later by Elsa Lede. I was active in the Luther League (youth group). At that time every Luther League in our church Synod had a Men's Ball Team and a Ladies' Ball Team and competition was high. I remember many trips with thirty or more of us in the back of my dad's truck, going to a Luther League Rally in the Leduc area.

I stayed at home and helped Mom and Dad until I was married in August 1942 to George Roper.

The years that followed were filled with being involved in Home and School, Scouting, Girl Guides, and all kinds of sports and church activities.

I wish to contribute my love for gardening to George's mother who helped us plant hundreds of trees and shrubs around our home. As the years went by Mrs. Kinghorn was my constant helper.

The Lord blessed us with good health and we hope to live in this area for many years to come.

Roper, Kenneth and Shirley

I was born on July 12, 1946, second son of George and Bertha Roper. I started school in Hay Lakes in 1952 and graduated in June of 1964. In September of 1964 I joined the Royal Canadian Navy. Although I was hoping to "see the world", I ended up seeing a lot of snow in the Northwest Territories, Inuvik and Alert (on Ellesmere Island).

On November 11, 1967 (Remembrance Day!) I married Shirley Lenz daughter of Arthur and Helen Lenz. Shirley was "the girl next door" and we met while attending school in Hay Lakes.

After our marriage we moved to Moncton, New Brunswick where I completed my naval service at H.M.C.S. Coverdale. Shirley and I thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful countryside and the wonderful

people that we met. We hope to eventually return to Moncton to renew our friendships.

In August 1969 we returned to Edmonton. I enrolled in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology at N.A.I.T. and graduated in May, 1971. I began work as an Operating Engineer and have continued in this occupation to this date. Shirley made banking her career and is presently Assistant Manager with the Bank of Nova Scotia.



Ken and Shirley Roper 1981, daughters Deanna and Michelle.

On July 18, 1970 we were richly blessed with the birth of our daughter Michelle Yvonne and on August 4, 1973 another daughter, Deanna Marie.

In the fall of 1978 we purchased the farm of my uncle, H. Trevor Roper. This farm is also the original homestead of my grandfather, William Trevor Roper. Although working in the city and "trying" to farm is demanding, we enjoy our farm and living in the Hay Lakes Community — it just feels like home!

Roper, Herbert Trevor as submitted by George Roper)

Trevor was born February 9, 1912, the oldest son of W.T. and W. N. Roper. With the exception of part of 1915, when the family followed their father to Camrose and Calgary (Sarcie Camp) when training in World War I, and again for a short time while going to school at Red Deer and Vegreville (Roman Catholic convents) in 1918-20, Trevor lived on the farm.

He went to school at Canard until 1926 and then began full-time farming on the family farm. He worked with his father custom breaking hundreds of

acres of land in the Hay Lakes-New Sarepta area. He helped maintain the dairy herd from which his mother hauled cans of milk daily, winter and summer, to the cheese plant in Hay Lakes. Trevor went principally into hogs, always considering them the best bet for farming.

From the late 20's until the advent of the combine, he either worked with, or operated a threshing machine, doing custom work for many farmers for miles around. He had a truck with which he hauled grain, mostly at night, nearly all loading done with the "Armstrong" method.

In 1945 he had a new house built for his Mother and Dad, replacing the old log house of the homestead vintage. He purchased the Gottlieb Knopp farm in 1946 when Mr. Knopp moved to the Wetaskiwin area.

Farming and doing the best job possible became his life's work. He stayed home and farmed while his father and brother George enlisted in World War II. A lover of wild life he built two lagoons which took an enormous amount of work and material, because he not only created watered areas, but planted lilac, cottoneaster, spruce, and caraganas to give a protective habitat — even an island reached only by plank bridge-ways.



Trevor Roper in his wild-life refuge.

His relaxation was principally hunting and trapping, but fishing, tennis, baseball, horse shoes, dancing and curling found a place in his regime too. He was proficient at all these, but could not take time away from his main life's work — farming, to achieve the success and enjoyment which could have been his.

One incident in 1923, which left his face slightly marked for life, occurred when he "borrowed" his Dad's 12 gauge double-barrelled shotgun (his parents were away in town) and with his sister Louise, went to get the cows. Ducks were flying over, so imitating his father, he cocked both hammers, pointed the gun to the skies and accidentally pulled both triggers at the same time. The resulting explosion knocked him senseless, with blood streaming from his face. Louise ran home screaming, "Trevor has killed himself" — and I think maybe he thought he had, or should have, especially when Dad found out what had happened. A lesson never forgotten.

Trevor had one special friend, Harry Sikstrom, and together they whiled away countless hours in the winter, playing chess or cards, plus big-game hunting, fishing, trapping or just walking or skiing for miles about the area seeing "what made it tick." Summers were usually so busy that only picnics or Sundays broke the work program. Trevor and Harry, both physically strong, would vie for honors at who could pack out the most meat at one time (without the aid of a pack board) when big game hunting. I have seen Trevor carry a quarter of a big bull moose for nearly a mile up hill, down dale, over logs and underbrush, without removing it from his shoulder, something many bigger and stronger men could not do.

When a tragic accident took the life of his best friend, Trevor withdrew almost totally to the farm, with his parents and his work for company.

This became his "labor of love" — spending every spare moment at his task of farming. Strong physically, his incessant "over-load" on his body finally caught up with him and now has rendered him incapacitated to the point where he is a permanent resident of Rosehaven in Camrose.

He sold his farm to his nephew Kenneth, in 1978, on being assured it would continue to be the "Roper farm" for years to come.

Never seeking the lime-light, he will always be remembered as a good neighbor — someone to be depended on. The family owes a real debt of thanks to this pioneer who made lasting contribution, physically and otherwise, to their existence today.

Roper, William Trevor and Winnifred Nora

as submitted by George Roper

W. Trevor Roper was born June 24, 1886 near Kerrville, Texas, U.S.A. Registered as British at the British Consulate, he grew up on a ranch with Mexicans, Negroes and white children as playmates, setting the stage for his lack of prejudice toward people whose skin was of a different color. Ranch life

developed a tough physical body, which was a great asset down through the years.

His father came to the Territories (now Alberta) in May of 1897 and established a Trading Post in the Bittern Lake area, (S½-16-47-21-W4). In 1898 W.T. (as people came to know him), his mother and his sister Margaret followed, travelling for weeks by river boat, Santa Fe railroad, Great Northern, C.P.R. and finally team and wagon from Wetaskiwin. W.T.'s father was a world traveller and big game hunter and he soon taught him the fine points of shot-gun and rifle shooting, which was very important in those early years when game birds and animals were plentiful and a standard part of table fare amongst all people.

W.T. returned to Texas for a year and then went to Ontario to finish his schooling. When he returned to Alberta he obtained his homestead in the Hay Lakes area (SE 28-48-22-W4) on July 4, 1904, (where his grandson, Kenneth Roper, now resides). Commuting on foot, horseback or team between his homestead



W. T. and W. N. Roper with their first daughter Margaret October 1910.

5.30 4.15 1.15		
76 cents	79	32
Milk		90
Mouthorgan		50
Moccasins 1		25
Purse		35
Chin		35
Trunk		30
Apples		50
	4	15
		50
	4	65
		25
		05
	4	95

1904 — W. T. Roper store at Bittern Lake. Sample of a bill where the customer received credit for his muskrat skins and then purchased staples.

and the trading post, his life was active, to say the least. Life was lonely and at times hard. Winters were cold with deep snow. He travelled over a large area with an interpreter during these winters, buying furs from the Indians for his father. He learned to trust and respect the true Indian, a trust which was reciprocated in the following years. He recalled sleeping in the chief's tent with hundreds of dollars worth of furs lying unguarded in the sleigh and never losing a pelt. (Muskrats were worth seven cents each in those days.) The Ropers purchased over one hundred and fifty thousand muskrat skins in successive winters.

He also trapped in his own right and nearly lost his life one late winter day in March of 1906 when he broke through the ice over a "rat-run" into six feet of ice water of Rushy Lake. Luckily he was carrying a small axe with which he managed to break his way to thick ice and pull himself out. Frost began turning him into a ice-man at once so he ran nearly a mile to his log house where he managed to get a fire going with nearly the last match in the house. His arms and hands were so numb from the cold that it took both hands to try to hold the match, let alone strike it. A habit in those days of always leaving fresh shavings

to start a fire, plus his physical toughness, prevented the almost certain end to this Roper story. This day proved the value of a strong, healthy body and this asset proved its worth many times during his life. A firm believer in the non-use of alcoholic beverages or tobacco, he credited his stamina to this fact, but would never try to “push” this belief on other people.

Winnifred Nora Roper came to Alberta from Ontario with her parents in 1903. She clerked at the Bittern Lake trading post for some years before being married. (A sample of one of the bills written in 1904 at this trading post is in this book. Imagine muskrats at seven cents each!). Winnifred and W.T. were married at her family home “Sunnyside” at Bittern Lake on June 14, 1908. Their honeymoon was a trip by team and wagon to the homestead at Hay Lakes.

Those early years were hard on a girl used to the protection of middle class town life in Ontario. Their loghouse was situated beside one of the freight trails linking the southern part of Alberta to Fort Edmonton and therefore was a well-known stopping place for water, food or shelter to white men and Indians alike. Mrs. Roper recalled many fearsome moments when Indians and others, singly or in families, would stop by, especially when “W.T.” wasn’t present. W.T. taught her to shoot a rifle and she developed into a quite a good shot — able to behead prairie chicken for table use, and also to bolster her courage when alone. It was nothing special to have rabbit or muskrat or any kind of wild game on the Roper menu, plus venison, moose, elk and even bear meat!

Four children were born to the Ropers: Margaret in 1910, Trevor in 1912, Louise in 1914 and George in 1920. The Ropers kept busy clearing land, breaking it with the walking plow and teams; building a farm-site and adding to their livestock. W.T. kept up his interest in cricket, playing with his cousins and their neighbors on an “eleven” which managed to travel many miles by team and wagon to play a “match”. A rather common trip was to leave home in the wee hours of the morning, go by team and wagon to Wetaskiwin, catch a train to Edmonton (Strathcona), make their way down to the “flats” where they could play a match. After a lunch they would catch the train back to Wetaskiwin, then home by team and wagon, arriving at midnight, if lucky. Such fun!

Mr. Roper enlisted in World War I, following the death of his father in France, one of the first casualties of the P.P.C.L.I. in that war. W.T. trained in Camrose and then to Calgary, taking his family with him and renting out the farm. In Calgary they met the W. Y. Kinghorns and became friends. When Mr. Kinghorn was killed at Vimy Ridge, Mrs. Kinghorn came to Hay Lakes and became a neighbor and co-

worker with Mrs. Roper, who had returned to the farm when W.T. went overseas. Together they kept everything going, doing the work of men, as well as looking after the family. W.T. served with distinction in World War I earning the Military Metal at Souchez in 1916. (A recently published book “No Man’s Land”, 1981, tells of this event.) Wounded twice, W.T. survived to come back to Hay Lakes in 1919.

Education was hard to obtain in the Hay Lakes area so Margaret and Trevor attended Roman Catholic Convent schools in Red Deer and Vegreville before starting at Canard in 1920. (Some education was obtained at Big Hay Lakes and Camrose while they were living there.) Margaret went on to high school and Normal in Camrose and Trevor finished at Canard. Louise went from Canard to Camrose High, Camrose Normal and University of Alberta. George attended Canard, Camrose and finished high school in Hay Lakes.

W.T. developed a yen for cars, purchasing at least one each year from 1920 on — Model T’s, Model A’s and in 1929 a Pontiac. Roper cars always carried an axe, strong rope, post maul and crow bar with which he could improvise a winch if necessary, to pull the car out of mud holes, ditches, creeks and sloughs. Such was the nature of our “almost” roads. Also I can recall when going to Edmonton via Beaumont, the passengers walked up the Beaumont Hill while W.T. turned the Model T around and backed up the hill. This was the only way those cars had enough power and grip to make the climb and also the engine wouldn’t run out of gas and stall as the gas would then drain to the engine, instead of away from it.

During the late 20’s and 30’s, W.T. and son Trevor Jr. broke hundreds of acres of land in the Hay Lakes and New Sarepta areas and also ran a threshing machine for many years. Mrs. Roper quietly and efficiently kept the home fires burning with the ever present help of her dear friend and neighbor, Mrs. Kinghorn. During the 1920’s she hauled milk to Hay Lakes everyday by team and wagon and in winter by sleigh. An avid gardener, “W.N.” was responsible for the beautiful trees, shrubs, hedges and flowers that became so noticeable in the 1940’s especially when the new house was built.

W.T.’s farming career covered the horse to tractor eras, threshing with steam outfits at first — then with his own “Humming Bird” thresher and Fordson tractor. Then came the McCormick-Deering thresher with various tractors powering it. When breaking land they had Hart-Parr and Nichols and Shepherd steel-wheel lugged tractors.

With the formation of the Canard School District and the growing political and business involvement of everyone, the Ropers became a part of the total



November 11, 1922. W. T. Roper with G. Olson, Margaret, Lousie, Trevor.

community. W.T. took his place as school trustee, U.F.A. member, charter member of the Alberta Wheat Pool and with his family attended Anglican services at Bittern Lake and Camrose. They also helped to found the church at Haley (Ellswick area) also Anglican, where Mrs. Roper played the organ.

In the 1920's the Ropers kept the Municipal Pound where straying animals were brought by farmers, to be held until the owners came for them and paid a fine in lieu of damages and keep. Irate owners made that job very "unrewarding" to say the least.

The Ropers sold their farm in 1928 and moved to Camrose where W.T. had applied for a job in the Post Office, veterans only being eligible. Things didn't pan out, for certain political reasons, and they soon found themselves buying back their farm, much sadder and wiser.

W.T. was also a regimental barber, a trade learned in World War I. He cut the hair of thousands of men under every condition of weather and shell fire, often for twenty-four hours at a time without a rest, using hand clippers and scissors. He developed a vise-like hand shake which he maintained to his dying day. He plied his scissors and clippers to many heads of hair in this area in the 20's, 30's and 40's. During World War II he enlisted in the Veteran Guards of Canada (they guarded vital industries and Prisoner of War

camps across Canada) and again he did a great amount of barbering during his "off" hours. This drew the wrath of the existing company barber but the quality of his cuts were such that the Commanding Officer allowed him to continue but he could not charge any set amount. So he cut hair for a range of nothing to whatever the customer felt like giving, averaging about thirty-five cents a head. This included scalp massage, hair dressing, and all. Try to imagine how many cuts were done to build a savings account of several thousand dollars, after expenses, from this part-time trade during the war.

After World War II, W.T. semi-retired, as his son Trevor had taken over the farm during the war, but he never lost his desire and enthusiasm for recreational activities. Even when he farmed he always managed to play cricket, baseball and tennis, the game that became his first love. A tennis court with a shale (red) surface was built on the farm grounds and every spare moment of daylight found W.T. on the court. Of course both sons and daughters or sons-in-law would be there also. He would walk or ride horseback to Camrose to play in tennis tournaments. Hunting with rifle or shotgun was another love he had, lit by his father who hunted big game in Africa, India and in many parts of North America. He was a crack-shot, which helped him become a sniper in World War I. This love of the shooting sports was handed on to his sons, Trevor and George. Every fall the Roper men went big game hunting, usually with success. In the days before deep-freezers, this meant many long, hot, tedious days for Mrs. Roper, cutting, cooking and canning the meat.

After World War II, W.T. spent most winters in Vancouver, playing some four thousand sets of tennis on Stanley Park courts, plus badminton and table tennis. Only failing eyesight stopped his playing tennis, late in his 70's. Summers were spent back on the farm, trimming "miles" of hedges and even clearing twenty-five or more acres of heavy bush, using only an axe, spade and a long rope. Every tree was taken out by the roots. This was done when he was well in his 70's.

Mrs. Roper stayed at home all the while, except for very brief times visiting family or friends. "Grandma's place" was a favorite target for the grandchildren, playing midst her trees and flowers. She was the steady rock that anchored the family through the years, working side by side with her husband whenever necessary. Her strong, yet gentle nature, won her lasting friendships from people in every walk of life.

The Ropers celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1958 with many of the people who had been their attendants and guests in 1908 in attendance, plus

many friends and neighbors and the Hay Lakes Band. They loved life and lived it to the fullest. They maintained a home which was open to one and all, regardless of color or creed, and brought up their family as Canadians, living by the grace of God. During their time on this earth, they had unknowingly rubbed shoulders with the famous — Admiral Chester Nimetz of the U.S. Navy in World War II was a playmate in Texas, and Stephen Leacock, the famous author, was the boy down the street back in Ontario.

In the spring of 1967, Mrs. Roper fell, suffering shock and a broken hip. She was destined to spend her remaining days in the hospital. W.T. stayed at Bethany with her, looking after her as well as he could, wheeling her here and there every day. They celebrated their diamond anniversary in Bethany on June 14, 1968. She passed away in her sleep March 13, 1970.

W.T. returned to his son George's residence for a short time but a failing sense of balance necessitated his return to Bethany where he could receive constant attention. Shortly before he died he had been classed "fit as a teenager" in heart and lungs by his doctor. He passed away on his eighty-seventh birthday, June 24, 1973.

J. C. Margaret Millar — Margaret was born May 22, 1909 in Bittern lake, the first child of W. Trevor and W. N. Roper. Her early education was received in many schools — starting at Big Hay Lake, then Canard, then Camrose (1916), Calgary (1916), Red Deer and Vegreville (1917-1920) and finishing at Canard. She graduated with Bertha Heinz, Ella Mittelstadt, August Zucht, Reinhardt Tober and Albert Werner. She took High School in Camrose and graduated as a teacher from Camrose Normal in 1930.

Maple Hill, then Looma, then Bloomingdale (south of Entwistle) were her first schools — in the depression times when families had to live on \$10.00 a month and teachers were lucky if they got paid at all. She took a leave of absence from teaching and worked as a clerk in stores at South Cooking Lake and New Sarepta for a few years, then back to the Stony Plain School Division for thirteen years. While there she married Jim Millar, in 1941. She transferred to the Wainwright School Division and taught eighteen years there, retiring at Irma in 1972.

She moved to Camrose in 1977 after twenty-three years residence in Irma. Her "retirement" agenda would tax the stamina of anyone, spending many hours each day caring for her brother at Rosehaven Care Centre (along with each and any patient who is in need of help). She has been secretary of the Senior's Bowling and Disking Clubs, and the Drop-in Centre for the past four years, and is presently presi-

dent of the Golden Club and Social Convener for the Drop-in Centre. At the end of 1981, she will be handing these tasks to someone else so that she may devote more hours to Rosehaven and the unending task of caring for the patients there. Her reward for these services is a happy smile from someone helped, and an occasional "thank-you" from grateful relatives and staff. In today's situation at Rosehaven with lack of sufficient staff, her help is valued by one and all.

She has two sons; Bill, married and living at Whitecourt with his wife and two daughters. He is crew chief with C.E.D.A.; and George, married to Pat Rubis (daughter of Fred and Caroline Rubis) has two sons, and they live in Mill Woods. He is a Social worker with the city of Edmonton. Pat is an R.N. at General Hospital.

Margaret manages to bowl, disk, swim, correspond with a large "family" of her own plus many of the residents families at Rosehaven and Bethany Nursing Home, enjoy "cards" with friends and regularly attend services at the Anglican church. Her days are full — as they always have been — and with God's Blessing she will continue in this service to her fellow man and woman for many more years.

Arthur Rost

Arthur Rost was born in the Hay Lakes district in 1932 and attended Canard School, where he was actively involved in sports. This interest in sports continued after he left school. Art played various positions for the Hay Lakes baseball team, and also participated in curling.

Except for two years which he spent in Edmonton, Art has lived all his life on the farm on which he was born (NE27-48-22). He purchased both this quarter and NW26-48-22 from his father in 1960, and although he sold them in 1980, he continues to live there.

Gottlieb Rost, Senior

Gottlieb Rost was born in Frzebowia, Volhynia, Russia, in 1864. His wife, Pauline Sagert, was born in 1872 in Tessin, Poland.

In 1923 they emigrated to Hay Lakes with daughter, Wilhelmina, and sons, Gottlieb Junior and Rudolph. There they worked on the farm of their son, August who had emigrated previously. When Gottlieb Junior bought a farm of his own, they moved there together with Wilhelmina and Rudolph.

Gottlieb Senior died in 1926. Pauline continued to make her home with her son, and during her time in the community, she occasionally played the role of midwife. In 1934 she married Karl Madu and moved



The Gottlieb Rost Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Olga These, Gottlieb Rost Jr., Wilhelmina Rost, Helmuth These. Front: Pauline Rost, Gottlieb Rost Sr. with Otto These in front, Mathilda (Rost) These holding Bruno These and Rudolph Rost.

to Leduc, where she lived until her husband's death. Pauline then moved to the village of Hay Lakes, where she resided until her death in 1947.

George Rost Family

Gottlieb (George) Rost was born in Zhitomir, Volhynia, Russia on August 15th, 1903. He emigrated to the Canard district in 1923 together with his parents, a sister and brother.

After working for various farmers in different communities, George bought his own farm (NE27-48-22) and moved there in 1925 with his parents, sister Wilhelmina and brother Rudolph. The family home was a converted chicken house. George

also purchased the Hudson Bay quarter across the road, NW26-48-22. He grubbed and broke much of the land on both quarters.

On May 12, 1931, George married Elsie Ertman, who was born at Ellerslie in 1910, and grew up in that district. Elsie had worked in Edmonton for two years prior to her marriage. Of the seven children born to this couple, five were delivered by their paternal grandmother.

Arthur (1932), William (1936), Marlene Wahl (1939), and Roderick (1950) still live in the Hay Lakes district. After graduating from the Vermilion School of Agriculture, Betty (1934) moved to Edmonton, and with the exception of three years spent



George Rost — 1920's.

in England, has lived there since. She obtained a Bachelor of Library Science degree from the University of Alberta in 1974, and has worked as a librarian since with Alberta Environment. After high school, Emily (1945) worked for Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fisher in their store in Hay Lakes. Then she moved to Edmonton, where she was a telephone operator for Alberta Government Telephones for eight years, before returning to Hay Lakes. In 1977 she married Howard Anderson, and now lives in Armena. Emily works part-time at Hay Lakes Big M Foods.

Clifford (1947) worked for Floyd and Madeline Baier in the Hay Lakes Meat and Locker Plant, then when they moved their operation to Ponoka, they asked him to work for them there. Clifford has continued to work in the meat business since. In 1971 he married Lorna Shackleton from Clive. They have three children — David, Mark and Margo.

One of the fondest memories of the George Rost family is that of their own threshing crew. George operated the machine, Art had a horse drawn team,



The George Rost Family. L. to R.: Art, Betty, Willy, Marlene, Clifford, Emily, Rod. Seated: George and Elsie Rost, 40th Wedding Anniversary.

Willie's was drawn by a tractor driven by Marlene, and Betty was the field pitcher. Back at the house Elsie was cooking, and sending out the lunches with Emily and Clifford.

In 1960 George sold the farm to his eldest son, and purchased the half section owned by Chris Lachman, (NE31-48-21 and SW31-48-21). George and Elsie lived here until they retired to Hay Lakes in 1975, when their youngest son, Rod, purchased the farm. George died in 1977 and Elsie continues to live in the village of Hay Lakes.

Roderick Rost

Roderick Rost was born in Camrose in 1950. After high school in Hay Lakes, Rod attended Camrose Lutheran College for two years, then the University of Alberta in Edmonton for two years, graduating in 1972 with a Bachelor of Education degree.

For the next two years Rod worked for Glendale Corporation in Wetaskiwin before taking over the family farm (NE 31-48-21). From 1975-79 he did substitute teaching for various school boards.

Rod has always been a sports enthusiast, and has for many years been a member of the Hay Lakes Fastball Club.

Sapelak, Nick

by Alex Marusak

Nick Sapelak was born on December 19, 1884 in the village of Khodaniw county of Yaroslav, then occupied by Austria.

At the age of twenty one years, he served three years of compulsory training in the Cavalry regiment for Austria.

In 1910, he was united in marriage with Antonia Trach. They both were employed for some time in Germany, in the agricultural field before coming to Canada.

In the spring of 1913, they came to Canada and were employed in the vicinity of Camrose, Alberta.

In 1917, Nick and Antonia purchased a farm three miles west and two miles south of Hay Lakes, NW 23-48-22 from the C.P.R. There were no buildings nor any land cleared. It was a laborous task in building their home, clearing the land and improving the farm to achieve their goal for a better life in the future. In 1930-1931, Antonia's brother Paul came to Canada and stayed with them for a number of years helping on the farm.

In 1960, they celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary in the Hay Lakes Hall. They had no children.

In 1961, Nick and Antonia sold their farm to Don



Nick and Antonia Sapelak by their farm home.

Schultz for ten thousand dollars and bought a house from Charlie Starcheski in Camrose, where they retired. Antonia passed away on November 16, 1967 in St. Mary's Hospital, at the age of eighty-two years.

Nick passed away on November 11, 1974 at the age of ninety years.

Schalm, Christofer and Emilie (nee Kiefeit)

by Mrs. Mel Thompson (Anne)

Christofer and Emilie (Kiefeit) Schalm came to Canada in 1908 from Poland. They came to Wetaskiwin and lived there and in Edmonton. In 1917 or 1918 they moved to a farm in the Hay Lakes district.

They had two daughters; Florentine Kaulitzke and Johanna Schlender.

Florentine Kaulitzke had five children; Tollie (Matilie) Dunn of Camrose, Adam Schulz of New Sarepta, Millie (Emilie) Millar of Edmonton, Henry



Martin Kaulitzke, Florentine Kaulitzke, Eve Keifert, Natalie, Emilie Schalm, Christofer Schalm. Front: Anne, Millie, Henry and Adam.

Schulz of Edmonton, and Anne (Johanna) Thompson of Camrose.

Johanna Schlender had nine children; August (Butch) Schlender of New Sarepta, Flora Boshinko of Edmonton, Millie Renez of Edmonton, Henry Schlender of Edmonton, Alfred Schlender of New Sarepta, Edith Kallis of Edmonton, Ernest Schlender, of Edmonton, Laurence Schlender, deceased, Vernon Schlender of Sherwood Park.

Christofer Schalm's lived in the Hay Lakes area until 1923, then they moved to the New Sarepta district.



Christofer Schalm.

In the fall of 1927, Emilie Schalm passed away.

Chris Schalm then moved to his daughter, Florentine's farm by Ministik Lake. He lived in his own house there and once a week he would walk to New Sarepta for groceries, a distance of about fifteen miles, round trip. He lived there until the fall of 1938, when due to ill health he moved to his other daughter's home, Mrs. Schlender. He stayed with her until he passed away in July, 1939.

Schultz, August Family

by Olga Forth and Ruth Holtner

August Schultz emigrated from Volhynia, Russia in the year 1912. He arrived in Rush Lake, Saskatchewan, and obtained work as a C.P.R. section hand.

In 1913, his wife Julianna, son Martin, and daughter Olga, arrived from Russia, and made their home for some time there. Elsie was born at Rush Lake. They spent sometime in Yellow Grass, where August worked on the section.



Julianna Schultz.

Still unsettled, the urge to come to Alberta to farm loomed large, so in February 1918, they came to Beverley, where August found employment in a coal mine. This was only a temporary move, and while working in the mine his thoughts were still on farming. He had contacted John Pawlosky, who was a friend and relative, who had earlier moved to the Hay Lakes area.

After some months of negotiating, he terminated his employment, packed their very few possessions of some furniture and scanty wardrobe and headed for the Hay Lakes area. The farm they purchased NE 5-49-22-W4 was raw land. There were no buildings as well as no cultivation, so the only alternative they had was to move into a windowless log granary located on the John Mittelstadt farm, until some shelter could be erected.

In April 1918, they started clearing land with axe and grub hoe, as well as building a home — merely a shelter. They broke six acres and seeded it to oats. It proved to be a disastrous year due to an early frost

which froze the grain. There was no regular income, so they were forced to improvise and find means whereby groceries could be provided. Consequently he worked hard at cutting willow bushes, converted them to fence posts, which were then sold cheaply.

Prices fluctuated, high prices were paid for cattle, and later sold at very reduced prices.

The second building to be erected was a barn, built with logs, chinked with moss and finished with a roof made of straw. As farming progressed, wheat was exchanged for flour at Byers Flour Mill, in Camrose.

Progress was slow, but strides were being made toward a better way of life. The older members of the family attended the Canard School. It was not on a regular basis however, as during the busy season they were required to stay home and help with the work, then too the winters were severely cold so the school was not always open. Olga speaks of going to school in bare feet, because there was simply no money with which to buy shoes.

There were many hardships. The flu of 1918 took its toll. The infant mortality rate was high during this time and it too affected this family.

There were two members of the family born here. Herman in 1923, and Edna Ruth in 1925.



The August Schultz Family. L. to R.: Martin, Herman, Julianna, baby Ruth, Olga and Elsie.

August died in 1936 at which time Martin took over the farm, and remained there until 1970 when he retired to the village of Hay lakes.

Julianna passed away in 1961, and Martin passed away in 1974. Olga lives in Wetaskiwin and Elsie resides in British Columbia.

Herman spent most of his life in the Armed Forces and is now retired and living in Trenton, Ontario.

Edna, who is more commonly called by her sec-

ond name, Ruth, married Wilfred Holtner, who was born and raised at Gwynne, and now resides on the farm with their two sons, Jonathan and Colin.

Schultz, Julius

Julius Schultz was born September 29, 1872 in Volhynia, Russia. It was here he grew up and married Eva (nee Schulz) on July 8, 1897.

In 1907, they immigrated to Canada with a family of four children, Jenny, Olga, George and Jessie.

They settled in Strathcona (Edmonton) where Mr. Schultz found employment at Walter's sawmill for the next two years. Many were the times Mr. Schultz would reminisce of their first years here in Alberta and how he earned two dollars per day at the mill considering this a very satisfactory wage. His wife Eva took in other people's washing, besides keeping several boarders to help make ends meet.

After approximately two years, they purchased a homestead in the Hay Lakes-New Sarepta area, about half way between the two towns. This parcel of land, S.W. 14-49-22-W4 was known as an improved homestead as it had previously been owned by the Stebner family. It had a well and also a shack on it.

The family moved to the homestead in the spring so land could be cleared and improvements made. The small shack did not suffice as a family dwelling as there was another addition to the family by now.

Mr. Schultz immediately set to work, hued the logs and carried these home on his back as he had no other means to transport them. With few means, many pains, and a great deal of labour, another home was built for his family.

As winter drew near the family once again was on the move back to Edmonton. Money had to be earned so he could purchase a wagon and a team of horses as well as other necessities so some land could be broken. Mr. Schultz told of several trips he had made to Edmonton, on foot, to buy food and clothing, before he owned a team of horses.

When they moved back to the farm in the spring they stayed there permanently.

During the years that followed five more children were added to the family. They were John, Edward, Emil, Adele, and Rudolph. Mrs. Schultz died in 1916 while giving birth to Rudolph.

In May, 1917 Mr. Schultz married Rosalie Fenske and with her help and support the family was raised.

In 1925 Julius added another quarter of land to his ownership, bought from the C.P.R. Later this land was taken over by his son John and later still by Rudolph.

In 1936 Mr. Schultz bought his first tractor, a John Deere, from Gus Lachman. He was delighted with this iron horse and all its power so was bound to drive it but the first attempt took him through the ditch, then through the fence with all the wire trailing



The Julius Schultz Family. 1910. Back: Emil Kiel. Front, L. to R.: Olga, John, Mrs. Eva Schultz holding Ed, Jessie, Mr. Julius Schultz, Jenny.



The Julius Schultz Family. 1925. L. to R., Back Row: Jessie, Gottlieb Tober, George, Olga, Emil Kiel, Jenny. Row Two: Rudolph, Mrs. Schultz, Della, Mr. Schultz, Emil, Martha Kiel. Front: John and Ed.

behind. After this he was willing to let well enough along and the younger generation do the operating.

Julius and Rosalie retired in 1940 and the home-
stead was taken over by Rudolph.

Julius passed away December 1949 and his wife
Rosalie in October 1967.

The family members were:

Adelgunde (Jenny) who married Emil Kiel, they
had one daughter, Martha. After Emil's death she
later married Alex Berendt. They are residing in
Edmonton.

Olga married Herman Reeve, they had two sons,
Ervin and Merlin. She was divorced and later mar-
ried Jack Lepard. Puyalip Washington is their home.

Jessie was married to Gottlieb Tober. They had
three sons, Clement, Allen, and Lawrence. She is
now living alone in Sicamous, B.C.

George married Olga Schmidt — four children
were born to this union. Donavon, Doris, Raymond,
and Gilbert. George is deceased. Olga and Don re-
side in Hay Lakes.

John married Clara (Tober) Schultz and is pres-
ently living in Westlock.

Edward married Lydia Tober. They had two sons,
Clifford and Stanley. Lydia passed away and he then
married Clara Tober. Six more children came to
complete the family: Elwood, Jean, Erwin, Roy,
Judy, and Gordon. Ed passed away and Clara later
married John.

Emil and his wife Mary are living in Edmonton.
They have three children, Deanne, Robert and Sus-
an.

Adele married Walter Lechelt and they are now
living in Leduc. Their children are: Harvey, Howard,
Alvin, Gordon, Irene, Lorraine, Don, Clement, and
Jane.

Rudolph married Lily Lechelt and they now live
in Camrose. Their children were Ronald, Marvin,
Wallace, Karen, Milton (deceased), Neil, and Gary.

Information given is as accurate as possible with
available information compiled from records, mem-
ory, and the immediate family.

Schultz, Martin and Elsie

Martin Schultz and I (Elsie Johnson) were married on the 11th of April, 1934 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, with Rev. W. F. Lenz officiating. Martin was employed by MacMillan and Bloedel on Vancouver Island. Baby Yvonne and I were living on the Island at that time.

When Martin's father passed away, his widow was left to care for the two younger children on the farm. This was a sad time for us as it meant giving up steady employment and a chance for a brighter future. We returned to the farm to take over our duty there.

The year following, Martin Jr. was born. Those first few years had their difficulties. Some years crops were nil due to adverse weather. Martin worked hard at whatever employment was available to help make ends meet. A large garden was kept and wild fruit provided us with preserves, jam and jellies.



Martin and Elsie Schultz, Marvin, Yvonne and Marty.

We purchased an ancient Singer sewing machine for three dollars from a neighbor, Adolphe Plant. I put this to good use in clothing my family. During the winter I made comforters and patchwork quilts. Two more sons were born, Marvin in 1941 and David in 1950.

Times had improved and when the oil drilling activity in the area began, Martin took employment with Kenyans Servicing for the winter months. This was to continue for five years. He took time off from rig work for seeding, haying, harvesting and essential farm management. During this period he travelled over most of Alberta. He continued to farm until his retirement.

Yvonne and Martin Jr. began their schooling at

South Busenius School where they walked two miles each way. Later, they attended Canard School which was a two and a half mile walk.

Marvin began his schooling at Canard and David got his start by bus to the village of Hay Lakes.

Yvonne's memories of her school days are of Mrs. Helen Heinz who happily was able to give her an understanding of arithmetic, of fondness for Mr. Henry Birkett and interesting conversations with Mrs. Louise Nordin on their walks to school. Yvonne remembers these fine teachers for the fundamentals that they taught which she drew on in later years while studying English at the University of Alberta.

I presently reside in Edmonton, as does Yvonne, Martin in Strathcona county, Marvin in Sherwood Park and David in Calgary.

There are seven grandchildren, all living in the Edmonton area; except the eldest, who resides in B.C. They are; Shannon, Kelly and Tracy. Reade, Darrell, Laurie, Kayrn and Michael Schultz.

Schultz, Marvin

I was born down on the farm, SW-14-49-22-W4, on March 15, 1942 weighing in at eleven pounds plus. I was son number two to my folks, Rudolf and Lily Schultz, and brother to Ronald, Wallace, Milton, Karen, Neil, and Gary. For the first one and one-half years of school I attended the Canard School. We walked or rode bikes up to Leo Berkholtz's then hopped aboard the sleigh or cutter and headed for school. Due to circumstances beyond my control, the "big guys" very often detoured our means of travel to riding calves at the Berkholtz's farm, or chewing snuff and being sick at Radtke's strawpile, or locking ourselves in the school horsebarn with the teacher pleading at the door. Other fond memories of early school days include a discovery of the teacher's flannel bloomers in the soup pot, and an exciting day when several "hotshots" brought a few shotgun shells to school and threw them into the furnace which caused the furnace doors to fly away and blackness over-all. Our fun days were brought to an end with the arrival of the first Hay Lakes School Bus in 1950 driven by August Rost.

At age eleven, my dad bought me a Gloriosa alto horn and mother made me practice out in the middle of the yard for obvious reasons. The cows came stampeding home to join in with my efforts. I played in the Hay Lakes Community Band for eleven years under the very capable direction of Reins Mittelstadt. He was a gifted musician who could play every instrument in the band and could rewrite music to popular songs such as "Sugartime", which we played with much pleasure at many parades and special occasions throughout the country such as the

Ponoka Stampede, Edmonton Exhibition and Elk Island Park.

I attended Hay Lakes School until Grade eleven during which time I stayed periodically at Carl and Martha Nordin's when the weather made roads impassable. After school I would keep busy shoveling snow, cleaning out the hotel basement and doing other odd jobs. Many pleasant hours were spent in their warm friendship. The next five years were spent farming with Dad. In this period of time, frustrations were vented on five vehicles that were bought, tortured, and buried. Leaving the farming to the next brothers in line, I worked as a shipper-receiver for an implement wholesaler for one year and then as welder for oilfield construction for one year.

In January 1965, I met Darlene Blumenthal from Rolly View at a Lutheran Church Youth Rally. We were both very active in our own Luther League groups and so our friendship blossomed. We were married on June 3, 1966. Darlene's parents, Otto and Ella (nee Wedman) grew up in Rolly View, bought the General Store from Robert Grams and expanded their business to include a garage, milk trucks, and many other sidelines. Darlene and I built a house in Rolly View and I began to work for my father-in-law as milk truck driver, mechanic, caterpillar operator, and many other jobs too numerous to mention.

Canada's Centennial year was celebrated by the arrival of our first son, Darien, October 2, 1967. The next few years were spent by both of us working at Rolly View Holdings Ltd. (as the business became known), building on to our home, and taking in boarders to help ease the financial burdens.

One particular visit to my parents farm in January 1972, listening to their tales of too much work, not enough money, and constant backaches, convinced us that was the life for us. On March 18, 1972 we purchased three quarters of land including the original Schultz homestead from my father and moved in immediately. We bought a dairy herd of twenty-eight cows from Joe Kantz, South Edmonton, and twenty-five registered bred heifers from Ontario and struggled our way into business. On August 23, Scott was born and spent much of his early life sleeping in the barn while the milking machines sang his lullaby. The old saying "out with the old, in with the new" held true as every year that we tore down an old building, replaced it with a new: free-stall barn, milking parlor, work-shop, machine shed, or silo.

Russell, son number three, was born July 7, 1976. Since our family was now complete, and we knew just how much room we needed, renovations on our house began in the spring of 1980. What started out as a simple renovation, resulted in a major overhaul. We are very grateful for all our neighbors



Marvin and Darlene Schultz with sons Darien, Russell and Scott — 1978.

and friends who gave so freely of their skills and time to help us put a "broken home" together again.

In the past, I have enjoyed active membership in the Hay Lakes Fish and Game Association, trap-shooting and raising ring-necked pheasants. Many wild Canada Goose hunts with Walter Busenius have resulted in mighty fine feasts in the cold of winter. Being very much involved in the 1st Hay Lakes Boy Scouts gives our entire family many hours of very pleasant experiences. We have been fortunate to be able to travel on "warm" winter holidays and cold Ski excursions. Our home is always open to the many foreign visitors that stay for extended vacations.

The Lazy Poplar Dairy Ltd. has become very dear to our hearts. It has provided us with food, wonderful memories which out-weigh the hardships, and a tremendous opportunity for us to work together as a family and enjoy its many rewards. We are thankful for family, and friends, and for the pioneers like grandfather Julius Schultz who endured many seemingly impossible tasks so that we may enjoy freedom, contentment, and peace.

We are truly blessed!

Schultz, Rudolph

Rudolph was born October 14, 1916 at Hay Lakes, Alberta. He received his schooling at New Sarepta Rural School. He stayed with his parents, helping with the farm work. In 1936 he purchased a wood saw to do custom wood cutting for seventy-five cents an hour. Shortly after this he also bought a grinder to grind feed for hogs and cattle. 'Twas a hard but sure way to make an honest dollar for this was still the hungry thirties.

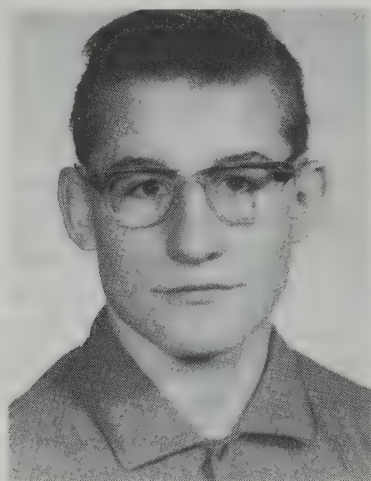
Rudolph was also family chauffeur, driving the family car. On a very foggy, cold morning the end of October 1938, Reinhold Prier called at the house at five o'clock in the morning. The call was an urgent one as Mrs. Prier was expecting and had to be taken to an Edmonton hospital. Rudolph, accompanied by his father and the Priers, tried desperately to make time but visibility was practically nil. On reaching the city the hand lay hard on the horn and the foot on the gas peddle but while crossing the High Level Bridge the big event took place. This being the first child to be born on the bridge it caused considerable publicity and the daughter's name, Levila, was finally chosen from many entries.

In 1939 Rudolph was united in marriage to Lily Lechelt.

We took over the homestead in 1940. The beginning was rough as all beginnings are and the effects of the hungry thirties had not yet worn off.

Prices on cattle, grain and dairy products were low, with the income on one quarter of land we could not make ends meet so we started renting more land. This helped us a great deal and in 1944 we bought another quarter of land adjacent to ours, the Reinhold Litke farm. Years later we also bought the farm from John, Rudolph's brother. We farmed for thirty-two years and in 1972 our son Marvin took over and we retired, first to Rolly View and then to Camrose.

We have five sons and one daughter. One son, Milton, passed away in 1974.



Milton Schultz.



The Rudolph Schultz Family 1980. Back Row, L. to R.: Neil, Wallace, Marvin, Ronald. Front: Karen, Gary, Rudy and Lily.

Ronald and Madelaine and five children make Sherwood Park their home. The children are Brent, Karri, Bradley, Todd and Clayton. Ron has four children in Vancouver, B.C. from his first marriage. Ron is manager for Merlin Transport in Edmonton.

Marvin and his wife Darlene operate a dairy on the home place. They have three boys, Darien, Scott, and Russell.

Wallace with his wife Peggy, and two sons, Kenneth and Daryll, make their home in Whitehorse, Yukon. Wallace is employed by White Pass.

Karen, with her husband Adrian Humphreys and two children, Michelle and Ryan, make Camrose their home. Adrian is employed at Eastgate Pontiac Ltd.

Neil and his wife Janet are operating a dairy at Ellerslie. They have two girls, Bridgette, and Georgette.

Gary is still living at home and works at Eastgate Pontiac Ltd. apprenticing as a mechanic.

We have been living in Camrose since 1973. Rudy cut meat for seven years, did some carpentry work, and now works at Sid's Sport Shop.

Sherman, Steve

Steve Sherman was born in 1883, in the village of Harasymiw, district of Horedenka, then occupied by Austria. He came to Canada in 1903, worked in Ontario till 1907, then came to Calgary, Alberta, where he worked on railroads at Lethbridge and Calgary. He also worked in lumber camps and the lime factory at Exshaw, west of Calgary.

In 1921, married Mary Onyshchuk. Mary was born in 1891, in the village of Nemeliw, district of Radekiw, then occupied by Austria. After World War



Steve and Mary Sherman — 1921.

I, it was occupied by Poland. Mary came to Canada in 1921 and married Steve that year.

They lived in Calgary till 1926, then moved to Hay Lakes on the farm on SE26-48-21. The farm was bought on installment payments from the Hudson's Bay Company at \$14.00 per acre. There were no buildings, nor any land cleared. A house of lumber was built and a barn of rails, with walls packed and covered with straw. Bush was grubbed and cleared by hand and land worked by horses. Their first and the only cow they had, and were so proud of, died after calving. The milk was carried from their sympathetic neighbor to feed the calf.

In the fall of 1940, their entire crop was snowed under and drifted over with snow so that you barely saw where the stooks were. Steve went out every morning and evening with a team of horses and a stoneboat, digging the stooks out from under the snow, hauling them home to feed the cattle and horses. In 1948, they sponsored Mary's nephew, Steve Onyschuk, from a refugee camp in Germany. He stayed and helped with farming till 1951, when he went to work for the City of Edmonton, where he is still employed.



Steve and Mary Sherman.

In 1953 they retired from farming, and moved to live in Edmonton. The farm was rented to Otto These. In March, 1960, Steve passed away at the age of seventy-seven years.

In 1968, the farm was sold to Otto These for \$13,000.00. In July, 1975, Mary passed away at the age of eighty-five years.

Sikstrom, Karl and Hilmer by Dagmar Sikstrom Hermanutz

Grandfather, Karl Peter Sikstrom was born in Lycksele, Sweden on October 30, 1860. My Grandmother, Johanna Josephine Jonson was born in Lycksele, Sweden, on August 30, 1855. They were married there and came out to Alberta in about 1902 with a large family of eight sons (all are deceased now). One daughter, Astrid was born shortly after they arrived in Canada and is living in Kiwanis Manor, North Vancouver, B.C.

Hilmer married Olivia Erickson, they had eleven children. John married Freida Skalin and made his home in the Dinant area. They had six children. Arvid, joined the armed services during World War I and died in England in 1918. Vivian, died at home of pneumonia. Hugo, died at home in 1918, during the flu epidemic. Sten, married Mary and moved to B.C. They had one son and twin daughters. Ingue, married Alice Ratchford and they had four children. Fred, lived in the Hay Lakes area for a while and married Ida Jeske. They had a son and two daughters and moved to Vancouver in 1926. Astrid, married Stanley Bissell and they had three children. When he passed



Karl and Johanna Sikstrom (grandparents).

away she married Dan Sutherland. She is still living in B.C.

Grandpa took up a homestead in Hay Lakes district at NE 34-22-48-W4. There was no town at the time but there was a general store and post office on what was later Mr. Robert McLeod's farm (about a mile west of Hay Lakes town.) Grandpa was a shoemaker and a carpenter. He remembered seeing the first train that came through Hay Lakes in August, 1912.

My dad, Hilmer Carl Sikstrom took up a homestead at SE-34-22-48-W4, next to Grandpa in about 1905. They worked the land together with horses, clearing and breaking land, seeding, and cutting hay and grain. I remember when I was about nine years old, and it was 1920, they cut the grain with a binder and stooked the bundles to dry. When it was dry they hauled it home and stooked it into cone like stacks until they could get someone to come and thresh it. We kids had lots of fun playing hide and seek around these stacks. They got Mr. Sam Berkholtz and his son, August, to come with their big steam engine and threshing machine to thresh the grain.



Front: Karl and Johanna Sikstrom. Back: Hilmer, Olivia, George Olson, Dagmer with Dennis — 1931.

Grandpa sold his farm in April, 1926 to Mr. and Mrs. George Grams. He retired in Hay Lakes until Grandma passed away in February, 1932. Then he sold the house and moved to Vancouver to live with his daughter until his passing in 1936.

My Mother, Olivia, came with her Dad, Mother and sister, Sarah (Swanlund) from Whilemina, Sweden in about 1907. She was born on February 28, 1891. She worked on a farm close to Armena for a few years before she married Dad. They had seven daughters and four sons. One daughter and one son, Jimmy, passed away in 1926 at two years of age.



The Hilmer Sikstrom Family — 1932. Back Row, L. to R.: Harry, a friend, Edith, Olivia, Hilmer. Front: Willard, Helen, Hazel, and Agnes. Missing: Ruth and Dagmer.

Harry, born in 1913 and passed away in 1958. Willard, born in 1922, passed away in 1970.

The six daughters are: Dagmar, Mrs. (Olson) Anthony Hermanutz, was born in 1911 and is living in Hay Lakes. Ruth, Mrs. Harry Brake, was born in 1912 and is living in Vermilion, Alberta. Edith, Mrs. Raymond Johnson, was born in 1915 and is presently living in Kingman, Alberta. Agnes, Mrs. G. Belleroose, was born in 1917 and is living in Vernon, B.C. Hazel, Mrs. H. Anderson, was born in 1918 and is living in Camrose, Alberta. Helen, Mrs. Orval Hjelter, was born in 1921 and is presently living in Ryley, Alberta.

We all went to a little log school called Canard. It was built on the north-west corner of Grandpa's farm.

Dad passed away in 1945 at the age of sixty and Mother stayed on the farm with my brother Harry, until he passed away in 1958. Then Mother sold the farm to Mr. Paul Bitner. She took turns staying with the girls until she went to the Bethany Nursing Home in March, 1979. She is feeling quite well and still does a lot of crocheting at ninety years of age.

Soch, August **by Frieda Soch**

We were both born in the Province of Alberta. August was born in the Ellerslie district and lived there until his parents and family moved to the Hay Lakes area. August was ten years old at this time.

I, Frieda (nee Tober) Soch was born in the Hay Lakes district and lived there with my parents until the age of twenty, when I married August. Then leaving Hay Lakes, we settled in the New Sarepta District.

Many exciting and interesting events took place in those years. Baseball games, dances, parties and picnics were enjoyed by everyone. Work was not always on the agenda in the early days. People also enjoyed going to church and this was where I met August. We were married on April 28, 1938 in the country Lutheran Church near Hay Lakes. The church since then has been torn down and a new church built in the town of Hay Lakes.

Life in the early years was quite difficult. The houses were constructed of logs and heated with wood and coal. There was no electricity and we used coal oil lamps, until in the 1940's when Calgary Power came to the rural areas. The land was cleared by horses and hard labor by fathers, mothers and children. It took years to clear a small portion of land.

August attended school at Hay Lakes while I went to the Canard school. Both were log schools.

We settled near Rolly View, the first year we were married and lived in a granary for the first year. We

then rented a quarter section of land (the old Thackery Farm). We remained there until 1944. During this time, Eileen, our oldest daughter was born. These years were very hard. All the land was worked by simple machinery and horses. Travel was by horse and buggy (or sleigh). We milked five cows (given to us for a wedding gift). Cream sold for \$2.00 for a five gallon can, eggs were 10 cents a dozen and oats for 35 cents a bushel. However, things did improve in 1944, when we purchased our own farm near New Sarepta (SE36-49-23-W4). A tractor, August's labor saver, was purchased together with some better machinery. We milked more cows and obtained some chickens and pigs. Our family also increased in size; Gordon (1944), Sylvia (1947), Edith (1949), and Valerie (1952).

In 1973, we retired to the village of New Sarepta. Our son, Gordon, and family and our daughter, Sylvia (Mrs. Sylvia Wentland) and family took over the farm. They live there now. Eileen (Mrs. Ray Telawsky) and family have a large dairy farm, two miles from the home place. Edith (Mrs. Larry Thompson) and family live in New Sarepta. Edith is a school teacher at New Sarepta Elementary School. Valerie (Mrs. Dan Hudkins) and family now live in Hay River, N.W.T.

Spitzer, Ewald **by Olga (Mittelstadt) Spitzer**

Olga, born in 1901, the oldest daughter of August and Eva (nee Lechelt) Mittelstadt, came to Canada in the early 1900's as a young child. She grew up on her parent's farm in the Hay Lakes area, attended Canard school and worshipped at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, where she was confirmed by Pastor Hempel.

Olga worked on the family farm until she married Ewald Spitzer (now deceased) and moved to Edmonton. From Edmonton they moved to Cooking Lake for two years and then back to Hay Lakes, for about fifteen years.



Sawing the winter supply of wood — Ed Spitzer's outfit. L. to R.: Robert Knopp, Harry Sikstrom, Leo Frederick, Trevor Roper, Ed Spitzer and Helmut Knopp. Late 1920's.

Ewald and Olga had five children: Arthur, Margaret, Norman, Gordon, and Harold.

Times were really tough, grain was very cheap and they could not make a go of it, so they moved west of Barrhead, Alberta, to Mystery Lake. They worked hard to clear the land and build a house. They continued to farm at Mystery Lake until they retired to Barrhead, Alberta.

At present their two youngest boys, Gordon and Harold, their daughter, Margaret, and her husband farm at Mystery Lake. Norman resides in Edmonton, Alberta. Arthur and Olga reside in Barrhead, Alberta.

Stebner, Robert

by Walter Mittelsteadt

The Robert Stebner family came to Canada from Russia in 1900. They arrived in the Hay Lakes area with their three daughters, Mathilda, Olga, and Lydia. They took up a homestead and built a log cabin with a sod roof and a dirt floor. Things were very tough as they had only two dollars to their name when they arrived here.

Mr. Stebner had a sister in Great Falls, Montana. She requested him to come there and so they did go. He got a job on the railroad and held that job for about five years before returning to Hay Lakes. They had a fourth daughter, Martha, with them then.

Immediately on arriving back in Hay Lakes they built a two-room house on the homestead (the land presently farmed by Ron Berkholtz). All the neighbors helped them in this undertaking. The German Lutherans in this area held their first Sunday worship services in this house. Mr. Stebner read the scripture lessons, baptized children, and taught a confirmation class.

On December 29, 1907, Mathilda, their oldest daughter, married Theodore Mittelsteadt. Soon after, the Stebner family moved to a farm at Nisku where they remained for the remainder of the senior Stebners' lives. Robert Stebner passed away January 5th, 1940 and his wife died December 18th, 1941.

Theodore and Mathilda Mittelsteadt had purchased the Stebner farm at Hay Lakes and began farming on their own in 1908.

These, Helmuth and Mathilda

by Gerty These

Mr. and Mrs. These left Russia for Germany in 1918. They arrived from Germany in Canada in 1925, with four children; Olga, Otto, Bruno and Carl. Lydia was born in 1929, at Hay Lakes.

The These's lived on the John Werner farm until the spring of 1927. Mr. These, in the meantime, had

bought the Hudson Bay Quarter SW 26-48-22-W4. This quarter was covered with trees from one end to the other. A road had to be brushed and space for a two room shack he had bought from Joe Kreamer. They put the shack on four sleighs and moved it down with eight horses, a distance of four miles. The horses belonged to Gus Henschell and Gus Mittelstadt.

The first year they lived on this quarter Mr. and Mrs. These cleared twenty four acres by hand. Mr. These did the brushing and grubbing, and Mrs. These piled and burned the brush. August Rost then broke this land with a 15-30 tractor, and Adam Hein was the operator of this equipment. This was seeded to Marcus wheat which resulted in a heavy stand, however, there was an early frost that year and the whole crop was lost. After this Mr. These hired men to clear the land.

Also, the first winter the These's lived on this farm, they had to do without a well. The cattle were herded to a neighbors, (also brother-in-law, George Rost) about a quarter of a mile down the road for water. Water for household use was carried from there also. For this a shoulder yoke was used with pails hanging on each side. The following summer a well was bored. This was done by Karl Mittelstadt and Gus Henschell. This well was used until 1958 when a new well was drilled beside the new house to accommodate a pressure system. Also, a new two storey home had been built in 1945.

Like all other pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. These had many struggles and set-backs. They were devoted members of St. Stephens Lutheran Church. Mrs. These was an excellent cook, many of her recipes were handed down to her daughters and daughter-in-laws. She also acted as mid-wife on several occasions. Mr. These was quite the story teller, you could never quite be sure whether he was telling the truth or



The Helmuth These Family. L. to R.: Bruno, Lydia, Mathilda, Helmuth, Otto.

Hay Lakes Alta.

May 18 1931

Contract between Helmut These, as first Party
Daniel Hohm, Max Gerull, and Oskar Mallas, as
second Party. This second Party of three men take
Contract to clear twenty (20) acres of bush land for
H. These and do it in orderly manner, and burn all
the brush piles, and be finished with this twenty acres
by the first of July 1931, and will not be held
responsible for fires that will do damage. And
H. These as first Party has to remove the heavy trees himself
and furnish the second Party with free board and
lodging, and further agrees to pay this second Party
with two hundred (200) bushels of his best grade of
wheat he harvested, to be delivered free of charge into
the Elevator. namely one hundred (100) bushels
this fall 1931, as soon as threshed, but if this second
Party do not want the wheat this fall 1931, they will
not be forced to accept it. But in case of a total
failure in 1931, the second Party agrees to wait untill
in fall 1932 for the full two hundred (200) bushels of
the best grade of wheat, and no interest will be charged
The second Party will divide the two hundred bus of
wheat among them selves. (First Party H. These
(second Party D. Hohm, M. Gerull, Oskar Mallas)

Received, 30¢ per bus for wht.

Contract

Hay Lake Alta. Nov. 16, 1931.

Received from H. These 100. bus.
of wheat as payment in full for
the fall. 1931.

signed,

C.D. Mallas, D. Holm ~~Long~~ Gault

not. I wonder if any of the Gus Knopp family can recall the time when they were out with the rakes, and on their hands and knees beside the ditch running across their property, looking for Mr. These's teeth which he claimed he lost, when he jumped the ditch on his way over to visit? He knew full well he had left them at home.

He also loved horses. One of his beliefs was that every Christmas Eve after Church, around midnight, he would go to the barn and feed all the cattle and horses grain, he believed that they talked to each other at midnight and told each other how good or how bad their master was. This belief was quite common in the old country.

Mr. These died at the age of fifty-four in 1939. Mrs. These carried on farming with the help of her sons until 1946, when she married Ed Plitt of Leduc, Alberta. Otto then took over the home quarter.

Olga had married Fred Bokenfohr of St. Albert, Alberta. They had thirteen children. Olga and Fred are both deceased. Otto married Gertrude Grams in 1947. They had three children; Kathy, Ron and Teresa. Bruno married Doris Ertman of New Sarepta. They have four children; Gary, Debbie, Bill and Michael. Lydia married Gerald Shmideck of Marker-

ville, Alberta. They had five children; Elaine, Larry, Gery and Brenda living, one child died in infancy.

These, Otto and Gertie by Gertie These

After working in B.C. Logging Camps for one winter, Otto decided he would take over the home quarter. So in 1946, when his mother remarried, this is what he did. In 1947, Otto and I were married on November fifth. Courting for me was made easier because Otto's family were the proud owners of a 1941 Ford, which they had purchased second-hand from Albert Werner. It's amazing how well cars stood up to wear and tear in those days, no gravel roads, no snowplows and two gates on my dad's driveway!

Life was not easy, even in 1947. The old horse machinery had to be replaced with power machinery, to go with the tractors that replaced the horses. We milked up to sixteen cows by hand. Thank goodness I could always milk three cows to Otto's one!

In 1952, power came to our area, shortly after which we purchased our first unit milking machine and our first deep freeze. What a treat these were! Otto worked a short time for Calgary Power and the Steel Plant in Camrose. He also enjoyed trapping

muskrats, — this also supplemented our income. However, it was very time consuming and in exasperation one day I wrote a poem. Otto and his brother, Bruno, worked together for many years, — until our sons were able to help. In 1966, we purchased a quarter of land from Wilemena McLeod and in 1968, another quarter was purchased from Mary Sherman.

After completing grade eleven in Canard School, I graduated from Camrose Lutheran College in 1945. Before I was married, I worked in the Royal Bank in Bashaw, Turner Valley and Calgary, (Crescent Heights). Besides raising our children, milking cows and raising hundreds of chickens, I worked part time in the Hay Lakes Grocery Store, and occasionally in the Post Office. In 1974, I assisted Otto Mittelstadt in taking over the same store, and worked for him for several years. I was then one of the original staff at the Crystal Springs Motor Hotel in Camrose. In September, 1978, I began working part time as a nursing assistant at Bethany Nursing Home, Camrose, until illness forced me to retire in February, 1981.

In November, 1972, we celebrated our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. We had three children. Kathryn was born in 1949, and took her education in Hay Lakes School. She graduated from Nels Todd

Hair Styling in 1967. On June 14, 1968, she married Garry Johnson of Kingman, Alberta. They have one daughter, Nadine and they reside in New Norway. Garry is employed by Mobile Oil at Rainbow Lake.

Ronald was born in 1951. He graduated from Hay Lakes High School in 1970. He attended Olds Agricultural College 1970-71. Besides working and farming, Ron completed his carpentry at N.A.I.T. in April, 1980. He is presently employed with Darwest Industries of Edmonton. On April 24, 1976, he married Lorraine Hansen, of Hay Lakes (north). Lorraine worked for Imperial Oil until January 1980. They have one daughter, Melissa, born March 13, 1980. Lorraine and Ron live on the original These homestead. One of the few quarters of land in the district handed down several generations.

Teresa was born May 18, 1960. She graduated from Hay Lakes High School in June, 1979. She then attended Alberta Vocational College in Edmonton and graduated from there on December 8, 1979. She is employed as a nursing attendant at Norwood Auxiliary Hospital, Edmonton.

Otto and I retired to the village of Hay Lakes in May, 1976. He still works on the farm occasionally, and we are caretakers of the Hay Lakes Recreation Centre and he also looks after the Hay Lakes Lift Station.

TO OTTO . . . the “RAT” ter by Gertie These

The ratting season is here again,
Only see the “old man” now and then,
In the morning he rants and raves about,
Let’s rush the chores so’s I can get out!
With chores half done and calves not fed,
He slushes off with eager tread,
Scaling fences like one in his teens,
To get the rats he’s seen in his dreams.
Comes 12 A.M. and family starving,
The roast turns cool, awaiting his carving,
An hour goes by with no sign of father,
“Guess he’s just too busy with lunch to bother”.
The cows are bawling and pigs are grunting,
They’re suffering the pangs of father’s hunting,
At 9 P.M. he staggers home,
With soaking feet and chilled to the bone.
“What’s for supper tonight?”, he’ll yell
I feel like saying, “oh, go to hell”,
But having a heart of purest gold,
I feed my rat-ter the dinner that’s cold.
This should be the end of a perfect day,
But there’s work to be done before he hits the hay,
Scraping and stretching the hides so fine,
Takes all of at least three hours time.



The Otto These Family — 1961. Gertie and Otto with children Ron, Teresa and Kathy.

At 12 o'clock he falls into bed,
The snoring starts as pillow touches head,
He dreams of nothing but rats and then,
The alarm goes off — his day starts again!



Lorraine and Ron These, Melissa and Russell. Present owners of the These homestead SW 26-48-22-W4.

Thompson, Leo

compiled by Hertha Hein with notes from Aunt Emma Thompson

Emma Hein married Leo Thompson a World War I veteran, in 1919. They lived for a time in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Brandon, Manitoba; and Calgary, Alberta. They lived with her father on the Gottlieb Hein farm from 1933 to 1937 then they moved into the village of Hay Lakes and in 1940 moved to Edmonton. Emma and Leo had two children, Kendrick (Ken) and Margaret.

Ken joined the army in March of 1941 and went overseas in 1942. He served in the United Kingdom, Central Mediterranean Area (Italy) and Continental Europe. He was discharged in October of 1945. He married Margaret Wilson. Their children are Dean Patrick, Reilly James, Alfred Brent, Kim-Marie, Laura Jean, and Christopher John. All of Ken and Margaret's children live in Edmonton and they have five grandchildren.

Margaret also joined the army in May of 1942 but only served in Canada. She was discharged in 1944. She married an American soldier Alfred George Keggins who is now Lieutenant Colonel. He joined the army in 1942 and served in France. After peace was declared he served in Germany, the Panama Canal Zone and Vietnam. He took his family with



Leo, Emma and Ken Thompson.

him to Germany and Panama. He resigned from the army in 1976 and lives in Glen Burnie, Maryland with his family. Margaret and Alfred have seven children, Theodore Storme, Frances Marshal, Brian George, Gregory Lyn, Kathleen Mary, Christine Louise, and Mahala Ann. They have five grandchildren.

Leo died in January 8, 1968 and Emma lives in Edmonton.

Tober, Albert

I was born January 4, 1920, the third child of Edward and Otheilia Tober. I was baptized in St. Stephens Lutheran Church and I attended the Canard School.

After I was out of school, I worked on my parents farm. It was all hand labour and horse work. In those early days, you could buy a doubleheader ice cream cone for a nickel, and you worked for seventy-five cents a day. Life then was simple, you worked hard and enjoyed all of the good times.

In 1946, I bought my farm, the NW 10-49-22-W4, and started farming on my own. I continued to live at home and I used all of my dad's equipment on my farm. In 1953, I built my own small house and



Sophie and Albert Tober 1959.

started batching. I then bought most of my own equipment, my first truck being a 1949 one ton Dodge.

In the year 1959, I married Sophie Soch also from Hay Lakes. We resided on my farm and started mixed farming. Our first child, Bonnie, was born in 1960. In 1962, our second child, Barry, was born. We built our present home in 1963. During the following years we acquired more milk cows and traded for better farm equipment. In 1967, Grant, our third child was born.



Grant, Barry, and Bonnie Tober.

In 1978, Bonnie graduated from Hay Lakes School. She is presently working in New Sarepta Post Office. Barry graduated from school in 1980, and is now working in Edmonton at Bow Mac Truck Rentals. At the present time, Grant is attending Hay Lakes School and is in grade eight.

Tober, Edward and Ottelia

writing by Mrs. Frieda Soch (nee Tober)

Our parents were born in the Russian Ukraine.

Father, Edward Tober was born on May 12, 1886. He was baptized a Notchendorf and on May 13, 1901 confirmed in the Lutheran faith. He served in the Russian Army from 1905-1909.

In 1911, at age twenty-four, Edward Tober emigrated to Canada, leaving behind his parents — Andrew and Anne Tober.

Mother, Ottelia (nee Edel) at age five, came to Canada with her parents in 1901. She told us a few stories of the trip across the Atlantic Ocean. Even at age five, she remembered that the trip took thirty days and that many people became very ill and died.

They settled in the Brightview District, just west of Wetaskiwin. There, mother Ottelia lived with her parents until she married Edward Tober, in 1915.

Father, Edward Tober settled in the Ellerslie and Leduc area where he worked for relatives and friends in order to earn enough money to send for his parents, who were still in Russia. His parents arrived a while later and lived with him in the Ellerslie area for several years. He worked very hard at clearing land, trying to save enough money to purchased some land.

He bought a quarter section of land (NE 34, R 48, T 22), in the Hay Lakes area. The price was \$2,-000.00 — a great deal of money in those years. There he lived with his parents until father, Andrew Tober passed away. His mother remained with him, looking after the log house and tending to the farm chores. She later moved to Portland, Oregon to live with father's sisters, Anne Haak and Jean Quade. She died while still in Portland.

Both father and mother Tober did not know the English language when they came to Canada. Father knew some Russian, but their main language was Low German. He received much of his education while still in Russia but could not continue when he moved to Canada.

Mother Tober also spoke Low German but learned to speak English while attending school. She managed to get through grade three.

After their marriage in 1915, they lived on the same farm (NW 34, R 48, T 22), which was originally purchased from Grahns. This farm was not a homestead. Some area had been cleared, but Father and Mother worked hard grubbing and cutting bush in order to make more land. Horses and breaking plows were used very extensively.

They milked a few cows, raised chickens and pigs, as was necessary to make a living. Father Tober, like most of the farmers in the area, grew wheat because it could be sold for a good price. A lot of time was spent in preparing food for the family. Butter was made, and if there was any left over, it was sold to the neighbors, to stores, or to people in towns.



Edward and Ottelia Tober 1915.

monton. He is married to Joyce Bussmaker of Edmonton.

We farmed at Hay Lakes where the going was pretty rough, raising seven children and doing the farm work with horses, until the year 1946, we finally got a tractor and bigger machinery.

The buildings were all old, but by 1963 we had all new farm buildings and a new house.

In July, 1969, we sold the farm and moved to Wetaskiwin. Ewald worked for Glendale Mobile Homes for eight years. In 1973, he suffered a stroke, which left him with a partially paralyzed arm and some speech loss.

Ewald was very sports minded all his life. He played soft ball in the Luther League team called the "Maroons", which was very popular at that time. Later he also played hard ball for a Hay Lakes team. When curling started in Hay Lakes, he took a great interest, and curled at many bonspiels at many different places.

I also played in a Luther League soft ball team, called the "Snowbirds". At the present time we have ten grandchildren.

In wintertime, their cows were allowed to stand dry. This was due mainly because of cold barns, poor weather conditions and heavy work load in doing chores. Milk was often purchased from area farmers, for 10¢ a gallon. (One summer they also had the

misfortune of losing their farm by fire and this was not an easy task to replace.)

One year, mother became very ill. She went to see Dr. Keiller, in Edmonton who diagnosed the sickness as T.B. The Doctor wanted to send her to a sanatorium in Rochester because T.B. was a very serious disease. An alternative, also suggested by Dr. Keiller, was to erect a canvas tent at home and allow the hot, summer sun to heat up the interior. The alternative was accepted and with some special herb medicine imported from Germany, the sickness passed and mother was well again.

During the time of mother's sickness, father hired a maid to help with the house chores and to look after the children.

The wages paid to the maid, ranged from \$6.00 to \$8.00 a month and later increased to \$10.00. This included room and board and also allowed the maid to purchase all her own clothing as well as save a little money. When mother felt better, the maid was not needed. The children helped with the house chores, milking of cows and washing clothes on a washboard.

In 1925, Father purchased a Model "T" Ford car. This made travelling much easier as well as more comfortable. Times became much better and after living on the same farm for sixteen years, he decided to invest in more land and bought a half section — NE ¼ S10, R49, T22, W4, SE ¼ S15, R49, T22, W4, now owned by D'Arcy McGhan.

The soil was much better here, as well as a lot more being cultivated. The house was much bigger, the barns were better and so were the rest of the buildings. With the family growing up, more help was available to milk more cows, raise more chickens and plant more wheat. Most of the farm produce was delivered to Hay Lakes, a nice town just a few miles east of the farm.

After farming a few years, finances improved. In 1938 they bought a new car for \$900.00. Both mother and father decided to take a trip to Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. to visit father's two sisters, Mrs. Jean Quade and Anne Haak. While in the area they also visited sister Ida, in Vancouver. This was quite an excursion and not many people took holidays in those days.

Together they farmed their half section of land until they retired to the town of Hay Lakes, in 1950. Two of their sons, Robert and Albert rented the land and farmed together until father bought Albert a farm. This left Robert to farm the home place for a few years.

Father passed away in 1954, at the age of sixty-eight, from a heart seizure. He had also suffered from asthma for many years. Mother was then alone and decided to sell the farm. Her son Robert then



The Edward Tober Family 1947. Back, L. to R.: Robert, Ewald, Albert. Front: Alma (Mrs. Bill Paul), Edward, Anne (Mrs. Edgar Fipkie), Mrs. Ed Tober, Frieda (Mrs. August Soch).

came to live with her in Hay Lakes. Mother passed away in 1963 at the age of sixty-five. Robert bought the house and is still living there.

Throughout their marriage, six children were born to Ed and Ottelia, all at home in the log house, with the help of a midwife.

Ewald Tober, born in 1916, farmed in Hay Lakes for many years, sold his farm and moved to Wetaskiwin, where he still lives with his wife, Martha (née Soch).

Frieda Tober (Mrs. August Soch) was born in 1918. After farming with her husband for thirty years, they sold the farm to two of their children and moved to the village of New Sarepta.

Albert Tober, born in 1920, is still farming with his wife, Sofie (née Soch) and family in the Hay Lakes area.

Robert Tober was born in 1922 and lives in the town of Hay Lakes.

Alma Tober (Mrs. Wm. Paul), born in 1924, farmed in the Hay Lakes area with her husband for thirty years and then moved to Camrose.

Anne Tober (Mrs. Edgar Fipke), born in 1927, lives in Peachland, B.C.

The memories of our parents will always be remembered. Even if some of the times were hard, we still had some very good moments. There was always time to visit, say hello to everybody in town and get together with the neighbors, especially, at church on Sundays. Mother and Father Ed Tober taught us to lead a Christian life, which we are proud of now. We hope our children and grandchildren will follow the same footsteps.

Tober, Ewald

by Martha (Soch) Tober

Ewald was the eldest of six children born to Edward and Tillie Tober. He was born May 2, 1916, at Hay Lakes, where he grew up and went to Canard School until fifteen years of age.

I, Martha Tober (nee Soch) was born at Ellerslie, Alberta, September 22, 1918, to Gotlieb and Emilia Soch, sixth in the family of ten children.

I moved to Hay Lakes with my parents when very young. We moved to a farm just one mile west of the town of Hay Lakes, where I grew up and went to school, until I got my diploma.

We both grew up in the Hay Lakes district, where we went to German School, Sunday School, at St. Stephens Lutheran Church. That is how we got to know each other. We were married November 17, 1938. We lived at Rollyview for the first year, with my brother and sister-in-law, August and Frieda Soch, where our first child, Marlene was born.



Ewald Tober home on the farm, Ewald in the car he won playing Bingo.

In 1939, we moved back to Hay Lakes. We lived on quite a few different places, where we rented the farm yards and pasture so we could keep cows and other farm animals.

Ewald usually went working for farmers, and I kept the home fire's going, until in 1943, Ewald's father bought John Handke's farm, SW 10, 49, 22, W4, and W½ NW 3-49-22-W4, which we rented from him for three years, and then bought in 1946.

We had seven more children who grew up on the farm and went to school at Hay Lakes, except for Lorne, who died in 1951, in a farm accident when he was thirteen months old.

Marlene, born 1939, married Henry Mittelstadt, who was also from Hay Lakes, and works for Grosser's Automotive, formerly at Dawson Creek, B.C. They now live in Calgary.

Dian, born 1943, worked for Alberta Government Telephones, where she met and married Bill Doucette, who still works for the telephone company.

Kenneth, born 1945, worked for Marvin Trempner for a while, then he went to Edmonton, and later met and married Rita Kerr of Edmonton. He is now a fireman with the Edmonton Fire Department.

Wilfred, born 1947, joined the Airforce in 1965, where he met Cathy Strassen, and was married. He is still in the services.

Marjorie, born 1949, married Larry Bogath of Castor, Alberta, who is now a plumber, tinsmith and gas fitter in Leduc.

Gerald, born 1951, is a doctor at the Smith Clinic, Camrose, and is married to Betty Lou Adams.

Terrance, born 1956, works at R. Angus in Ed-



The Ewald Tober Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Ken, Wilf, Gerry, Terry. Seated: Marj, Marlene, Ewald, Martha, Dian.

Tober, Henry and Bertha, and Henry and Albertine Tober, A Combined History written by Henry Tober

My father and mother, Henry and Bertha Tober arrived in Edmonton, July 15, 1911. Their four children came with them. Emma was nine, I was six years old, Reinhard three and Millie was six months old.

Uncle Sam Tober met us at the C.P.R. Station with horses and a big wagon. He lived nine miles out of town. He had built a house of two rooms for us. We lived there for six months, but moved to Ellerslie where we had rented a house and pasture so that we could have our cows and one horse. We lived there until November 1913.

My father visited Karl Mittlestadt at Hay Lakes. Mrs. Mittlestadt was Dad's niece. They located a house and pasture for us at John Zucht's. The land was rented out, but we could live in the house.

In those days there were very few threshing machines. My father worked for \$1.00 a day. Sometimes he would be away from home for two weeks, so before he left, he'd provide wild meat, such as partridge and rabbit for us. Dad was out there pitching bundles till Christmas some years.

I started school in 1914, attending Canard School. I walked two and a half miles following the high land as there were no roads. When I started school, Henry Zucht and Gus Hein were in attendance.

Dad rented some land from Mrs. Wesenberg. There were twenty-eight acres broken. He built a house and we moved in. Dad would broadcast the grain by hand and I would follow him with the harrows. Sometimes I would wait so that he could get ahead of me. Then he'd have to waken me for I would fall asleep. I was ten years old at that time.

Brother Ted was born in 1916, and brother Walter in 1919. Dad bought a farm from Mr. Kropp in 1919 that had a log shack, a barn, and some land broke.



Henry Tober and Albertine Wentland — 1938.



The Henry Tober Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Henry, Emma, Reinhold. Front: Henry Tober, Walter, Millie, Ted, Bertha Tober.

With the help of neighbors a two room house with an upstairs was built.

In 1921 sister Emma married Sam Soch, but passed away in 1922.

When I was fourteen I quit school. Dad had a sore leg, so I worked the fields. I also worked for the Wesenberg brothers. After 1922, I worked for farmers at Ellerslie, in the Humberstone coal mine, for Joe Tober, A. Rost, the Person Brother's Logging Camp, and others.

In 1936 I had a Model T Ford. Six of us — Bill Boen, Leo Werner, Albert Werner, brother Reinhard, Martin Schultz and myself — went to Vancouver to look for work. Most of us got work in a logging camp in December, 1936. It had rained for three weeks at Rock Bay. On December 13, brother Reinhard was

working on the Steel Gang. The gang picked up the kitchen garbage to dump in the creek from the railroad bridge. There was ice on everything, Reinhard slipped and fell into the creek. The water was high and fast, so that the five men with him were unable to save him. A long search failed to find his body.

A letter from Mother in the fall of 1937 requested me to return home, as Father was suffering from a heart condition. He passed away in December, 1937. For five years I rented (on share basis) the home farm.

In 1938 I married Albertine Wentland, who was a great help to me. Mother stay with us until 1943, when she married John Handke. He owned a house in the village of Hay Lake. They had some good years together.

We moved off Mother's farm in 1944. We rented a house and pasture from Ed Spitzer and by purchasing a portable grain crusher I did custom crushing for farmers. Two years later we bought Mr. A. Summer's place in New Sarepta.

At last we had our own place. We had four children — Joyce, Ruth, Morris, and Norman. Our livestock consisted of five horses and eight head of cattle. We also had some machinery.

Our first crop was a heavy crop of wheat, but the second year we were hailed out on the second of July. Shingles and all the windows were smashed. In order to carry on, we had to sell a yearling steer for \$40.00. We had some hard times and a share of sickness. I thought it could have been worse, and was thankful for what we did have. By now we had five more children — Harvey, Douglas, Raymond, Theodore and Arlene.

When I had the crop in, I worked for the County of Leduc, checking gravel and cutting brush, but I developed arthritis and the boys got work in the oil fields, so we sold the farm in 1967, and moved to Edmonton. We are now retired at 8328 — 76 Avenue.



The Henry Tober Jr. Family. L. to R.: Wilfred and Arline Blackburn, Norman Tober, Henry and Tina Tober, John Svarich, Joyce (Tober); Clifford Letourneau, Ruth (Ruth Tober); Teddy Tober, Irene (nee Goudreau); Harvey Tober, Karen (nee McDonnell); Raymond Tober, Darlene (nee Minich).

In my history before, I mentioned Emma and Reinhart. Emillie married Reinholt Podritske. They lived in Edmonton and Nanimo, B.C. They had five children — Don, Doris, Ruby, Kenneth, Ronnie.

Martha married Alfred Soch. Their children were — Richard, Reinhart, Jean, and Anne. Martha died February 15, 1950.

Theodore was born in Hay Lakes, June 30, 1916. He attended Canard School. Previous to joining the Army in 1941, and being overseas for four years, he had worked for Muttart's Lumber and Building Sup-

plies. On his return to Edmonton, he married Eilene Johnson, December 21, 1957. They have four children — Kenneth, Leonard, Gordon, and Brenda.

Walter Tober joined the Army in 1941. He went to the Experimental Station at Suffield, Alberta. He married Phyllis Fuller. He worked at Muttarts Building Supplies until he passed away in 1979. His wife died a year later.

Werner, Albert and Helen

Albert, son of John Werner was born February 29, 1908 at Hay Lakes. Helen Schienke born January 9, 1912 came from Wolynia, Russia. She married Albert Werner in Edmonton, December 8, 1932.

Albert and his wife left Hay Lakes to find employment in B.C. He worked at the Franklin River Logging Camp.

Albert was on his way to Port Alberni to see a doctor as his foreman advocated as he had not been feeling too well. He and several other men were making the trip by rail, on a speeder-type vehicle used by the logging camps, to the water where they



Albert and Helen with daughters Connie and Norma. About 1942.

would go by boat to Port Alberni. Ahead of them a load of logs was being moved by rail. The brakes did not hold and the load crashed into the men on the speeder.

Several men died. Albert sustained a fractured skull, severe burns, and cuts from the waist down to the knees. He was hospitalized and unconscious for several weeks. A lengthy rehabilitation necessitated a move to Vancouver, where medical treatment was available. The Compensation Board's settlement included a lump sum payment to enable the Werners to purchase a farm, SW 34-48-22. Later Albert worked as a maintenance man for Imperial Oil east of Hay Lakes, and still later became the Weed Inspector for the County of Camrose.

The Werners have three daughters. Connie (Yvonne) - Mrs. Ronald Reschke lives in Portland Oregon. They have two sons Erick and Mark. Connie enjoys painting and the art of dried-flower preservation. Norma (Doris) married Garnet Ferguson. They lived on the home farm where they built a modern split-level home. They presently reside in Armstrong, B.C. Their daughter Candace — majoring in Physical Education — is in her fifth year and recently won a thousand dollar scholarship.

Margaret (Elaine) presently Mrs. Bill Larsen, lived at Looma prior to moving to an acreage in Sherwood Park. Margaret is employed in the Attorney-General's office, Edmonton. She is currently keenly interested in such crafts as macrame, crocheting, and knitting.

Albert and Helen retired from farming. They presently live in their home which is in the town of Hay Lakes.

John Werner Family

by Martha Stebner

John and Emilge (Kueram) Werner and parents Gottlieb and Friedreke Werner and sister Molly came to Canada in the winter of 1901 from Russia. They stayed with the August Lachmans in the Rabbit Hill area. In spring, 1902, they all moved to a farm north of Leduc, as there were better buildings on that property. Then in fall, they all moved again to a farm west of Leduc. Some grain was seeded in both places. The fall of 1903, they moved again, to the Hay Lakes district, and each family settled on separate homesteads. My parent's farm is the land presently owned by Albert Tober, NW 10-49-22-W4. Any income was made from mixed farming consisting of cattle, chickens, pigs, and sheep. Oats was the main crop grown for feed.



John and Emilge Werner and baby Jessie 1903.



Albert and Helen Werner with daughter Margaret 1980.

The first car purchased was a 1919 Ford.

Our dad and some of the neighbors — John Handke and John Mittelstaedt — were great for making their own "home brew". One incident Albert remembers was the Sunday that the parents and some of the children went to church, and Bill and Albert were to look after the baby (Martha). Two policemen came to search for whiskey, but Bill and Albert ran

into the bushes and hid. Meanwhile, the policemen searched the house but no moonshine was found. After the police left, Bill and Albert returned to the house to find the baby still sound asleep.

Hattie, about four and a half years old, remembers the day she was trying to be helpful to her dad. She pulled a chair to the stove so she could reach the pepper shaker that was on the warming closet and she started peppering the potatoes. The lid fell off, and the potatoes were well peppered. Dad and the children couldn't eat very many of those hot potatoes.

Mother (Martha) passed away October 1921, at the age of thirty-eight, several days after giving birth to a daughter, Alma. The baby also passed away at about six weeks of age.

Dad passed away July 1942 at the age of sixty-one. He had spent several years working in the Hay Lakes Hotel owned by Emil Kiel at that time. He also did carpenter work in the district. Dad was unable to look after the children and some of them being very young, were taken to friend's and neighbor's homes. I, Martha, was fortunate to have one home. I stayed with the John Handke family.

I, Martha (nee Werner) Soch, attended Canard

School until I was fifteen years of age. Then I helped with the farm chores, — milking cows and feeding chickens. Another job was to carry wood into the house every evening. Many armfuls had to be carried in the winter to keep the kitchen stove and heater burning.

I enjoyed sports and played ball for the Canary team about four years. We used to travel in the back of August Rost's truck when we played against different teams. On one occasions, we went as far as Gnadenthal on very muddy roads. We always played at church rallies and picnics. I also enjoyed going to dances and parties. It was often a long walk to some of those "good old times". We used to have dances in Ed Tober's granary, with Ewald Tober playing his mouth organ. Sometimes we even had Benny Thompson on his accordion.

In April, 1939, at Frieda Tober and August Soch's wedding, I met Ewald Soch. On November 24, 1938, we were married. Returning home after the ceremony, about twelve fellows came to "chivaee". As they were banging and shooting, an R.C.M.P. drove into the yard. He also joined the party and he also started shooting. It surely scared some of the boys,



The John Werner Family. 1916. Back Row, L. to R.: Albert, Jessie, Bill. Front: Emilge, Ernest, John, Bertha, Leo. Missing: Herta and Martha.

especially some of the men that were supposed to serve the home brew. He was invited to stay for supper and most of all he enjoyed the saurkraut the best.

In the spring of 1940, we moved to the New Sarepta area where we bought our farm and farmed until 1959. Ewald passed away August 1959.

There were nine children in the Werner family. Jessie, born 1902, married Adolph Lachman 1899-1968, Rollyview, Alberta. They had nine children: Elsie, 1921-1967; Hilbert, 1923-1976; Clara; Laura; Esther, 1929-1973; Laurence; Harvey, 1935-1952; Inez and Velma.

William, born 1906, married Gertie Drebert, White Rock, B.C., one daughter Muriel.

Albert, 1908, married Helen Schenke, Hay Lakes, Alberta. Three daughters; Connie, Norma and Margaret.

Leo, born 1911, married Hilda Johnson, Port Albernie, B.C. Three children; Roger, Beatrice and Debby.

Ernest, born 1913-1940, died in a logging camp accident. B.C.

Bertha, 1915-1975, married Jim Caldwell, Surrey, B.C. One son, Cameron.

Herta (Hattie), born 1917, married Fred Mix, White Rock, B.C. Two children; Harold and Lorraine.

Martha, 1919, married Ewald Soch, 1907-1959, Leduc, Alberta. Two children; Eleanor and Sharon.

In 1961, I married Herman Stebner and moved to the Nisku area. Herman passed away June, 1971. In 1975, I moved to Leduc where I presently work as janitor at the church, for the past fifteen years.

Alma, born 1921, died at about six weeks of age.

I, Martha, grew up on the farm that my grandfather Gottlieb Werner owned in 1903. The school some of the children attended was the Canard School.

Wesenberg, Fred and Rose **by Rose Wesenberg**

Fred and Rose resided at Hay Lakes from July, 1929, to September 1946. They were married in Hay Lakes, July 4, 1929. Jean and Conrad were born while they still resided in Hay Lakes.

The family moved to Ontario in 1946, where they resided at various places; Tilbury, Pelee Island, Leamington and Amherstburg, Phyllis and Ned were born while they lived on Pelee Island. Fred retired from the Post Office Service in 1965. He passed away in April, 1977.

Rose still enjoys excellent health and travels extensively. Daughter Jean and son Conrad live within an hour's travel, but Phyllis lives in Bermuda. Ned, a

graduate of the University of Manitoba, 1980, now lives in Calgary.

All four children have received a liberal education. Jean and Phyllis are Registered Nurses and Ned received his Bachelor Science in Architecture in Winnipeg. Conrad is the Assistant Postmaster at Essex, Ontario. Jean and Conrad have produced seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren, with more expected in May 1981.

Rose would like to extend warm wishes to all who knew her and her husband Fred, when they lived at Hay Lakes, and sends sincere thanks for the very fine hospitality shown her on the last visit to the reunion in 1980.

Wesenberg, Herman Emil **submitted by Mrs. William (Florence) Lede**

Herman was born in Ellerslie, on November 20, 1897, the second son of Ferdinand and Pauline Wesenberg.

He remained a bachelor throughout his lifetime, but enjoyed his nieces and nephews and always remembered to bring gifts when returning from his visits to Edmonton during the early 1930's.



Taken about 1946. Herman Wesenberg.

He operated his farm, NW 35-48-22, one quarter section approximately three miles west of the town of Hay Lakes with his brothers, William and Fred.

His knowledge of the province of Alberta was extensive. His travels took him all over, as he spent a lot of time taking the Government Census. He was the weed inspector and helped the farmers with their veterinary work.

He lived in his original home, until his death on February 22, 1958.

Wesenberg, William and Martha

Ferdinand August Heinrich Wesenberg was born on July 10, 1863, and immigrated from Treptow, Germany in early 1887. He immigrated to the United States and lived in Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, for seven years. While there, he took out American Citizenship papers. In 1894, due to the severe winters and the good news from a friend telling him of the rich land in Alberta, he decided to migrate to Alberta and settled in the Ellerslie area.

There he met Pauline Stockman, born February 10, 1877, who came from Zhitomer, Ukraine. They were married on June 23, 1895.

Ferdinand and Pauline had five sons and two daughters, all born to them on the farm at Ellerslie; William Henry born March 25, 1896, Herman Emil, November 20, 1897, Fred August, March 23, 1900, Albert George, April 28, 1902, Emma Emelie, May 5, 1904, Julius Johannes, September 2, 1905 and Martha Maria, born November 21, 1908.

In 1913, Ferdinand purchased SW 3-49-22 in the Hay Lakes area. In 1919, he purchased four more quarters from the C.P.R. and sold his land in Ellerslie in 1920. He built a large home in South Edmonton for his family, and they commuted to Hay Lakes to work the land by wagon and a team of horses, stopping at his brother in Rollyview on the way, to spend the night. His wife Pauline and his sons helped him clear the land, build buildings and erect fences. The land consisted of brush, trees, and sloughs. Mosquitoes were out in droves and working in waist high water was not unusual as these fences were being built. Three of the sons, William, Herman and Fred made their homes in this area, William's farm being three and a half miles west of the town of Hay Lakes.

Martha Caldwell is the only remaining member of their children living, who now, and always has, resided in the Edmonton area. She still owns the quarter section four miles west of Hay Lakes, that has been in the family for sixty-eight years.

Martha Martin was born to Michael and Ernestine Martin (nee Langner) on September 2, 1908, in Falkenburg-Bromburg, Germany. Her father Michael, was born in Reickheim, Austria, August 11,

1869. Her mother, Ernestine, was born in Volynia, August 23, 1876. Martha's parents and her brother Adolph, who was born January, 1906, immigrated to Canada from Germany in 1926, Martha followed three months later, and found employment in Edmonton.

Bill met Martha in Edmonton, and they were married on March 4, 1927, in the Trinity Lutheran Church. Martha accompanied Bill to his home at Hay Lakes, and quickly learned what life was like on land that was not fully developed. The milking, feeding cattle, raising chickens and gardening kept her busy. During the next eleven years, Bill and Martha had five children.



The William Wesenberg Family — 1940. L. to R.: Art, Martha with baby Ray, Evelyn, Florence, Ethel, Bill.

To supplement the farm income, Bill worked at various other jobs. He hauled ice in the winter and in summer worked for the government, building roads. He owned a sawmill in the Breton area for a few years, and Martha helped him as a cook for two years.

Farmers worked together, and Bill helped clear land, dynamiting stumps, and burning brush. Bill and his brothers owned a threshing machine and also a W-40 tractor. They did custom threshing for their neighbors.

When the Canard School, in the early forties, (being only a quarter of a mile from Bill and Martha's farm yard), was overcrowded, the school board rented and renovated their garage to accommodate the extra students. The higher grades were taught there for four years until the Canard School was enlarged to accommodate all the students.

The family belonged to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, and Martha took an active part as member of the Ladies' Aid, being the secretary for a number of years.

In 1944, Bill and Martha sold their farm to his



The William Wesenberg Family — 1967. Back, L. to R.: Florence Lede, Ray Wesenberg, Evelyn Will, Art Wesenberg, Ethel McCord. Front: Martha and Bill Wesenbrg. Mr. and Mrs. Wesenberg's 40th Wedding Anniversary.

brother Fred. All the farm machinery and part of their furniture was sold at an auction sale. They purchased the Byemoor Hotel, in Byemoor, Alberta, which they operated for four years. In 1948, they once again sold their holdings and bought a fruit farm in Keremeos, B.C. They operated the farm along with a fruit stand for many years.

In 1977, Bill and Martha celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with a gathering of sixty relatives and friends, including seventeen grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They resided there until Bill passed away on March 29, 1978, at the age of eighty-two years. Martha now lives in Penticton, B.C. Bill is survived by five children, seventeen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Throughout the years, the family scattered. Most of them live in British Columbia.

Art married Roberta Blackwell, January, 1951. They now reside in Kelowna. They moved from Keremeos where Art and his parents were involved in the fruit industry until the sale of the farm in 1972. They have four children — Donald, who lives in Calgary, Barbara, Deanna, and Jenette, who live in the Kelowna area. They have one granddaughter, Sarah Wesenberg. Art is employed with the logging industry in the winter and the fruit industry in the spring, summer, and fall.

Florence, who married William Lede on June 28, 1946, lives in Leduc. They have four children — Dave, Lynda, Cliff, and Diane; one grandson, Richard Lede, and one granddaughter, Cherlyn Marlene. Bill and Florence have been actively involved with the Leduc community. Bill passed away in September, 1980.

Ethel, married Harley McCord on October 9, 1950, and they have lived in Penticton all their married life. They have two daughters, Myrna Geary, and Lorraine Ante; four grandchildren, Will and Michael Geary, and Lisa and Kristi Ante. They own and operate Pilgrim House Motor Hotel. One of their highlights was when the Queen of England, Prince Phillip and Princess Ann stayed at the Pilgrim House, Penticton, in May 1971.

Evelyn, married Ron Will in November of 1955. They have five daughters, Dina Charpentier, Karen Steske, Jeanne, Terry, and Cindy. She has two grandsons, Christopher and Daniel Charpentier and one granddaughter, Robyn Steske. Evelyn is now married to Ralph Zentel. They live in Richmond, B.C. and both sell real estate in the Vancouver area.

Ray married Ruth O'Neil on November 25, 1967. They have one son Sean and one daughter Erin. Ray is owner and president of Western Inventories, with branch offices across Canada. Ray, Ruth, and family live in West Vancouver.

Bill and Martha and their family made many friends during their farm life in the Hay Lakes area, and still keep in touch with many of them. They enjoyed many house parties, barn dances, card parties, community picnics, church socials, and the warm fellowship of their friends.

Zucht, Emil and Rose

by Rose Zucht

I (Rose) was born August 10, 1913 in Hay Lakes — daughter of one of the first early settlers in Hay Lakes, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Henschell. Emil was born August 1, 1902 in Rabbit Hill, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Zucht, also one of the first settlers in Hay Lakes.

On June 26, 1930, Emil and I were married and lived on a farm three miles west of Hay Lakes for thirteen years.

The thirties as we all know were trying times to make ends meet, but looking back they also were some happy times. We did not have the money to buy our friends and happiness, we made them naturally.

One of the funniest incidents as well as many others too innumerable to mention, was the time when Emil got bored during the long winter and decided to invent a snowmobile (a far cry from the present ones) nevertheless it did consist of a floor, motor, steering wheel and propeller. Winter roads were almost impossible even with horse and sleighs, but when the horses on the sleighs suddenly noticed this fast object coming we then had the road to ourselves. The straw that broke the camel's back was when a sleigh loaded with straw was parked in front of the hotel. The beer parlor doors opened and as



Emil and Rose Zucht.

Emil turned his snowmobile the propeller blew most of the straw into the beer parlor. That was the last trip past the hotel. Sadly enough at our auction sale the auctioneer did not know what the object was and sold Emil's hard earned snowmobile for fifty cents.

In 1943, we sold our farm to Ralph Rose and moved to Edmonton. Emil was employed by Adolff Metzker for a few years. We then opened our own business "Modern Industries" manufacturing Core Boxes for Oil Companies and water tanks. Emil then was employed by Core Laboratories of Texas until his retirement in 1971. A few months after his retirement Emil was stricken with a massive stroke.

Emil always had a fixation to retire in Kelowna. In 1974, we spent six months in a motel and purchased a mobile home in which he only lived nineteen days. In April 1975, we came back to Edmonton



Our snowmobile. L. to R.: Jerry Zazulack, Ferdinand Henschell, Nellie McCoy, Emil Zucht, Rose Zucht.

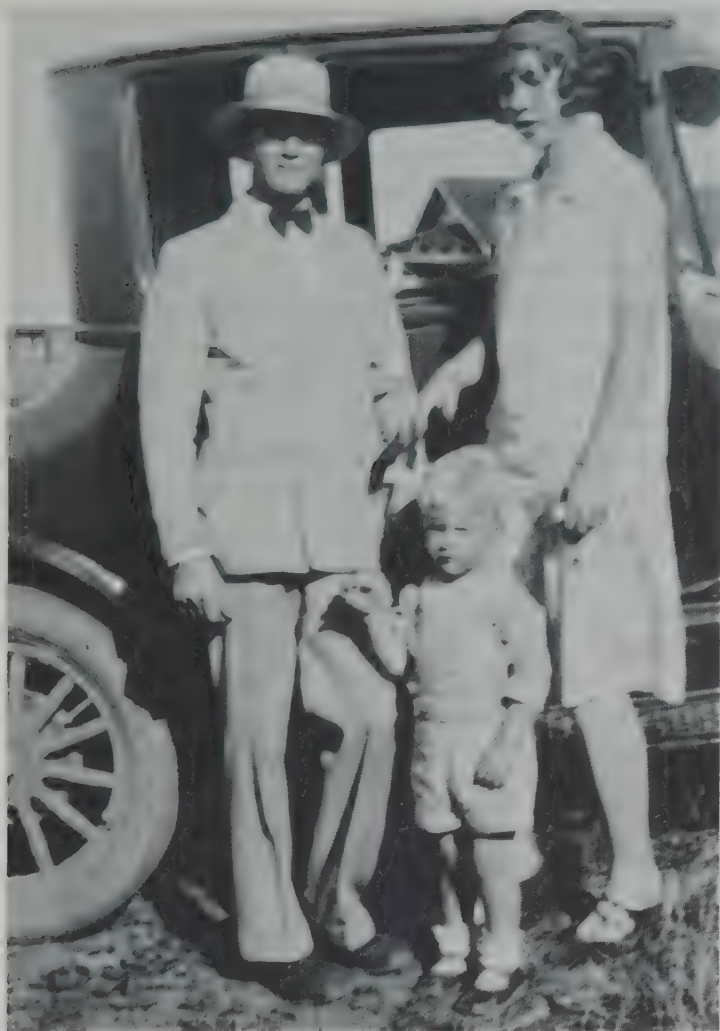
to finalize some business. May 11 he passed away in the home of Gert and Ronald Zucht's at Olds.

I then returned to Kelowna alone to start a new life where I still remain.

Zucht, Henry and Elsie

Henry and Elsie lived in the Canard District where they farmed for about thirty years. When Henry and Elsie (nee Drebert) were married in 1926, they spent several years in Vancouver, where their first son, Richard, was born. In the spring of 1929 they moved back to Hay Lakes to start farming when Henry's parents decided to retire in the village of Hay Lakes. They took over the home place where Henry grew up, and also farmed the eighty acres east of the farm homestead.

When the depression hit the country that fall, it presented many problems, which steadily grew worse during the following years. The price of farm products hit an all time low. Grain was sold in the open market at that time and farmers had to be satisfied with thirty cents a bushel for wheat. However, raising livestock and poultry helped to make a living, even though eggs sold for five cents a dozen, cows about fifteen dollars, and hogs for three dollars, if there was a market for them. Henry recalls when he took a load of hogs to Edmonton and had to bring them back home. Sometimes they delivered butter and eggs to customers in Edmonton to get a better price. They raised turkeys, geese and hundreds of chickens, and many times sold broilers to the restaurants in Edmonton.



Henry and Elsie Zucht and son Richard 1930.

Henry often worked at various jobs such as road grading for the Leduc municipality during the summer months. Some winters he and Bill Wesenberg took the contract to cut and haul ice from St. Joseph Lake to use for packing at the Hay Lakes Creamery, since there was no refrigeration at that time.

In the fall, Henry and his brother Emil operated their threshing machine for the neighboring family crews, until the combines took over.

In the early forties, conditions began to improve, so when a new barn was badly needed, Henry took a permit to cut logs out at Breton and the finished lumber was hauled home. With the help of Walter Seipert as carpenter and the older boys in the family, a sturdy barn was built in 1943, which still stands as a landmark on the old homestead. As was the custom at that time, a barn dance was held when the building was finished.

The new barn enabled them to expand their dairy herd which provided income for their growing family of four boys. During the thirties, three more sons were born to their family, namely, Ronald, Gordon and Lorne. Since the boys weren't interested in farming as a career, they gradually struck out on their

own. Richard settled in Vancouver — their family includes three children, Alanna, Ronald and Nadine. Ronald married a local girl, Gertie Metzker, and they live in Olds with their two daughters, Lori and Shelley. Gordon's work has taken him to the Middle East for some years and he is presently working in Israel. His two sons, Lloyd and Kevin, live in Calgary. Lorne also settled in Vancouver and they have two daughters, Christine and Marla.

Elsie's family background originated in the Bruderfeld area (now Mill Woods) where her grandparents settled in about 1890. Her parents, Adolph and Julia Drebert, lived in Calgary in the early years of their marriage where Elsie was born. Then moved to Edmonton where Elsie attended Queen Alex school and Strathcona High. She also went to Camrose Normal in 1924-1925 and taught one term at the Maple Hill school in the New Sarepta area before her marriage.

In 1975 a family reunion was held at Ron and Gertie's home in Olds with a surprise party to celebrate Henry's seventy-fifth birthday and all his sons were present.



The Henry Zucht Family. Henry's 75th Birthday. Back Row, L. to R.: Lorne, Gordon, Henry, Elsie, Ron, Dick. Front: Marg, Lorne's wife; Gertie, Ron's wife; Louise, Dick's wife.

During their farming years, Elsie and Henry were involved with many community activities. The Farmer's Union was very active in the Canard district, which provided many social events and meetings at various homes. Farmer's Day picnics were held in conjunction with adjoining locals. They also had a snowplow built, which fit onto the farmer's tractor and enabled the farmers to keep their roads open in the winter months.

In the early fifties Henry and Elsie decided to prepare for their retirement and built a new home in the village of Hay Lakes. They continued with grain

farming until 1960 when they sold the land to Melvin May of Leduc. The land changed hands several times in the following years and is presently owned by Erwin Lachman, with Gerald Trepner owning the home site acreage.

During their retirement years in Hay Lakes they were both active in community affairs, such as curling, etcetera. Henry served on the village council for ten years and also served as mayor for two years. Elsie was an active member of the Circle "S" Club. Henry always kept busy with woodwork as a hobby and also enjoyed fishing and hunting. In his early years Henry played in the church band and later with local orchestras, where he played the saxophone. When Camrose formed a county band in the sixties, he became an active band member again. They took part in band festivals and often travelled to various towns and also the Edmonton Exhibition, where they performed in parades. The County provided a school bus for the transportation of the band members. Henry and Elsie often made these trips with their trailer and then continued on with camping and fishing, their favorite pastime. They also enjoyed many blueberry picking expeditions with Bill and Ann Sware, and other friends. When a Senior Citizen's Club was formed in Hay Lakes, the Drop-in Center became one of their special interests.

Zucht, John and Justina by Elsie Zucht

John and Justina Zucht were among the many German immigrants who came to Canada from Volynia, Russia. They arrived in 1902 and the first months were spent in Leduc where they met some of the families who had emigrated a few years earlier. These folks welcomed their friends to the new land and helped them in many ways. The following year they decided to settle in the West Hay Lakes district, where they took up a homestead on the S.E. 1/4 of Section 2-22-4. This is the land on Highway twenty-one where Gerry Trepner's now live.

Making the move from Leduc to their homestead was no easy task over wilderness trails. However, John Zucht would be making countless trips back and forth to Leduc in the early years when he worked on the railroad. In fact, quite often he walked that distance of twenty-four miles carrying a sack of flour on his back. That was the only way to get some supplies home for his family. Of course wild rabbits provided a good supply of food those early days and many tricks were used to trap or snare them.

Justina Zucht was a true pioneer who always enjoyed working outdoors. When the children were tiny and still needed nursing, she took them along and rocked them in a hammock fastened to the trees.

Besides being a farmer's wife and homemaker, she was often called upon to perform the duties as a midwife in the community. When there was a death in any of the neighboring families she would help prepare the body for burial. Coffins were made by the men, and the women finished the inside with a cloth lining and trimmed the edge with Swiss eyelet embroidered lace. Her daughter Olga, recalls that her mother also added sprigs of myrtle. The day of the funeral, the Pastor held a short service in the home of the deceased before they moved the coffin to the church and cemetery for the last rites. In cases of sickness when a doctor was needed, the men would have to drive to Camrose or Leduc to bring help.

When John and Justina Zucht started homesteading they had a family of four children, three girls and a boy, Lydia, Tena, Emma and Henry who was two years old. As the girls grew up, they learned to take care of the many household duties besides babysitting the three younger children, Emil, Olga and August, who were born at the farm homestead. Despite the many hardships, the children learned to be resourceful and enjoy their surroundings. They invented their own games, made their own skis and enjoyed many outdoor sports. The children all attended Canard school which opened in 1909. Their social life centred around the school and church in the community. They often walked several miles to get together with their neighboring friends for a ball game or social event.

John Zucht took advantage of many opportunities



The John Zucht Family — 1913. Back: John and Justina Zucht, Tena. Front: Emma, Olga, Henry, August, Emil.

to earn money to support his growing family. He often hauled cordwood to sell in Camrose or Edmonton, when roads were simply trails through the bush. In 1912 when Mr. Larsen built his store in Hay Lakes, John made trips to Edmonton to pick up lumber for the building. This always required several days and he stopped overnight with friends in Ellerslie. He

also hauled some of the rough lumber from Rolly View where someone had a sawmill. When he brought the load of lumber into Hay Lakes, he would take Henry along to help unload. Henry recalls taking his rifle along and shooting muskrats in the slough where Mr. Hickey's blacksmith shop now stands.

When the C.N.R. started to build the railroad through Hay Lakes in 1913, they set up a camp with tents for the working crew on the land where Walter Soch's now live. They bought hay from the farmers to feed the livestock which were mostly mules, which they used to drive their machines. Henry recalls when he went along with his dad to deliver a load of hay to the camp. It was usually about noon when they arrived at the camp and they were surprised to hear the mules braying a chorus of hee-haws until they got their noon feed. No need for a dinner gong in that camp!

John became a naturalized Canadian citizen in 1906 and as the years progressed he took a keen interest in community affairs, serving on the church council and school board. He also helped with much of the road building.

There was a close co-operation with the neighboring families, who were, August Lachman's on the adjoining land to the north. Justina's brother, Gottlieb Hein and his family, lived on the adjoining land to the west.

As the family grew up they were able to expand their farming operations when they bought eighty acres east of the homestead. Gradually they acquired some mechanical machinery — their first threshing machine was run by a stationary one-cylinder gas engine. Then came the wooden threshing machine and later the modern steel model. The first years when machines were scarce, farmers would haul the stooks of grain from the fields and pile them into several large stacks where they wanted a strawpile for the livestock. Then they had to wait their turn to get the grain threshed. Later with the co-operation of the farmers and young men in the community they had active threshing crews, and hauled the stooks directly to the machine. The days were long as horses had to be fed at 5:00 A.M. and they often worked till dark. The crews usually numbered about twelve to fourteen men. The women cooked the meals and also carried out the lunch to the crew, both morning and afternoon, and many did the chores too. However, there was an air of excitement about it all with the co-operation of the families and the winding up with a threshing party at the end of the season. Of course this included a keg of beer, pickled herring, sausage and lots of food to celebrate.

As the girls and boys in the family grew older,

each went their own way, Lydia, Tena and Emma moved to the United States and settled in California and Portland, Oregon where their families still reside. Emil and Henry tried working out in B.C., but soon returned to farming. Emil lived on the land south of the homestead and then moved to Edmonton where he went into business. Henry took over the homestead land when his folks retired. When August left the farm he spent a few years in McBride, B.C. where he married Martha Hinkleman. Then he spent some years working with Silver Skagit at the West Coast, and later transferred to the States. His last move took him to New Jersey with DeLong Corp. where he supervised setting up oil rigs on the ocean floor. His plans to retire in 1966 and live in Portland were cut short with his sudden death of a heart attack in August, 1966. His wife Martha passed away in 1940. Their two daughters, Barbara Davies lives in California and Pat Loftin in Oregon.

Olga, (Mrs. Louie Malin) still resides in Edmonton where she spent her married years with her husband and three children, Marion, Audrey and Lloyd. Marion and Lloyd both reside in Edmonton and Audrey passed away in Vancouver in 1963. In the spring of 1908, Olga's husband passed away following a serious stroke.

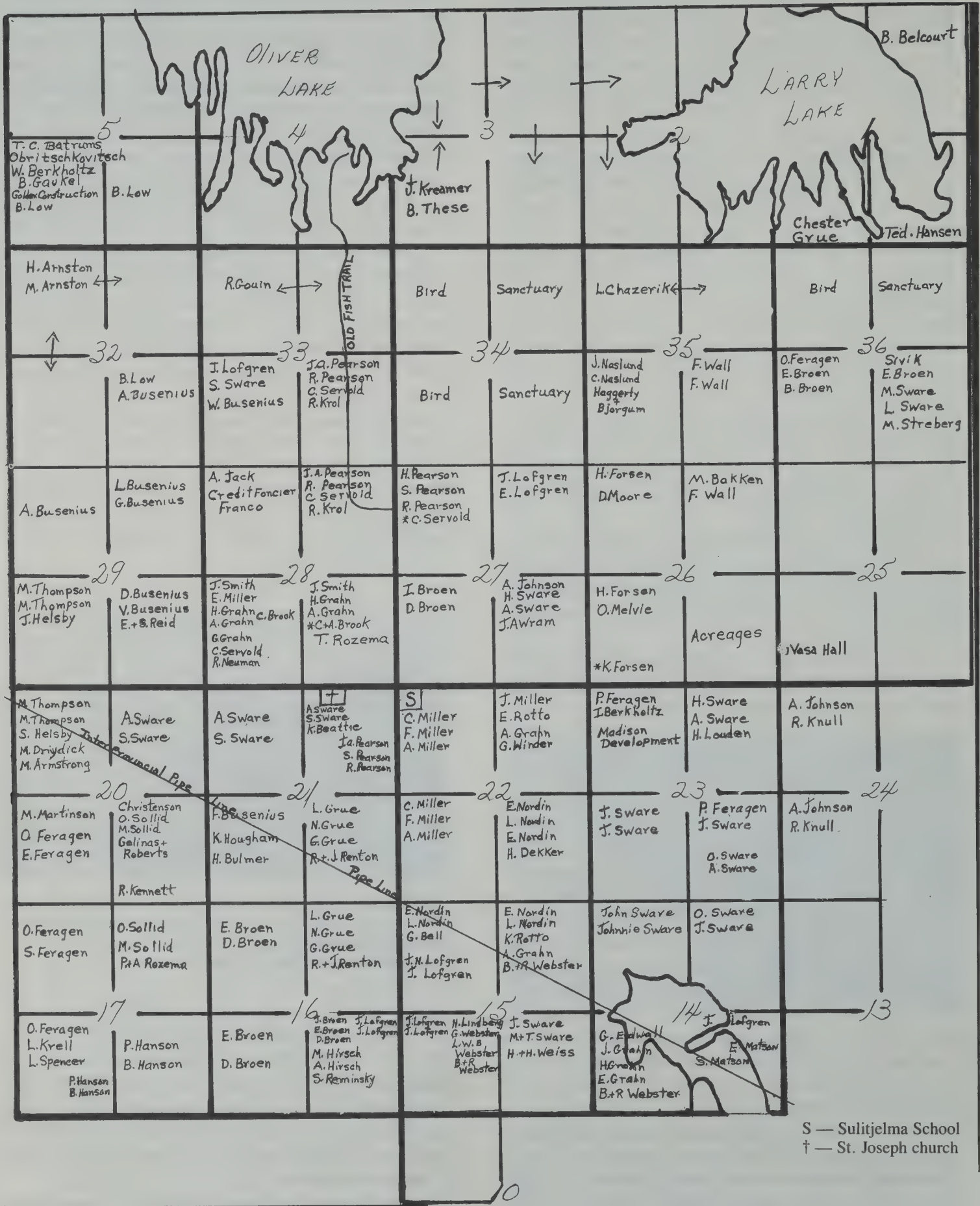


The John Zucht Family — 1947. L. to R.: Emil, August, Emma, Henry, Lydia, Tena, Olga, Rose (Emil's wife). Background: Louie (Olga's husband and son Lloyd), Elsie Zucht, Mary Brandt, Ronald and Gordon Zucht at right.

Henry took over the farm in 1929 when his parents retired to the village of Hay Lakes where they spent their remaining years. They took an active part in establishing the St. Lukes Lutheran Church in the village and contributed much volunteer work. They were honored with the celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary at a service in St. Luke's Church in 1936.

Justina, who was born in 1863, passed away in 1943. John, born in 1867, passed away in 1947. Both are buried at Our Saviour Lutheran Church cemetery.

Sulitjelma S.D. #1611



Sulitjelma School District, Number 1611

In 1906, a committee consisting of Charles Miller, Martin Thompson and A. Sware applied for setting up a school district. On November 2, 1906 the first meeting was held — those present were: Martin Thompson, Anton Sware, Ole Sware, Mickel Martinson, J. A. Pearson, Christian Sollid, Jonas Smith and O. Christiansen.

Jonas Smith was elected chairman; Martin Thompson, secretary-treasurer; and C. Sollid and A. Sware were elected trustees.

Ole Sware later served as secretary-treasurer for twenty-five years.

On March 25, 1907 the Minister of Education, the Honourable A. C. Rutherford (later Chancellor of the University of Alberta) agreed to the establishment of the Sulitjelma School District, Number 1611. The Deputy Minister at that time was D. S. McKenzie.

The name first suggested for this school was the “Sware” school district. Then because so many people who settled here had come from Sulitjelma, a mining territory in the northern part of Norway, they called it the “Sulitjelma School”.

On August 22, 1907, a building site was selected on the northwest corner of section 22-49-21-W4. Charles Miller donated the one-acre site. On November 5, 1907 the Sulitjelma School District borrowed \$600.00 for the purpose of erecting and furnishing a schoolhouse. The school building was completed in 1908. There was also a teacherage and horsebarn constructed in the schoolyard. In 1928, the old teacherage was replaced by a new building.

Classes during the first years were not held during the winter months as the roads were impassable.

The first teacher was Mr. Colequehoun with a class of fourteen early in May, 1909. Out of this class, only two children understood English. Some of the first pupils were: Peter Feragen, Christine Feragen, Astrid Sware, Ole J. Sware, Magnus Sware, John A. Sware, Ruth Lindberg, Louise Lindberg, Helga Hanson, Hanny Hanson, Alvin Thompson and Joe Miller. As well, there were two young ladies, namely Amanda Sware and Eva Sampson, who wanted to learn English in order to obtain work.

After Mr. Colequehoun, the following teachers served according to the terms indicated: Mrs. Gjerde (Mrs. Joe Lehane) — 1910-1911; Mr. Moyle — 1912;



Sulitjelma School Senior room pupils. Inset: Mr. J. W. Morrison, Senior room teacher.



Parochial School held at Sulitjelma Summer — 1926. Teachers: Benjamen and Gerhardt Ostrem. L. to R.: Helen Sware, Haldis Bakken, Oliver Grue, Nellie Sware, Gladys Bakken, Chester Grue, Alice Sware, Magna Sollid, Clarence Feragen, Arnold Feragen, Bernice Bakken, Ida Sware, Amy Grue, Norman Grue, Mernille Bakken, Vernon Feragen.



Sulitjelma School Picnic 1927-28. L. to R., Back Row: Helen Sware, Agda Sware, Olga Sware, Reidun Feragen, Olianna Hendrickson, Jurdis Pearson, Betsy Sware, Karen Hanson, Edith Sware, Olga Skaret, Norman Grue, Carl Nordin, Chester Grue. Second Row: Ena Boswell holding Isabelle Grue, Amy Grue, Halgert Feragen, Magna Sollid, Alice Sware, Hedvig Lofgren, Wanda Hanson. Front Row: Evelyn Webster, Gladys Grue, Ida Sware, Velma Grue, Verner Nordin, Bert Hanson.

Mr. Sutherland — 1913; Mr. Huggard — 1914; Mr. V. Sampson — 1915; Mrs. Lawlor — 1915-1918; Mr. J. W. Morrison — 1919-1927.

Mrs. Gjerde was ever ready with a cup of tea when any parent came to pick up his child at the school.

Mr. Sampson taught only part of 1915 as he enlisted in the Armed Forces of World War I and went overseas. Mrs. Lawlor took the class for the remainder of 1915 and continued to teach at Sulitjelma until 1919 when J. W. Morrison took over.

In 1920, the enrollment stood at sixty-four students with eight grades taught. It was then decided that another room was needed and a second acre of land was bought from Charles Miller. On July 2, 1921 the Sulitjelma School Division borrowed \$3000.00 for the purpose of building a second room onto the existing building. When the two rooms were first operating, sixty-seven children registered in Grades one to eight. Grade nine was first taught in 1925, Grades ten and eleven in 1928 and 1929 respectively.

By 1928, the students numbered seventy.

During much of the period of 1919-1927, Mr. J. W. Morrison was the principal teacher at the school. Many of his former pupils recall the vivid impressions of patriotism which they received from his custom of marching the students into school every morning to the strains of the bugle and the raising of the flag.

The 1921 enrollment was divided into a senior and a junior section. The teachers for these sections at this time and during future terms were as follows:

Miss Edith Dick — Junior room 1921-22

Mr. J. W. Morrison — Senior room 1921-27

Miss Olianna Hendrickson — Junior room 1923

Miss J. Ethridge — Junior room 1924

Miss O. Hendrickson — Junior room 1925-29

Mr. R. Boswell — Senior room 1927-28

Miss B. Ruslie — Junior room 1929-31

Mr. L. Grommers — Senior room 1928-34

Miss M. Hanson — Junior room 1931-32

Miss B. Ruslie — Junior room 1932-36

Mr. R. Skaret — Senior room 1934-36

By the year 1936, enrollments had decreased to the point where Sulitjelma again became a one-room school. The teachers during this time were:

Mr. Eddie Lindberg — 1936-39

Mr. Leon Endres — to December, 1939

Miss Newcombe — Dec. 1939-1940

Mr. Henley — December, 1940

Mr. Mel Bakkan — 1941

Mrs. McCormick — 1941-42

Mrs. J. Daintith — 1942-45

Miss Sonja Hanson — 1945-1947



Sulitjelma Grade Nine Class 1925. L. to R.: Ina Lofgren, Rudolph Nordin, Margaret Hanson, George Sware, Lilly Pearson, Bill Sware, Elida Nordin, Reidun Feregen.

Mr. O. Mjelve, Correspondence teacher, February 1947-March 1947

Mrs. C. Hudson (Webster) — March 1947-1950

Mr. Endres left school in December to join the Armed Forces of World War II.

February 1, 1938, the Sulitjelma School District, Number 1611 was constituted in the Camrose School Division, Number 20 in Subdivision Number 5.

Mr. R. H. Hume, of Camrose, Alberta, was the secretary at the time.

In 1950, after amalgamation, the Sulitjelma School was moved to Hay Lakes to be used for a classroom and the children were bussed to the village. On January 1, 1963, the County of Camrose, Number 22 was incorporated.

There were several school closures during the early years. School was closed in November and December, 1918 on account of the "flu" epidemic. During the next five years school was closed at intervals due to illnesses such as diphtheria, measles and infantile paralysis.

Just prior to 1936, while the two rooms were still in operation, the teachers' annual salary for the Senior and Junior room was \$800.00 and \$700.00 respectively. The Senior Room teacher did the janitor work in the school for which he received free use of the teacherage, including fuel.

When the Junior Room was closed, leaving one room operating, the teacher was paid a yearly salary of \$840.00, as well as free use of the teacherage for being the school janitor, a very frustrating job at times. Getting the fire going in the stubborn school heater often required a special talent, and the pump in the schoolyard generally froze in the wintertime, often leaving everyone without water for the day.

There were years when each taxpayer was asked to supply a double wagonbox full of wood for the school, for which he was to receive two dollars and

fifty cents. A small sum of money was kept on hand by the teacher to pay for the wood.

The Secretary-Treasurer of the local School Board was paid an annual salary of twenty-five dollars.

School Inspectors from 1909 to 1939 included: Mr. G. F. McNally, Mr. W. A. Stickle, Mr. J. W. Russell, Mr. D. M. Sullivan, Mr. C. Robinson.

For many years the Sulitjelma School was a center for community meetings and School functions. Many exciting Box Socials were held there. The young ladies of the district would elaborately decorate a box which contained a lunch for two people — these were auctioned and the person who bought a young lady's decorated box became her partner for the evening lunch.

At Christmas Concerts the audience filled the senior room to capacity. Being a two-room school, the children participating in the program assembled



Sulitjelma Basketball Team — 1925 or 26. Back Row, L. to R.: Betsy Sware, Helen Sware, Olga Sware, Margaret Hanson. Front Row, L. to R.: Helen Lindberg, Hjurdis Pearson, Reidun Feragen, Oleanna Hendrickson, Jr. room teacher.



Tennis at Sulitjelma. L. to R.: J. W. Morrison, Elida Nordin, Erling Nordin and Lily Pearson.

in the junior room and entered on stage in the senior room through a cloakroom door.

Participation in sports was encouraged. The Sulitjelma girls' basketball team in 1925 was especially noted for winning the majority of games they played. Weather permitting, local tennis enthusiasts made good use of the tennis court on the school grounds. Teachers in country schools became a vital part of the community and were looked to for leadership in Young People's activities.



Sulitjelma Baseball Team 1923-24. Back Row, L. to R.: Rudy Nordin, Philip Thompson, Melfred Sware, Trygve Sware, Art Schmidt, William Sware. Front, L. to R.: Alvin Pearson, George Sware, Bill Nordin.

Hans Arntson by Magnus Arntson

Hans Arntson was born in northern Norway, north of the Arctic Circle near Bodo, on the 1st of March, 1880, the fourth son of Arnt and Gurine Jacobson. The family was located about eight kilometers from a salt water fjord where they were engaged in year-round fishing. In addition to selling some of the fish, the family had a few plots of barley and potatoes, and a few cows and sheep were kept for food and wool. Most of the food was produced at home and wool was spun for clothing.

My dad's father was killed in a fishing accident in 1884, leaving four boys and one girl. His mother remarried and two boys and two girls were added to the family.

Since there were no schools as yet in the district, the teacher travelled from home to home conducting classes. From these homes, formal education consisting of reading, writing, math, singing and Bible study were conducted by teachers who travelled from area to area. Schooling began at age seven and concluded at the age of fifteen. Classes were small, hence it was possible for the teacher to give attention



Hans Arntson Family — Standing: Edwin, Alfred, Florne, Magnus, Hans Arntson, Karen, Mrs. Arntson.

to each pupil. Slates were used by the pupils, instead of paper. At age fifteen the students were confirmed at the Lutheran Parish which was located at Rosvik, a parish which served several districts. The Sware family members were also confirmed at this church.

When the boys were fifteen years old they were expected to go fishing during the winter months at the Lofoten Islands, about two days journey by sail and row boats. These waters were very rough during the winter months so there were many mishaps. The men did not have any weather forecasts and depended entirely on their own instincts to go through the stormy seas.

In Norway all young men aged twenty-one had to serve one year for military training. Hans spent one year in training where the pay was about five cents a day, but the clothing, food and medical care were provided.

At an early age Dad found that he did not like the fishing industry, nor did he see any future in Norway due to the large population in relation to the opportunities available.

Many of his friends, including the Sware family, had gone to "America", which name was applied to Canada and the United States. In the spring of 1904 he said good-bye to his family, and with tears in his eyes, told his mother that he likely would never see her again, and left Norway for New York.

Dad wanted to try his luck at the West Coast of the United States. His first employment was in San Francisco where he mixed cement for city sidewalks. He found it very hot, and since there were so many immigrants there, wages were low. He met a few Swedish immigrants there, but otherwise it was difficult since he could not speak English. Prospects for a winter job did not look good, so he decided to travel to Canada, where he knew there was a chance of

getting homestead land. He was aware that the Sware family had settled near Wetaskiwin.

Dad arrived in Wetaskiwin before winter set in and was able to find work with the Canadian Pacific Railroad, building a grade for the track at Gwynne. There he met Halvor Hansen who had married Johanna Sware. Johanna had been in the same confirmation class as my dad in Norway. When construction was completed for the winter, Dad walked to the Hansen homestead near Hay Lakes and spent the winter months with the Hansen family.

In February of 1905 Dad filed on a homestead, S.E. 32-49-21-W4. He spent the first few years on the homestead and worked in lumber mills near Cranbrook, British Columbia, since he could not farm until he could buy equipment and livestock.

During the first few years of homesteading, Joseph Lake had a plentiful supply of fish. Wild birds were also available, as well as a good supply of strawberries, saskatoons and other wild fruit which were located on the farm, thus reducing the cost of living. The lake also provided a good supply of water for the livestock, but the fish gradually disappeared in the 1920s. Before the advent of the horses, Dad used oxen for transportation and cultivating the land. He made several trips to Wetaskiwin, Leduc and Camrose by oxen team, which was very slow.

In 1912 Dad bought a quarter of land from Tom Movold, SE 3-49-21-W4, for providing feed for livestock since the homestead had more bush and could not provide enough hay for cattle and horses.

Until 1914 father had a one-room house made from logs which was provided from the timber stand on his homestead. In 1914 he started to build a new two-story house, sixteen feet by twenty-six feet, hand made from logs on the farm. It took nearly two years to complete the house.

On the 20th of December, 1916 Dad made a trip to Sedgewick, Alberta, and left Gus Hirsch, a neighbor's son, in charge of the farm chores, but Gus did not know what his mission was since Dad was very vague about the purpose of the trip. However, when he came back home he brought his bride with him, which surprised most of the people in the area. Gus said that Dad was very happy about his trip. Dad and mother (Hilda Olson) were married in Camrose. Christian and Marie Sollid were there to witness the event. Mother had known Marie (Sware) Sollid in Norway before they moved to Canada.

Hilda Olson was born on June 24, 1889 to Ole and Karen Kanson, near Bodo, a few kilometers from where Dad was born. Dad and mother had met in Norway, since Dad's oldest brother was married to mother's sister when Dad was eighteen years of age and Mother was only nine years old. Mother was the

youngest child in the family and found life lonely at times, since her youngest sister was seven years older than she was. Her childhood was spent on the family farm on the north side of a large lake, which meant that they had to cross the lake by boat in summer and skis or sleigh during the winter months. She also attended school at home, which was the central meeting place for the families in the area. Her teacher had married her sister, so she received some special attention from Mr. Rande, who was a very serious-minded school master. At the age of fifteen she was confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Rosvik Church. The church was located across lake and land which took eight hours travel time.

Mother — Hilda Olson, left for America in 1913 coming to Sedgewick where she lived with Dad's uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson, who had homesteaded in that area. She worked as a maid in the Sedgewick and Killam areas until her marriage to Hans Arntson.

To this marriage, six children were born: Karl, born November 5, 1917, passed away in September 1931 after a lengthy illness; Alfred was born on May 15, 1919; Florne born July 17, 1921, lost his life in France on August 14, 1944 while serving with the Calgary Highlanders; Magnus was born on August 23, 1923; and Edwin born on April 27, 1925. Mother always wanted a girl, and on the 18th of January, 1928, Karen was born. We were all born at home. Mrs. Hendrickson served as midwife for the first three children and Mrs. Magnus Lindberg served for the last three.

Dad realized that the family was increasing in size, so in the summer of 1927 a two-room addition was made to the house, plus a room upstairs, since it was a two-story house. To provide room for the livestock, a new barn was built in 1931, with the lumber coming from the Pearson Lumber Company of Breton. The barn housed sixteen cows and twelve horses. Two teams were in use during the winter months since the children had to use one team to travel to Sulitjelma school, a distance of over three

miles. Dad used the other team to take a load of wheat to Byers Flour Mill in Camrose to mill into flour, a trip which took all day, beginning at four in the morning. He used a five horsepower one-cylinder engine to grind feed for the livestock, with a capacity of about ten bushels per hour.

In 1937 Dad bought a 1929 Hudson car which served for a long time since it could only be used during the summer months due to the roads being blocked all winter and being muddy in the spring. In 1935 our first radio was bought and Jim Cameron helped to install this machine since it had to have an antenna and required batteries for power. The first gasoline powered washing machine was bought in 1936, after using a hand-powered machine since 1925.

At first harvesting was done with a crew assembled to thresh the bundles from stacks, since most of the farms had only a few acres and quite often this was done after snowfall, until as late as the end of December. In 1937 an Advance Rumley tractor and a Case threshing machine were bought. The Rumley was replaced by a 1943 John Deere Tractor Model-D in 1943.

Dad purchased the north half of Section 32 in 1939 from Eskel Paulsen, which was used for pasture and hay.

While the boys were all home, they helped with the farm work, and during the summer months we often had a hired man to do the field work and brushing and breaking new land. However, as time went on the family gradually left home. Alfred left to attend Alberta College in 1939 and joined the Air Force in 1941. Florne joined the Army in 1942 and Edwin went to work for the Pearson Brothers at Breton in 1944. Karen left to attend Camrose Lutheran College in 1944 and from there proceeded to train as a nurse at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton. Hence I stayed home and helped with the farm work and later purchased the farm from the folks.

In the early 1950's oil drilling activities started, which included two wells on our farm. We installed electric power in 1954 and obtained a TV set the same year, which were the major changes.

During the lifetime of Mother and Dad many changes took place. Dad said he was successful beyond his first expectations. He took part in all church activities and also served on the School Board for Sulitjelma School District. He was a member of the United Grain Growers and the Alberta Wheat Pool, Northern Alberta Dairy Pool and the United Farmers of Alberta. Mother was also in church activities, including the Ladies' Aid. She was compassionate and loved her family.



Seeding, 1924 Hans Arntson, Alfred and Florne.

Dad kept busy with the farm work until his mid-eighties doing seeding, mowing and raking. In 1970 the last horse was sold and the tractor took over completely.

Dad's main hobby was cutting wood and brushing, not golf or baseball. He was fond of children and was happy when he could bounce his grandchildren on his knee and sing to them in Norwegian.

On July 7th, Dad passed away at the age of ninety-four years. Mother passed away in August, 1975 at the age of eighty-six. Both are buried at the St. Joseph Lutheran Church plot.

Their only daughter, Karen, graduated as a nurse and worked in several hospitals in Alberta before moving to Montreal. There she met and married John Underwood. They have two children, John born in 1961 and Bruce born in 1965. Karen continues to live in the Montreal suburb of La Salle, and is still serving as a nurse.

Arntson, Edwin

I am the youngest son of Hans and Hilda Arntson and was born at the home farm in 1925.

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since my school days at Sulitjelma and my early years in the Hay Lakes District. When I finished school at Sulitjelma I was too much in love with machinery to be tied down to anymore classrooms, so instead of continuing my education, I spent the next couple of years with the Pearson Brothers at Breton, where Hank was converting his operation to long logging and from steam to diesel. I sometimes think these were the best two years of my life. Joey Smallwood said that everybody should raise pigs for a year or two, but I think everybody should spend a couple of years logging.

Then a couple of us boys decided to go North for the summer and I ended up on a gravel haul on the Hart Highway out of Dawson Creek. I then worked for Wilson Freightways, travelling north to Alaska. I'd probably still be at this job if Laura hadn't shown up about this time, and since I would be away weeks

at a time, this job didn't appeal to me after I was married.

I married Laura Shopper at Dawson Creek, British Columbia in 1948. We spent a couple of years on the Alaska Highway where I worked on maintenance as an equipment operator. Then for seventeen years I worked out of Fort St. John for the British Columbia Government, mechanical branch, under Flying Phil Gaglardi.

Laura and I have five children. Eve is married to Lyle Coleman and lives at Whitehorse, Yukon Territory; Albert married Elizabeth Leniuk and is living in Grande Prairie; Eddie married Pat Millions and lives at Fort St. John; Verna is married to Lawrence Ostopowich and is living in St. Paul; Patricia, the youngest, lives at home. We have seven grandchildren, five boys and two girls, of whom we are very fond.

We now live on a three-quarter section farm six miles from Derwent.

Arntson, Magnus

I was born at Hay Lakes on August 23, 1923 to Hans and Hilda Arntson. I started school at Sulitjelma in 1931 with Miss Margaret Hanson as teacher. Then from 1932 to 1934 Miss B. Ruslie was my teacher, Mr. Raymond Skaret in 1935 and Mr. Eddie Lindberg from 1936 to 1939. The nearest High School was in Hay Lakes, over five miles away, so that ended my formal education. Five miles in 1939 seemed much further than it is today. The roads were snow-blocked in the winter and mud-bound in the summer, so this discouraged further schooling.

I was confirmed at St. Joseph Lutheran Church in 1939 with Rev. Nels Solhiem as pastor.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, the way of life seemed to change, even in small centres, as many young men left for military service. I was left on the farm with Dad and Mother during the war years and little was done in improving the farm.

In the 1950's the oil boom struck the Hay Lakes area. With two oil wells drilled on our farm, the need for better roads became evident. The oil companies, together with the counties, then began to improve the roads, grading and gravelling them.

During the 1960s I cleared and broke the remaining arable land. At this time a change was made to beef cattle, increasing the cow herd from sixteen to sixty head.

In 1973 I built a new house with the modern conveniences of gas heat and running hot and cold water.

In 1975 I went on a trip to Norway for the first time. While there I met my one remaining uncle and over one hundred cousins.



Henry Pearson, Elias Vikner and Edwin Arntson at Pearson Lumber Camp, Breton, Alta.



Magnus with his cousin Olaf, in Norway 1975.

I have been keenly interested in the community, serving as treasurer of St. Joseph Lutheran Church for a number of years, as well as being president, deacon, trustee and chairman of the parish. I have also served as secretary of the United Grain Growers local, President of the Curling Club, the Fish and Game and the Farmer's Union. My hobbies are curling, goose hunting, trap shooting, and I enjoy choir singing.

Berkholtz, William

William was born in Lodz, Poland on June 19, 1898. He worked in a shoe shop making and repairing shoes.

In 1899, he and twenty-three-year-old Emly Ludzer, also of Lodz, were married. In 1909, with the aid of his brother Sam who was in Canada, William, his wife and their three children emigrated to Canada. They settled on their homestead, close to Joseph Lake. Their first essential job was to clear some land and build a log cabin, they also dug a well by hand which was twenty feet deep. William also worked away from home to earn money in order to buy necessary food and livestock.

Although Emly was a small woman, she, like most pioneer women worked very hard caring for her family and doing outside chores while her husband worked away from home for several years in order to save enough money to buy horses and machinery.

All their buildings were made of logs and life was indeed a struggle. Hay was cut with a scythe and grain was threshed by using a flail.

William and Emly raised a family of eleven children. Their children were: Sophie, born in 1901, died at the age of one; Julius, born in 1903, also died;

Luie, born on February 6, 1905, married Ann Carlson and they have one son; Bertha, born in 1907, married Gus Goering and they had one girl and four boys; Gordon, born in 1908, never married; Helen, born in 1911, married Carl Stelmaker and they have two girls and two boys; Wanda, born in 1913, married F. Lederer and they have five boys and lost their oldest; Elvina, born in 1915, married Wm. Gaukel and had four boys and two girls and lost two boys; Roy, born in 1916, married Goldie Neuman and they have two girls and five boys; Robert, born in 1917, married Frieda Wegert and they have one girl and one boy; Martha, born in 1921, married Albert Benjamin and they had three girls. Martha passed away in 1977. Charlie, born in 1921, married Molly Bacheldor and they have one girl and three boys.

There were thirty-six grandchildren and fifty-five great grandchildren.

In the 1920's the Berkholtz family moved to S.W. 5-50-21-W4 and the four youngest children attended Sulitjelma school. They had a distance of over three and one half miles to school which was a long way, especially in the winter time over country roads. When they were unable to walk, their means of transportation was a sleigh drawn by a team of mules.

William died on June 13, 1932 at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, Emly, was eighty-four years old when she died in 1960.

Their farm was taken over by their daughter Elvina and her husband, William Gaukel, who lived there and farmed for several years.

Bergstrom, Sonja (Hanson)

I am the youngest daughter of Peter and Hilda Hanson. My memories of "home" (Hay Lakes) took root in the beginning of the 'thirties, that is to say, memories that registered and remained with me throughout the next fifty years. Although it was the beginning of the "depression era", my memories seemed to be of the more pleasant experiences, such as country picnics, the aroma of home baking, threshing suppers, Ladies Aid lunches, warm spring and summer days when we'd romp among the sweet smelling growth in meadow, field and wood. I was somewhat aware, at the tender age of six, that times were not ones of plenty, but oh, how I appreciated and treasured my pair of second-hand skates and the homeknit socks or mitts with an added band of bright red or green.

By now I was ready to leave the security of home, as it was time for me to start school, a very terrifying experience for me although my first teacher was my sister, Margaret. I was a very tiny and timid child so was easily intimidated by the much older and bigger pupils. Those first months were a real challenge, as I

did not speak much English when I first came into Grade one. Somehow the printed page did not have much meaning to me — the method by which I learned to read certainly must have been “sight reading”, as it is referred to in our present day. My first two grades were completed at the Sulitjelma School.

The next four years I attended school in Hay Lakes. Johnny Lyle was my teacher, and truly my favorite. When he read to us, books like “The Secret Garden” seemed to come alive. I also recall end-of-the-year activities, one in particular stands out in my mind. We had a treasure hunt in Simon Grue’s sheep pasture; this was concluded with a truly old fashioned wiener roast with open fire and raw willow sticks on which the wieners were roasted. The Christmas concerts were another highlight of the years with “Mr. Lyle” — I was fortunate enough at one concert to be able to play the part of a Cratchit twin in the Christmas Carol. There was also a June parade that I recall quite vividly — since I was one of the banner carriers that headed the parade. The other banner carrier was LeOpal Likness. Both of us were quite small and had quite a time managing the much too heavy banner.

My Grades seven and eight were taken at Sulitjelma with Eddie Lindberg as teacher. After this I went back to Hay Lakes for Grades nine, ten and part of eleven. By this time we were amidst a war; life had many moods — excitement with the troops coming and going, but sadness because of the loss of life that hit many a family. The dances at the “Bowery” when the service men came home on leave were certainly the highlight of a teenager’s life in those “war years”.

In 1942 I went away to Camrose High School. After graduation I came home to supervise classes at Brandland School from September to December, 1944. How grown-up I felt when I attended the Teacher’s Convention that fall in Camrose. As I re-

flect on those months at Brandland, it was only my naivety and youth that gave me the courage to face those big boys (David Holdsworth, Norman Dahl, and Ernest Johnson, among many). I never knew when I’d find tacks on my chair or some animal in my desk drawer.

In January 1945 I was off to Normal School in Edmonton; after a brief time teaching at Lacombe that spring, I returned to teach at Sulitjelma for the next year and a half. Here I was teacher, janitor, nurse, woodcutter, all rolled into one. Again I had nine grades, with some “big boys” in Grade nine, but not the prankster type. It was quite exciting to plan Christmas concerts and year-end picnics, both of which were community activities.

The next years were spent teaching at Duhamel, Meeting Creek, Calgary and Ponoka.

In 1953 I married John Bergstrom of Wetaskiwin; we lived there for a very short time, after which we moved to Edmonton. It was here that our children were born and raised. I returned to teaching with the Edmonton Public School Board, as well as resuming studies at the University of Alberta. In 1974 I graduated with the Bachelor of Education degree. In June I retired from teaching, seventeen years of which have been with the Edmonton Public School Board.

Our children are grown and each is venturing out into the world. Linda still lives in Edmonton and is with the University working on her Doctorate in Psychology.

Donald is a Mechanical Engineer, and is married to the former Naomi Mandell of Edmonton. They live in Vancouver.

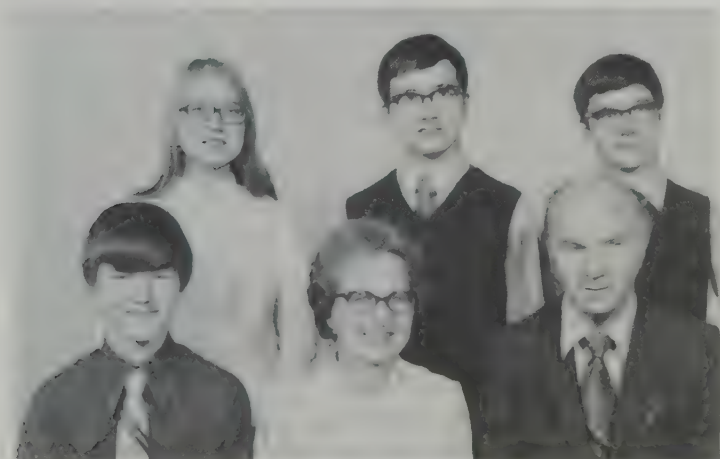
David is a Soil Scientist and is still living in Edmonton.

Richard Grant has finished Medical school and will be interning at the Ottawa General Hospital for the next year.

We are fortunate to be close enough to visit at Hay Lakes now and again. My memories of the early days are pleasant ones which made my life richer from having the opportunity to spend the years I did “back home”.

Broen, Iner and Inga and Family

Among the early settlers who chose to make their home in the Armena-Hay Lakes area in the year 1902 was Iner Broen. Together with his father, one brother and three sisters, they left their home in Faucet, North Dakota to travel to the new land of Alberta. Another family who emigrated to the Armena district from the United States, was the Movald family, coming from Ferguson, Minnesota. On July 3rd, 1912 at the Scandia Lutheran Church, Armena, the marriage



Back Row, L. to R.: Linda, Donald, David. Seated: Grant, Sonja and John Bergstrom.



Iner and Inga Broen wedding photo, July 3, 1912.

of Inga Marie Movald and Iner Broen united these two pioneer families.

Iner and Inga began their married life farming on their homestead in the Armena district. Their social life consisted of attending church, where Inga sang in the choir while Iner played in the Maple Leaf Band. During that time two children were born. Their first born — a daughter, Gladys, and a son, Oscar.

In the year 1917, the family left their first Alberta home to take up residence on a farm southeast of Hay Lakes. There, twins Ivan and Inez were born and also a third daughter, Cora. After living there four years, the family moved to the Hay Lakes town site where Iner operated the livery stable and draying business.

Another move was in store for the family in 1923. This brought them to a farm in the Miquelon Lake area. Iner continued to operate the livery stable in Hay Lakes until fire destroyed the building. The family now turned to full-time farming, raising beef cattle and milking cows — as many as twenty-two, all by hand. It was a task all the family shared. Then

three more children arrived to share the home — a daughter, Hazel, and two sons, Ben and Gordon.

Times were hard, so the family supplemented their food supply with wild meat, picking and canning wild fruit and also earning a few extra dollars by selling furs. Many enjoyable times were spent when family and friends gathered around the organ to sing the good old-fashioned hymns. Inga led several choirs composed of many of the young people of the area and of members of her own family, who shared her musical talents and played various instruments. Aside from their love of music, one of the bright spots in the family's life were the visits from neigh-



Iner Broen Family. Front Row, L. to R.: Hazel, Ben, Gordon. Middle Row, L. to R.: Cora, Inez, Gladys. Back Row, L. to R.: Ivan, Inga (mother), Helmer Anderson and Iner. Missing: Oscar.

bours, who were always made welcome with a hot cup of coffee, freshly baked bread or thin bread, or Inga's special jelly rolls. Visits from Charlie Johnson, the peddler, who travelled the area with his team and wagon were eagerly awaited by the family. Among his varied merchandise were such wondrous items as watches, heavy woollen underwear, yard goods and ready-made dresses. He made the Broen farm one of his regular stopping places, where he could have a meal, spend the night and always made payment for the night's lodging by leaving some item from his wagon.

Sadness entered their lives in 1941 with the sudden passing of Iner at sixty-one years of age. Inga continued to farm with the help of her children and made her home there with her son, Ben, until her

death in 1969. Ten years later, Inez passed away after a long illness. She and her husband Art Beatty had lived in various places in Alberta and British Columbia, but at the time of her death, they made their home in the Peers-Wildwood area.

The Broen children have chosen various places in Alberta and British Columbia to make their homes. They presently reside as follows:

Gladys and Helmer Anderson now make their home in Camrose, after farming in the Kingman district and also living at Enderley, British Columbia.

Oscar and Signe recently took up residence in Vavenby, British Columbia. Previously they had farmed in the Kingman area and lived for a time in Vanderhoof, British Columbia.

Ivan makes his home in the Tofield area.

Ben now farms in the Peers district after operating his parents' farm for many years.

Cora and George Weslake also make their home at Peers. They farmed at Tofield, lived for a time at Enderley, British Columbia, and now are retired.

Hazel and Bruce Ray were engaged in farming in the Tofield district until 1974, when they moved to the Peers area, where they farm and are in the trucking business.

Gordon and family presently reside in the Edson area where he is employed.

Einar Broen Family Emmy Broen

Einar Broen was born in Kulm, North Dakota and came as a young boy with his parents John and Maria Broen to the Armena District. He grew up in this district and farmed with his father until they bought the West Half of 16-49-W.4.M. This land contained a large hay meadow which supplied hay for Einar as well as many people in the surrounding area. He left his father's farm to make his home on this land three and one half miles North East of Hay Lakes. Einar was an efficient Mechanic and Blacksmith. He fixed tractors and cars for many people in the district. He also held an Engineer's Certificate and threshed with his steamer for many years with his father in the area surrounding Hay Lakes. Einar was a kind and thoughtful man who helped a lot of people financially over the years. He was a councillor for many years, a school board member for Sulitjelma, until they moved the schools to Hay Lakes.

Einar Broen married Emmy Danielson on February 29th, 1938. Einar and Emmy made their home on Einar's farm three and one half miles from Hay Lakes.

Einar and I had five children, Doreen, Dennis, Shirley Ann, Gail and Sandra. Our children all attended Hay Lake School (Junior and High) Doreen is



Einar and Emmy Broen.

married to Lawrence Klimochko and presently lives in Vegreville. Her husband is the Post Master and District Supervisor for 18 offices in the surrounding area. They have four children Lindall, Laureen, Lenora and Loretta. Dennis is married to Lucy Cartier and presently lives on the home farm. They have two children Shelly and Tammy. Dennis took over the farm when his father passed away. Shirley Ann is married to Ron Dunn and presently lives on an acreage in Millet. Both Shirley and Ron work for Oil Companies. They have no children. Gail is married to Ron Nordin and presently living on an acreage in Sherwood Park. They have two boys Shawn and Chris. Both Gail and Ron work in their own business, E. D. Electronics Ltd. Sandra is married to Dennis Evans and presently live on an acreage in Devon. They have two boys Curtis and Kevin. Sandra and



Einar Broen children — Doreen, Dennis, Shirley Ann, Gail and Sandra.

Dennis work in their own business, Microtech Electronics Ltd.

After Einar passed away on July 4th, 1968, I bought a home in Edmonton. I have been involved in Mental Health for ten years, which keeps me very busy. By keeping myself busy there is no time to get lonely.

Broen, Dennis and Lucy

I, Dennis was born to Einard and Emmy Broen on September 22, 1940. I grew up on the home farm SW16-49-21-W4, northeast of Hay Lakes. During my first three years of school I attended the Sulitjelma school, later attending the Hay Lakes School.

I farmed with my dad and drove a school bus for seven years. In 1968, I began farming on my own on the home place.

I was married to Lucy Cartier in 1968 and our two children, Shelley and Tammy, attend school in Hay Lakes.



Dennis Broen Family. Top: Tammy, Shelley. Below: Dennis, Lucy.

Maria (Nee Eklund) Broen

As she made her home with us for so many years, Gramma Broen was well known to everyone in the Hay Lake District. I cannot let this book be published without a few lines for her.

After her husband John passed away, Maria Broen was very lonely. She stayed for a while on the farm by herself but after she had the farm sale of Machinery etcetera and rented her farm out, she



Grandmother Maria Broen.

stayed on and off with her married children, Josephine, Asa and Magnus and for a time with her brother John Eklund at Calmar. Einar and myself were just married, when Gramma Broen came to live with us. She made her home with us in Hay Lakes for over twenty years. Maria Broen was a very kind person who helped a lot of people over the years. She passed away in 1960 at the age of 86 years, at the Lamont Hospital. She is buried beside her husband John at the Scandia Cemetery. I know that everyone reading this will have a kind thought for Gramma Broen.

Busenius, Alvin and Sophie by Alvin Busenius

I, Alvin Busenius, was born on September 11, 1926 in Neilburg, Saskatchewan. My parents moved to the Sulitjelma district in 1928. I went to school for eight years at the Sulitjelma School, walking every day. I shall never forget walking all the way to Swan Hill school to play ball, losing the game, and then walking all the way home. Our teacher then was Leon Anders and he walked with us. We had many a



Alvin Busenius Family. L. to R., Back: Holly, David, Annette. Front: Sophie, Alvin.

hockey game on a slough behind the school barn. We didn't have skates, our hockey sticks were curved willows, and the puck was usually a tin can. There surely were a lot of bruised shins!

Baseball became my favorite sport. I played with East Hay Lakes and then two years with Hay Lakes. We had a League consisting of Camrose, Armena, Kingman, Hay Lakes and East Hay Lakes.

In 1947, I bought NW 29-49-21-W4 for thirteen dollars an acre. There were twenty-nine acres under cultivation and the rest was brush.

In 1951, I was employed with Superior Oils for ten months, and the next two months were spent working with an oil survey in the Lac La Biche and Frog Lake areas. With the money I earned I was able to purchase a new AR John Deere tractor, which at that time cost \$2660.00.

As there were no buildings on the farm I lived at home with Dad, working with him until August 11, 1956 when I married Sophie Haugen.

Sophie Haugen was born on May 3, 1937 at Hines Creek in the Peace River country, where her parents had a homestead. The family moved to the Spilstead district where she attended school. She took her High School in Tofield, going by bus each day. After graduation she worked in the bank in Tofield for the next two years and became my wife in 1956.

When Sophie and I started on our own farm, times were rather difficult. We built a small house, and a straw shed for the milk cows. When it rained for a day it always rained for an extra day inside the shed, and there was only the dirt floor. We didn't have electricity and we had to haul all the water for the house and the cattle for that first year.

The following spring we dug a well by hand, with the help of my brother Laurence. We found plenty of hard water at a depth of twenty-eight feet.

We cleared land as we could afford it, and in 1976 we cleared the last eight and one-half acres. We were fortunate that during the years we were clearing land we never were hailed out or dried out.

In 1960 we got Calgary Power service, and in 1963 we were able to build a barn. In 1967 we built an addition in our house.

We have three children — Annette, Holly and David — born in 1957, 1961 and 1965 respectively. Both girls graduated from the Hay Lakes High School. Annette attended Camrose Lutheran College for two years, then went on to the University of Alberta to complete her Bachelor of Music Degree.

At present Holly is taking night classes in Accounting at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. Both girls are married and live in Edmonton. David is at home, finishing his High School in Hay Lakes.

We are members of St. Joseph's Lutheran Church where the children attended Sunday School and where Sophie is active in the Lutheran Church Women.

On looking back over the years, we sometimes wonder how we made "it go", but all in all we have had many good times and much to be thankful for.

Busenius, David

David Busenius was born in Chernikow, Volhynia, Russia in 1891. He immigrated into Canada with his parents in 1895. They travelled across Canada by train and settled in the Ellerslie area of South Edmonton. David's schooling was taken at Mill Creek School where he was able to obtain Grade three.

In 1917 he married Nathalie Jeske, who had also immigrated from the same area in Russia in 1912. They farmed at Bruderheim where the two eldest children, Elsie and Laurence, were born. Two years later they sold their farm and moved to the New Sarepta area. They farmed there for four years before moving to Neilburg, Saskatchewan to farm grain. They made the move by train, and five years later, because of drought, they left Neilburg and came back to Edmonton. In 1926 Alvin was born at Neilburg.

The move back to Alberta was made by horses and wagon. They had two wagons, one buggy, sixteen horses, and three children. The move took ten days and for shelter they covered one wagon with canvas.

When the Busenius family moved to Hay Lakes in the spring of 1928, the area was already well settled. They bought SE 29-49-21-W4 at \$32.00 per

acre, \$560.00 down and thirty years to pay the balance. The land was all bush, with no buildings and no fences. Most of the land was cleared by hand. Their first buildings were erected of logs off the land. Two more children, Erna and Vernon, were born at Hay Lakes, and they all attended Sulitjelma School. Highlights of the years were Christmas programs at the local schools and the Moravian Church which they attended.



Dave Busenius Golden Wedding — 1967. Back Row, L. to R.: Vernon, Alvin, Laurence and Elsie, Dave and Nathalie.

The children all married and settled within ten miles of home. Elsie married Ben Thompson and they had two sons, Larry and Randy. They made their home in New Sarepta. Laurence married Margaret Miske; they had two daughters, Lavera and Grace, and one son, Gerald. They farmed at Hay Lakes. Alvin married Sophie Haugen; they had two daughters, Annette and Holly, and one son, David. At present they are farming in the Hay Lakes area. Erna married Herb Sware; they had two sons, Wade and Darrell, and one daughter, Debora. They farmed in the Tofield area. Vernon married Berdine Berg and they had two sons, Brian and Bruce, and two daughters, Brenda and Cathy. Vern bought the home place and farmed there until he sold and moved into the village of Hay Lakes.

David and Tilly (Nathalia) celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1967 in the New Sarepta Hall. Erna passed away in 1961, Tilly and her daughter, Elsie, passed away in 1971.

Dave continued to live on the farm with his son Vernon and daughter-in-law Berdine until the farm was sold in 1978. He then moved to the village of Hay Lakes, still making his home with Vernon and family.

After the farm was sold he had to give up his cherished strawberry patch. He asked that he might

have a small area for strawberries at his son Alvin's farm. Alvin worked a patch near the house so it would be convenient for watering. It was a fair-sized plot and he thought perhaps his Dad would plant a few plants in one corner and then they would use the remainder for garden. To his amazement his father planted strawberries over the entire area. Two years ago that plot yielded ninety ice-cream pails of strawberries, and last year there was a little less. Not bad for a ninety-year-old gardener!

Dave will be ninety-one years old on February 17, 1982. He is very alert and enjoys playing Shuffle Board and cards at the Senior Citizens Drop-In-Centre.

Busenius, Ferdinand and Renata

Mr. Busenius was born in Zhitomer, Russia in 1894. He left Russia for Germany in 1913 where he worked for two months accumulating fare for his passage to Canada. He arrived in Quebec after spending eighteen days crossing the Atlantic. After travelling by train to Montreal, he obtained his first job in Canada, delivering whiskey, beer and pop by horse and wagon. He worked from 7:00 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week and was paid \$7.00 per week. He stayed at this job for six weeks, once again saving money for his trip West.

After travelling across Canada by train, Mr. Busenius arrived in Edmonton on July 1st, 1913, where he was greeted by his many relatives who had already emigrated to Canada. He worked for a short time on a farm near Nisku for \$30.00 per month and then as a carpenter in Edmonton for a year at twenty-two cents per hour.

In 1915 Mr. Busenius met Renata Busenius. Renata was born in 1896 in South Edmonton and received her education at Mill Creek School. Renata and Ferdinand were married in the Moravian Church in South Edmonton by Brother Hoyler in 1915.



F. Busenius Family. L. to R., Standing: Ronnie, Bill, Jim, Harvey, Alma and Lee. Seated: Ferdinand and Renata.

They farmed in Edmonton for four years and in 1919 purchased their own farm west of Hay Lakes. In 1921 they sold this farm and bought one in the Sulitjelma District, Hay Lakes. Ferdinand and Renata had six children: Lee, Alma, Harvey, Jim, Bill and Ronnie.

Farming was not easy during these years but with hard work, determination, dedication, love and loyal friends, they carved out a life for themselves and their family. When they reminisce about the long, cold winters they endured on the prairies, they remember the warmth of family, neighbors and friends sitting around the organ singing songs while Renata played, sharing their many stories, and their table, which was always bulging with the good food they had produced themselves.

In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Busenius purchased the Cozy Cafe in the Town of Hay Lakes, where they ran a boarding house and restaurant until 1948, thereupon retiring to Edmonton. In 1951 they moved to 9843-81 Avenue in a home Mr. Busenius built himself and at which they now reside. Their door is always open to their numerous relatives and friends, there is always good food on the table, much of which they still grow and make themselves, and there is always a friendly welcome, good conversation, laughter and much love.

Mr. and Mrs. Busenius recently celebrated their sixty-fifth Wedding Anniversary. They are both in good health and very active. All of their children live in Alberta as do their numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

They are a credit to their family, their friends and their country. They paved their own way in life and made a success of it, in every way . . .!

Busenius, Gerald

Gerald was born on March 31, 1948 in Edmonton. His childhood was spent in the Hay Lakes area with his parents, Margret and Lawrence Busenius, and two sisters, Grace and Vera. After leaving school Jerry worked at a number of jobs.

He married Theresa Grue in 1971, and in 1973 they moved to the farm at Hay Lakes. That same year a son, Clint, was born. In 1974, a second son was born — Christopher.

In 1975, Jerry started a dairy on his father's home quarter. The dairy was expanded in 1980, and in that same year a daughter, Leah, was born.

Jerry is a member of the Hay Lakes and District Fish and Game Association. For the past three years Jerry has been a co-ordinator of the pheasant-rearing program in this region. Thousands of pheasants have been raised and later released in the surrounding area.

Both Clint and Christopher enjoy hockey and play on the Hay Lakes Squirts team. The family are members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church.

Edvall, Gustav and Juliana

by Eldie Broen

Gustav Arron Edvall, along with his wife Juliana and two daughters, Signe and Fanny, came from Sweden in 1905 and settled on his homestead in 1906 on the farm where Bill Webster now lives, SW14-49-21-W4.

In 1910, his wife Juliana met with an accident and passed away shortly after. They had two more daughters born at Hay Lakes, Eremina in 1908 and I in 1910.



Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Edvall, Eremina, Fanny and Signe.

In 1911, Gustav was remarried to Evelina Erickson to which four more children were born: Lenea, Ida, Gustie and Elmer. Evelina Erickson had one son, Freidolph, when she married Gustav. He had lived in the Sulitjelma — Swan Hill area most of his life.

Gustav and Evelina left the farm and went into the hotel business in Hay Lakes for a short time. Later they moved to Sexsmith, Alberta for a short period and in 1928 they moved to Prince George, British Columbia, where he worked at different jobs.

I was a baby at the time of my mother's death and was raised by the Kringen family at Armena. I married Tony Broen and we farmed in the Lundemo district, and later retired to Camrose. We had three sons, Lorne, Ordean and Randle, who all live in the Camrose area.

Eremina married Rupert Brandt and lived most of her married life in Camrose. They had five daughters and one son. In her later years she lived with her



Gustav Edvall and wife Evelina 1914.

daughters in Edmonton. She passed away on March 1, 1970. Fanny lived in Prince George and was married and raised several children. Signe was married and lived in Tête Jaune, British Columbia, but now resides in Armstrong, British Columbia.

Of the original two families the following survive: Ida Williams who lives at Wells, British Columbia; Freidolph who makes his home at Wilsons at Hay Lakes; and I (Eldie) who am widowed and live in Camrose.

Gustav passed away on October 27, 1968 at the age of eighty-nine years. His wife, Evelina, passed away in February, 1977 at the age of eighty-eight. They are both buried in Prince George, British Columbia.

Erickson, John Emil and Hilma Elizabeth by Florence Nelson

My father, John Emil Erickson, came to the U.S.A. from a tiny village called Brotby, in Gästrikland, Sweden in 1905. He had a cousin living in Chicago who persuaded him to come to America, the land of fortune. He worked on iron ore and grain boats on the Great Lakes as a fireman, shoveling

coal. Dad also spent some time in Minneapolis shoeing horses, and belonged to the Horseshoers' Union. In 1912, he found himself in Vegreville where he worked shoeing horses. On June 10, 1915 he filed claim on a homestead on NE 32-49-20 W4. He used two oxen to break the land. At the same time he worked with C.R. Blyckert in Kingman as a blacksmith.



Emil and Hilma Erickson cleaning fish.

In 1910 my mother, Hilma Elizabeth Ohman, came to the U.S.A. where her brother had landed some years earlier. She came from Härnösand, in Ångermanland in Sweden. She met the Swansons in Minneapolis and later moved with them to Alberta to the Wilhelmina district. In 1920, she married Emil Erickson. Florence (Nelson), Edmonton; Irene (Weins), Tofield; and Floyd (on the homestead) were born to them.

The book called "The Immigrants" by Wilhelm Moberg, describes exactly the reasons for leaving Sweden and the mode by which they came to America. Mother was afraid that she would starve to death in Sweden, and I recall Dad telling about relatives who would be starving with their mother sitting in a corner crying because she did not have enough food and the children crying in another corner because they were hungry.

Dad never did own a tractor. His horses (five of them) were very valuable to him, and I remember when several of the horses died from swamp fever. Two cows drowned in Miquelon Lake. It was a real loss for them.

We used horses and wagon and buggy or a cutter or bobsleds in the winter time to go anywhere. Dad used to cross Miquelon Lake to fetch Rev. Eriksson, the Lutheran pastor who used to have services in Miquelon school. It took many hours to make the



Emil Erickson Family. L. to R.: Florence, Emil, Floyd, Hilma, Irene.

trip. In the fall after threshing, he used to take a wagon load of wheat to the flour mill in Camrose and we would have flour and all its by-products to last all winter. The folks did their own butchering, and we “kids” used to hide inside the house when this happened. We did not like to see the animals killed, but it was necessary. Mother had a smokehouse built and she used to be an expert at smoking beef and pork. One time she offered to smoke a hog for Anders and Augusta Anderson. I can still see how she was in agony when she came out to the smokehouse one morning because the hog had disappeared. No one ever found out where it had disappeared to.

We also had a few sheep and Mother taught me to card, spin and knit socks, mitts and sweaters.

Dr. Nordbye is a name I remember. He must have delivered my brother and sister.

The big social events were the Ladies’ Aid meetings. The men used to come along too, and it seemed to me that they all mostly drank coffee, ate and visited, and were happy, which must have been an important part of their lives.

It is funny that I cannot remember so much of how poor we were, or how crowded, but I remember the warmth, Mother’s “välling” and her home-ground porridge flour, and in the summer she always had the thickest, longest, “long milk”. This she kept nice and cold in the ice cellar, which was a hole in the ground insulated with straw. Blocks of ice were hauled in the winter, and frozen together with water, so it was a solid block. This kept all summer, and apart from being unhandy, it served us well as a refrigerator.

Dad used to take Epsom Salts — shall I say

regularly! One time he made a mistake and drank some Boracic acid. He was sure that he would die, since it was acid! I remember us sitting around waiting for the pains to begin.

The Ericksons moved to Tofield in 1952 when Floyd bought the old home place. Dad died in December, 1960, and later on Mother moved to Camrose to Bethany Home, where she passed away in October, 1974.

It would have pleased Dad and Mother to see the modern log cabin that now stands on the home place, where Floyd and his wife, Kim, now reside.

After having visited and spoken to relatives in Sweden, and seeing the progress made there, one wonders if my parents might not have been happier if they had endured it there just a little longer. It was heartrending to hear their sisters and brothers say how they knew that they would never see each other again. But then, we owe a great deal to all those who came to America to build it up to the strong and wealthy nation that it is now.

Erickson, Floyd and Family

In 1945 I managed to get away from home and worked on the Bar V Ranch southwest of High River as a cowhand and headrider. One of the highlights of my life, which was reported to the Calgary Herald, was when we trailed 1826 head of range cattle for sixty-seven miles. It was a six-day overland trip from 44, Flying E and Bar V Ranches to the Pat Burns feedlot southeast of Calgary.

In 1949 I worked on oil rigs at Redwater. This led to many other locations all the way from Spirit River and south to the Montana border.

In 1952 when Emil and Hilma Erickson, my parents, retired I bought the farm.

In 1959 I married Kim Kimura, formerly of Brooks, Alberta.



Floyd Erickson home and 1930 Model A Ford restored by Floyd Erickson.

For several years I tried sheep and cattle farming and worked at the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park.

We have two daughters, Marcy, born in 1962, and Lorraine, born in 1965. Marcy is attending Alberta College and is also working in Edmonton. Lorraine is a High School student in Tofield.

In 1968 we moved to Edmonton but we spent the weekends at the farm. We would buy cattle in the spring and sell them in the fall. We enjoyed many trail rides on the farm and also participated in various parades.

In the spring of 1978 we built a log dwelling. It was a family project. This log building is dedicated to my dad, Emil Erickson, who homesteaded on this land in 1915.

We moved back to the farm in the fall of 1980. At present I commute to Edmonton and work in construction.

Feragen, Ole **by Peder Feragen**

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Feragen, came from a small farm in the parish of Brekken district of Røros, Norway. Father started working in a copper mine at a very young age and continued to work at this until he and mother, together with their three young children emigrated to Canada. My uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. M. Bakken, came over at the same time. After a slow and tedious journey they arrived in Alberta in July, 1906.

They filed on a homestead northwest of Miquelon lake and built a temporary log cabin with a sod roof. Later they built a better log house. They acquired a few cattle which was their main source of income. There were also lots of muskrats in the sloughs and lakes to be trapped to supplement their income. Transportation was with oxen and later with horses. I guess a man with a team of oxen could earn one dollar a day hauling bundles on a steam threshing outfit, working twelve hours a day.

In 1914, father purchased half a section of land, the SW 20-49-21-W4, and NW 17-49-21-W4, from Mr. Martinsen. I think he was a relative of our neighbor, Christian Sollid. Later father purchased the west half of SW17-49-21-W4, and raised grain and cattle. My parents raised all their family on this farm and lived there the rest of their lives. Mother passed away in 1955 at eighty-two years of age. Father was close to eighty-eight years of age when he passed away in 1966.

In addition to their own family, they also raised my oldest sister Christine Thompson's four daughters during her illness and after her death, I believe in 1939. There were two sisters in the family, the one above mentioned and Mrs. R. Killips (Lucy) and

nine brothers of which three have since passed away. They and their families live in Alberta and British Columbia. All of us grew up on the farm and attended Sulitjelma school. Regarding church, I think it was held in the farm homes to start with. Some people went to the Scandia Church in Armena until they built the present St. Joseph Church. In World War II there were six brothers in the Armed Forces for longer or lesser periods; two were overseas.

It must have been quite a struggle to raise a large family in those days. There were no government handouts of any kind, but the dollar did go a long way and kids had to work hard as soon as they were able to. Children had to walk to school, regardless of distance or weather conditions. Later parents drove them if the weather was too severe in the winter time. All of us were confirmed in St. Joseph Church, northeast of Hay Lakes.

I homesteaded at Valhalla Centre in the Peace River district in 1928 and worked at different jobs including some time on the Alaska Highway. Money was very scarce in the "hungry thirties", but everyone had lots to eat and seemed satisfied. Dances were held in the school houses; there was old-time music and lots of coffee and eats, with "liquid refreshments" outside that really livened things up, and all for very little money.

I moved to Grande Prairie in 1950 and worked at construction work and I still reside there.

Feragen, Ole and Sophia **by Arnold Feragen**

Ole was born in Røyros, Norway on October 12th, 1878. As a young man he worked in the copper mine. He was also a shoemaker and a harness maker. Sofia Bakken was born August 20th, 1873. As a young woman she was a seamstress. Ole and Sofia were united in marriage on July 6th, 1900.

Ole and Sofia came to Canada in 1906. They



Ole Feragen Family, July 15, 1950. Standing, L. to R.: Verner, Arnold, Clarence, Sigurd, Edvin, George, Lucy, Wally, John, Peder. Missing: Christine (deceased). Seated: Ole, and Sophia.

settled north of Miquelon Lake, forty miles south east of Edmonton on SW36-49-21-W4. Their older children, namely Christine, Peder and John were born in Norway. Wally, Lucy and George were born on the homestead by Miquelon Lake. In 1914 Ole and Sofia moved to a farm three miles north of Hay Lakes, on NW20-49-21-W4 and SW17-49-21-W4 (the west half). Here they farmed until their passing. Edwin, Sigurd, Clarence, Arnold and Vernon were born on this farm.

Ole and Sofia were life members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church. Dad helped build the Sulitjelma School and the St. Joseph Lutheran Church. All the Feragen children got their public school education at the Sulitjelma School. Many teachers came and went during that time. All the children were confirmed in the Lutheran faith at St. Joseph Church. There again many pastors came and went.

Mother and Dad had their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary celebration at the family farm in 1950. This was the first time they had all their children home at the same time, with the exception of Christine, who had passed away in 1939. I can remember how happy Vernon was to see his brother John for the first time. John had left home before Vernon was born and this was his first visit back to the farm.

Dad was a great sportsman. He especially enjoyed playing horse-shoe and checkers. He usually came out on top!

Mother was always very busy cooking, cleaning, washing, mending, spinning wool, carding the wool and knitting socks and mitts to keep us all warm in the winter.

One Christmas when I was a young boy, we needed a Christmas tree. I got the axe and cut down one of the prettiest trees in the yard. That time Mother gave me a hot seat!

In the dry years during the thirties, we had a daily chore. We had to water all our cattle at Joseph Lake. In the winter time, we had to melt snow for them. One cold morning when we used to run the cattle to "nineteen" (McGill's adjoining farm) for water, Clarence had an accident. He was trying to break the ice in the well with a long rail. As he proceeded to break the ice, he slipped and fell down the well with twenty feet of water below him. He managed to hang on to the rope. I was at home working around the barn when our dog, "Karro" came running home barking as if to say, "Help! Help!, Arnold, come quickly". I jumped on Dick, our sorrel horse, and followed Karro to the rescue. As I was crossing the land in full gallop, my cousin, Gilbert Bakken, came along with a load of firewood. Gilbert and I managed to pull Clarence out of the well. Clarence had wrapped the rope between his legs and hung there for two hours before he was rescued.

Oh, how well I remember the days when we used to rob the cream can and make ice cream after Dad and Mother had retired for the night! I am sure the folks knew what was going on. They were just too wise to let on.

In those days horses played an important role in our lives. Farming was done with horses. If we had some place to go at night, it was generally on foot, as the horses needed their rest. My brothers and I were healthy young men with lots of energy to burn. Breaking young horses to the harness was a big job those days. I thoroughly enjoyed working with horses.

The first twenty-nine years of my life were spent on the farm with Dad and Mother. As a young man I loved playing baseball and hockey. I also enjoyed dancing. However, in 1948 I found new adventures as that is the year that I married Gladys Edwards of Ponoka. We have one son, Kenneth. Kenneth and his wife, Sharon have two sons, Trevor and Clinton. So Gladys and I have new adventures now, thoroughly enjoying our grandchildren.

Ole and Sofia Feragen had eleven children.

Christine married Turner Thompson. They had four daughters: Hazel, Ella, Lily and Olive. They are all married. Hazel and Joe Baldwin live in Vancouver and have three sons and three daughters. Ella and Roy Flynn live in Fort St. John and have one son and one daughter. Lily and Ron Purcel live in Calgary and have two sons and one daughter. Olive and Bob Purcel live in Ardrossen and have two sons and one daughter. Christine worked in Camrose and also attended Camrose Lutheran College. She passed away in August 1939.

Peder worked in many different places. He settled in the Valhalla district, where he farmed several years then he sold his farm and did carpenter work for several years. He is now retired and lives in Grande Prairie.

John spent most of his life in Seattle. He worked as a baker until World War II when he joined the American Marines. After the war he was manager of a Washington plywood company. John was married but had no family. He passed away in 1956.

Ingwald (Wally) Feragen went to Vancouver after working for some time on the family farm. He married Lena McNeil and had two daughters, Helen and Carol. Helen Erickson has four children and lives in Vancouver. Carol and Roy Monkman have one son and one daughter. They live in Vancouver. Wally was in Real Estate for many years. Wally was very interested in baseball and took part in this sport for many years. He was an excellent pitcher.

Lucy worked in Edmonton where she married Roy Killups. They farmed at Fahler several years. Later they sold the farm and worked for several years

in Edmonton. They have two sons and three daughters. **Wayne** and Dorothy Killups live in Edmonton and have one boy and one girl. **Donalda** and Don McCombie live in Edmonton and have two boys and six girls. **Myrnaloy** and Arnold Slade have three girls and one boy and live in Valleyview. **Dennis** and Fern Killups live in Edmonton and have three girls and one boy. **Nancy** and Peter Toppe live in Edmonton and have two boys and one girl.

George Feragen worked as a truck driver and had other jobs in Vancouver. He joined the Air Force in World War II. After the war he was a security guard for several years. George married Kay Savage and they have one daughter, Carla, and are now retired in Vancouver.



Ole Feragen home farm.

Sigurd Feragen worked at various jobs in Vancouver. Later he worked as a bookkeeper and time-keeper for a Lumber Company of which he later became the manager. He went into Real Estate some time later. He lives in Vancouver.

Edwin Feragen worked at various jobs until World War II. He joined the Navy. After the war he married Eileen Collins and worked in construction. Later he became a carpenter and lives in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. Ed and Eileen have one son, Jim, who lives in Fort St. John, British Columbia and one daughter, Barbara Coone, of Vancouver. Jim and Louise have one daughter. Barbara and John have three children.

Clarence worked at various jobs until he joined the Army during World War II. After the war he married Dorothy Coleman. He worked for Canadian Pacific Airlines for many years. Later he took up the carpenter trade and lived in Edmonton many years until he passed away in 1965. Clarence and Dorothy had ten children. Eunice and Les Edgelow live in Vernon, B.C. and have four children. Wendy and Dave McKinnen live in Vancouver, B.C. Cheryl and Jim Null live in Edmonton. Brian passed away in infancy. **Bruce** and Shirley Feragen live in Edmonton. **Donna** works in Edmonton. **Trudy** and Bob Barr live in Calgary. **Candice** and Terry Collins live in Edmonton. **Debbie** works in Edmonton. **Rocky** is

married and lives in Edmonton. He has one boy and one girl.

Arnold and Gladys Feragen live in Ponoka where he has worked as a plumber for the same firm for many years. He did other jobs before he became a plumber. Arnold and Gladys have one son, Kenneth. Kenneth and Sharon have two children. They live in Ponoka.

Vernon joined the Army when World War II broke out. After the war he married Hilda Fode. He worked in construction and other jobs. Vernon and his wife, Hilda, live in Edmonton. They have one son and one daughter. **Dennis** and his wife live in Seattle and have one daughter. **Marlene** Kreisler, lives in Edmonton and has one son and one daughter.

Sofia Feragen passed away in 1955, and Ole Feragen passed away in 1966.

This is my story as I remember it.

Feragen, Peter

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Feragen and two children, Peter and Reidun, emigrated to Alberta, Canada from Norway in June 1911. They settled on land near Miquelon Lake in the Hay Lake district where other relatives had settled a few years before. There were no homesteads left in that area at the time, so they had to buy land.



Sunday Visiting. Back Row: Lily Pearson, Reidun Feragen, Elida Nordin. Middle Row, L. to R.: Halgert, Viola and Hildur Feragen, Jurdis Pearson. Seated, L. to R.: Selma Pearson holding Jeannette, Richard, Mrs. Feragen and Sigred Nordin.

To be sure, going was tough for many years and was true pioneering, but as time went by they were able to buy some horses, cows, pigs, and chickens and gradually improved the farmstead, clearing and breaking land to make a comfortable living.

One bad blow that set Dad back was after he had bought two horses, he went to an auction sale to buy a

harness for them. While he was away, the barn burned down and the animals all perished, so when he returned from the sale with the harness, he had no horses to put them on. So, of course, the only thing to do was to start all over again and go to work and make enough money to buy some more horses and cows.

As time went by, four more children were born. Arvid, Hildur, Halgerd and Viola, which made six children.

They farmed until the late forties, at which time they had a sale and moved to Camrose.

Forsen, Hilbert

Hilbert Forsen was born on September 22, 1909, in the East Hay Lakes area. He was the son of Alfred and Anna Forsen who had emigrated to Canada from Sweden in 1905 and settled on the quarter section where Wilhelmina Lutheran Church is now (the site was donated by A. Forsen). In 1933, Hilbert married Kristine Nyhus who had arrived from Norway in 1922. After renting a farm for some years, in 1943 they bought S26-21-49-W4, west of Miquelon Lake, or seven miles northeast of Hay Lakes.

Here they raised three sons, Gerhard, and twins, Arthur and Kenneth who took their schooling at Sulitjelma and Hay Lakes and were active in hockey and football. The family faithfully attended St. Joseph Lutheran Church.



Hilbert Forsen Family. L. to R., Back: Art, Gerhard, Ken. Front: Hilbert, Kristine.

All three sons are employed by the Alberta Parks Department. Gerhard was married in 1959 to Marit Reiten and they have one daughter, Carolyn. (Their son, Dale, died as an infant.) In 1963, Art married Alva Schmidt and they are the parents of Teresa and

Ward. Ken, married Jean Webster in 1965 and they have two sons, Kevin and Darcy. At present, Gerhard is at Champion, Art at Rimbey, and Ken at Vulcan.

Hilbert Forsen died in 1977. Most of the original farm has been sold, but Kristine, at the age of eighty-one, still lives on an acreage, a part of the old home place.

Grahn, Arthur and Family by Ida Grahn

Art was born on his father's (John Hilmer) farm December 26th, 1920, in the Hay Lakes district. He grew up and went to school at Sulitjelma and worked very hard helping his parents on the farm, even after he left school.

After the war broke out, Art enlisted in the Canadian Army and took his initial training in Camrose. From there he was sent to Brandon, Manitoba to train in the artillery, then on to Kingston, Ontario for a two-month signal course. It was from here that Art was sent to Britain with the Royal Canadian Artillery. When he arrived overseas he was transferred to the 11th Light Anti-aircraft regiment as a signalman, defending the south coast of England.

It was during 1943 that I met Art. I too was serving with an anti-aircraft artillery battery in the north of England. We were both enjoying a short leave in London at the time and although we were not able to continue seeing each other very often, we did correspond regularly, as the mail was more reliable in those days. The war escalated and life seemed so uncertain so we decided to get married as soon as we could get a leave together and in March, 1944 that happy day arrived. We were especially happy that Art's brother Oscar (who was also serving in England) could be the best man.

After spending a few short days together we were sent back to our units, Art in the south and I to Aberdeen, Scotland. It was six long months before we saw each other again. However, the war improved for the Allies and we were able to spend more time together and in August, 1945 our first daughter, Jean, was born. It wasn't long after that Art was sent home to Canada to be discharged from the army in January, 1946.

Jean and I followed, after an emotional farewell with my family, and vowing that I would be back to see them in five years. (The five stretched into twenty-two years before I was to make the journey back again.) We crossed the ocean on board the *Mauretania* and enjoyed the food so much after the stringent war-time rationing. We landed in Halifax in the pouring rain, to the tune of "Here Comes the Bride", and I felt a little foolish as I trudged off the boat with a baby and my luggage. Then as we jour-

neyed across Canada by train I realized the vastness of this country and I remember waving to some children sitting on a fence in the middle of nowhere, or so it seemed, and I wondered if the miles would ever cease or that we would ever reach Edmonton.

It was the morning of April 1st, 1946 when we finally pulled into the station, where Art was waiting to take us to our new home. I'll always remember arriving in Hay Lakes, that sleepy little village, wondering why everyone walked so slowly. Coming from London, I was used to everyone running to catch a train or bus, always hurrying here, there and everywhere. Wanda and Oscar were there to meet us and Art's dad also. Oscar invited us over for coffee. I was too shy to say I didn't like it so I sipped mine and pretended it was good.

There was still snow along the roads and plenty of mud and water around. The first time I rode in the wagon to Hay Lakes we got stuck at Hanson's corner and had to push the mud off the wheels with long poles. My first purchase in Canada was a pair of rubber boots.

We rented the farm from Dad that first year and Art had built a nice little house for us. I had a hard time breathing outside that first winter; it seemed so very cold. The next spring we decided to move into Hay Lakes. I didn't know one could pick up a house and skid it into town, but that's what we did. Art started helping Ole Olafson build houses and then in 1948 he bought a truck from Bill Sware and did a lot of trucking around the district. I remember when we took a whole truckload of school kids to the track-meet in Kingman that year as there were no school busses.



Art Grahm Family — 1964. Back Row, L. to R.: Art, Jean, Ida, James. Middle Row: Terry, Valerie, Judy. Front: Sherry and Brian.

In December, 1948 James was born and then in 1949 Art and I decided to purchase a farm from Edwin Rotto (NE22-49-21-W4) and moved there in December of that year. The children both had measles and it started snowing that day so we were happy to get settled and a fire going in the stove. The Fred Miller family were our close neighbours and came over to welcome us. Of course we had to have coffee. It wasn't until morning that we noticed how black the water was as the well had not been pumped for some time. No one got sick anyway.

In March, 1951 we had a terrible blizzard and as I was about to have a new baby I had to ride in a sleigh to Hay Lakes across country as all the roads were blocked. From there I went by car following behind a snow plow until we got to Camrose. Judy was born in April and there was yet another snow storm the day I took her home from the hospital. Fortunately we all made it home.

It was a struggle to made ends meet in those days and Art got a job with Imperial Oil Company "just for the winter". In December, 1952 Valerie was born and Art decided to stay with the oil company. We also raised cattle and hay and worked hard to made our farm a good place to live and raise the children. We had three more children, Terry, born in March, 1956, Sherry in August, 1957 and Brian in March, 1960. They all attended school in Hay Lakes and Judy and Valerie had a year at Camrose Composite High School. We all attended St. Joseph's Lutheran Church and the children were all confirmed there. We grew to love and respect all our friends and neighbours in that community. There are so many memories: the Sunday School picnics, the pot luck suppers and the cottage meetings with neighbours and the Pastor Pederson family, the many quilting bees and the fun getting everything ready for our annual bazaar and sale where everything was auctioned off by our own great auctioneer, Magnus Arntson. Then the hectic weeks before Christmas getting all the little "angels" ready for Christmas program which was always so special, and we always enjoyed it so much. These are indeed precious memories.

In 1968 Art and I were able to finally make our first trip back to England where my mother and some of my family are still living. It was a wonderful happy occasion.

All of a sudden, so it seemed, the children were leaving the nest. Jean went into the Navy for a while and later worked for the government. She then travelled and lived and worked in England before settling down once more in Edmonton. She married Oliver Best of Bermuda in December, 1976 and they now live in Edmonton where Jean still works for the

Federal Government and Oliver works at the Maximum Security Prison.

James joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and was stationed at Surrey, British Columbia for six years as a Constable. He married Barbara Grue in September, 1971 and later they moved back to Alberta to live in Sherwood Park where James now owns a Real Estate company. They have a four-year-old son, Timothy, and a four-month-old daughter, Kristin.

Judy married Eivind Seaman, formerly of Ontario, in July of 1969. As Eivind was with the Royal Bank, they moved many times but have now settled in Grande Prairie and have three children, Monica aged ten, John aged nine and Brenda aged seven.

Valerie met and married Lyle Haverland of Onoway in September, 1974. They moved north to Dawson Creek where they bought a farm and work very hard. They have one daughter Kerie, aged three, who is a pretty good little farm hand.

Terry has worked at several jobs and is presently working in the North. He also makes his home in Dawson Creek.

Sherry went to work in Edmonton after leaving school and has been employed at the same company ever since. She married Rudy Pinter of Edmonton in November, 1979 and they make their home in Mill Woods.

Brian is now in his second year at the University of Alberta and is majoring in Psychology and Sociology.

When Art retired from Imperial Oil in December, 1977 we decided to sell the farm and move to St. Albert. We did so in July of 1978. City life was not for us, however, and we have since retired to Summerland, British Columbia.

Grahn, John Hilmer and Family **by Alice (Grahn) Skalin**

A new and fresh country first being wrought from the wilderness and still full of the Old West spirit, is what the Alberta was that met Hilmer Grahn when he arrived here with his parents from Lycksele, Sweden in the early spring of 1902.

They settled on a homestead on NW 34-49-22-W4 in the Hay Lakes district, which at that time was a hunter's paradise with plenty of wild fowl and rabbits. There were thousands of ducks on every slough and lake, and no "hunting season" either. There were many hard winters which they wouldn't have lived through if it had not been for the plentiful wild life in the district.

The voyage across the Atlantic in the early days also presented very many hazards unknown to those who travel on modern and comfortable passenger liners or planes today. Hilmer with his folks left

England on the old Beaver Lines cattle steamer (Orisota), bound for St. Johns, New Brunswick.

The ship that was supposed to take the family over, had been re-routed to South Africa to bring home troops from the Boer War.

When running into terrible storms the boat lost its rudder and was tossed about by the waves for two days before the damage was repaired. Half way across the ocean they ran out of drinking water and the old steamer was leaking badly, suitcases and trunks were floating below deck and clothes were ruined by salt water. To top all this, when the boat came close to the Canadian shore they became lost in fog, so the ship ran onto a sandbar and the passengers were taken ashore in small boats.

When they reached Hay Lakes and settled on the homestead Dad was twenty-one years old, and to help make ends meet he worked in various jobs in lumber camps, farms and also on the building of the old Grand Trunk Railway. He told of many a time they worked with mules and horses for several days to build a grade and a heavy rain would come along and wash it all away.

In 1910 he married Caroline Olson who came from Istre Toten, Norway in 1905. They settled in the Big Hay Lake district and it was here that Ellen and Oscar were born. It was when they lived here that Dad used to tell about walking to Wetaskiwin for supplies.

About 1913 they bought a farm northeast of Hay Lakes, SW 28-21-49-W4 from Jonas Smith who moved to Ontario to live. Jonas was married to Caroline's sister Olina. It was here that the other six children were born and grew to adults: Edgar, Theodore, Alice, Arthur, Alf and Clifford.

As there were only ten acres broke, Dad and Mother worked hard to break more land, since as the family grew they saw the need for more land. When the depression hit, wheat dropped to nineteen cents a bushel, eggs were three cents a dozen, and an eight-gallon can of cream earned from \$5.00 to \$8.00 dollars depending on the butterfat test. Money was scarce, so to take some of the burden off Dad, Oscar and Edgar worked for Pearson Brothers in a lumber camp at Breton during the winter months, coming home in the spring to help with spring work. Ellen worked for J. A. Youngs in Camrose, and Theodore stayed at home to haul wood and hay.

The wood had to be cut and hauled home with horses in the winter months. Then it was sawed, split and piled before being carried by armfuls into the house to heat our home and that was Arthur's and my job until Alf and Clifford were old enough to take over. How well I remember the wood-sawing bees with the neighbors coming over to help.

We all attended school at Sulitjelma, and my first teacher was Ollana Hendrickson, who now resides at Summerland, British Columbia. We walked to school barefoot in the summer and wore moccasins and home-knit socks during the winter months. I remember well the circular stove that never seemed to throw enough heat for us to get warm. Our teacher used to march us around the room to get warm. With our ink frozen, and lunches frozen by noon, I often wonder how we learned our A.B.C.'s.

The roads in those days were a far cry from what they are now. To get mired down in mud was not unusual. The boys used to work with horses and fresnos to help grade roads to help pay the taxes. Once a year wheat was hauled to Byers Flour Mill in Camrose, and traded for flour for our year's supply. Sugar, coffee, and salt were bought in the fall for our winter's supply.

Many hardships were faced in the "hungry thirties"; the younger generation finds it hard to believe that such times existed. Crop failures, drought, dust storms, hail and frost were but a few of the trials.

A great majority of people could not afford cars to drive. I remember Dad putting our car up on blocks. Many a time car bodies were removed and Bennett Buggies or wagons were built and drawn with horses.

Prices were low; wages were poor. Working hours were from ten to twelve hours a day with some top wages being \$15.00 a month, and there were many who felt fortunate at being able to work for board and room.

Beside milking cows, Mother raised chickens and sheep. The wool from the sheep went into carded wool for quilts and spun yarn for all our mitts and

stockings. I remember how warm they were when I walked to school in thirty degrees below zero weather. She also churned butter with an old stomper churn which is still in my possession, and she sold butter in Hay Lakes in exchange for groceries.

Refrigeration was unheard of; the cream was hung in deep wells to stay sweet and meat was either canned or put into crocks with lard poured over. Fresh meat was easily available as rabbits, partridge, prairie chickens and ducks were plentiful.

Times were beginning to improve by the late thirties, but then war broke out and Oscar, Theodore and Arthur all served overseas. They were difficult years during the war as help was scarce and supplies rationed. Edgar stayed on the farm and helped Dad, Alf and Clifford were in school, and I was working in Czar. I especially remember the gas rationing. If we wanted to go any distance we had to save up gas coupons to make sure we got there and back.

Dad and Mother sold the farm to Alf and retired and moved to Camrose in 1949, after which Dad's health failed and he passed away in 1954. Mother had good health for six more years, and then her health failed and she passed away in 1963. They are both buried in the Camrose cemetery.

Ellen married Odd Rogstad, and they lived in Kingman for many years where Sonia and Rodney were born. They later moved to Camrose, where she worked at Rosehaven for many years. She passed away in a car accident in 1967.

Oscar married Wanda Hanson and lived in Hay Lakes until his passing in 1973.

Edgar married Kay Johnson, and they farmed in the Hay Lakes district for several years, after which, they moved to Camrose and Edgar worked as a carpenter for several years. At the time of retirement, his health failed and he passed away in 1979. He is buried in the Camrose Cemetery.

Theodore married Gladys Skalin. They lived in Kingman, Hay Lakes and Surrey, British Columbia. Their daughter Ann was born when they lived in Kingman.

Alice married Clarence Skalin, and lived in the Kingman district where Carol and Janice were born. We farmed in the Kingman area until 1973, when we retired and moved to Camrose.

Arthur brought his bride home from England. He married Ida Darling in England, and after the war they lived in the Hay Lakes district.

Alf married Elsie Britt Haakanson. They had one son, Dwayne. They farmed the home place for a few years, but Elsie passed away at a young age. Alf was remarried to Georgett Noden, and they farmed a few years. They sold the farm to Clarence Brooks in 1975



J. Hilmer Grahn Family — 1950. Back Row, L. to R.: Arthur, Ted, Clifford, Alfred, Edgar and Oscar. Seated: Alice, Hilmer, Caroline and Ellen.

and moved to Camrose. They were divorced and Alf met and married Connie Dux.

Clifford married Joyce Mohan and they live in Camrose where Cliff works for Jordon Construction.

Our memories recall the first swim at Oliver Lake, the big threshing crews, the tunnels we dug in the snow, berry-picking, the brothers walking on stilts, and many, many more outweigh the bad ones by far. Life was just great. I often think of what we owe the pioneers who came through many kinds of trying times, but came through smiling. Let us truly honor their memory.

We give thanks for those who have gone before us, for those whose lives have touched our own, for the loved ones who are in their twilight years and especially for the privilege of a place in the history book for these highlights of my parents lives.

Grue, Lars and Avey

Lars Thoresen Grue was born on August 2, 1887 at Wendall, Minnesota. His parents were Thore and Beret Grue. Thore, along with his parents, Simen and Olava Grue, had emigrated to the United States from Røros, Norway in 1868.

In 1894, Thore Grue decided to emigrate to Canada, and so early that spring Thore and his wife Beret with their five children (Simen, Lars, Oscar, Bella, and Theodore) and Thore's parents left Minnesota for Canada. On May 17, 1894 Thore and his family arrived at what would be their home in Canada. Thore obtained his homestead near the present day Armena on the NW 12-48-21-W4, while his father homesteaded the NE 12-48-21-W4.

During the early years in Alberta, Lars helped with the building of a new home and farm — clearing and breaking land, building houses and farm buildings, seeding and harvesting crops, grinding flour and feed, raising and caring for livestock. Lars attended the first school of the Thordenskjold School in 1899. Church and Sunday School were first held in the homes of the settlers, then in the schoolhouse and finally in the Scandia Church which was completed in 1905.

In 1903, Lars' grandfather, Simen, died, and at this time his father decided to sell the homestead and buy the North half and the Southeast of 8-48-20-W4, about two and one-half miles further east. The family moved in the same year and again began the task of building a new home and farm.

Between the years 1901-1910 Lars, along with his brothers Simen and Oscar, was kept busy clearing and breaking land in the spring and summer, threshing in the fall, and logging and sawing lumber, and grinding feed and flour in the winter. The saw mill was first powered by a small portable twelve horse-

power steam engine that Thore had brought with him from the States. They sawed logs for their own needs as well as for the needs of the growing community. In 1905 or 1906, Lars' father purchased a twenty-five horsepower J. I. Case engine, a separator with a forty-inch cylinder, and breaking plows. The boys then did custom work — clearing and breaking land, and threshing. Much of the custom threshing was done in the Hay Lakes district where they may have threshed one thousand bushels for a farmer, charging two or three cents a bushel.

On September 19, 1905 Lars obtained a homestead entry on the NE 16-49-21-W4 near the present-day site of St. Joseph's Lutheran Church. So in addition to helping his father, Lars began clearing and breaking land on his own homestead. Lars had to cut down trees by hand, and then would pull out the stumps, probably with his father's small steam engine. The land was broke with a single breaking plow pulled by oxen or horses. In April 1906, he had built a sixteen by eighteen-foot frame house. By 1912 when he had applied for title on his homestead quarter, he had broken a total of twenty-two acres, with sixteen acres in crop, growing mostly oats and barley, along with some rye, winter wheat, and spring wheat which usually froze. In addition to the house that he had built, he also had built a frame stable and granary, dug an eight-foot well and fenced one and three-quarter miles. He had seven head of cattle and three horses.

Lars married Avey Skaret from the Armena district on July 2, 1913 at the Scandia Lutheran Church. Avey Rangborg Skaret was born to Ole and Kristina Skaret on September 13, 1890 at Rulbo near Lös, Sweden. In 1892 Ole had left his family in Sweden to emigrate to the United States. He found work as a farm hand near Harvey, North Dakota. Two years later, in 1894, his wife Kristina with two small children, Avey and Arthur joined him in the States.

By 1900, Ole and Kristina had heard about land in Canada, and on November 11, 1900 Ole obtained homestead entry on SE 18-48-20-W4 in the Armena district. By April 1901, Ole and Kristina and their four children (Avey, Mary, Arthur and Bill) had left North Dakota and arrived on the homestead in Canada. In addition to his homestead Ole had purchased the SE 17-48-20-W4 from the Canadian Pacific Railroad, and it was on this quarter that he built his farmstead. With their arrival in Canada Ole and Kristina began the task of building a new home. A house had to be built, land cleared and broke, crops seeded and harvested, livestock to be tended and cared for.

Avey attended school at the Thordenskjold school and in 1905 at the Thronson school. Church and



Lars Grue Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Oliver, Wallace, Velma Gladys, Chester, Norman. Front: Lars, Amy, Isabelle, Avy.

Sunday School was attended by the family at the Scandia Church. As a child growing up, Avey helped her parents on the farm — helped in the fields, milked the cows, baked bread, made cheese, butchered, carded and spun wool, and of course helped with the cooking of meals. During the years 1908-1911 Avey worked as a housekeeper for a lawyer by the name of Corneille in Camrose.

Early in the spring of 1913 Lars decided to build a new and better house on his homestead, one which would meet the needs of a wife and children. By the time Lars and Avey were married the house had been built, but not finished inside. During the winter of 1913-1914 Lars and Avey finished the inside of their home and began to make preparations for spring. Land had to be cleared and broke, there were crops to be put in, garden to be planted, and fences to be built. Eight children were born to Lars and Avey — Oliver, January 2, 1915; Chester, October 12, 1916; Amy, August 17, 1918; Norman, July 24, 1920; Velma, April 10, 1922; Gladys, July 3, 1924; Isabelle, November 13, 1926; and Wallace, January 3, 1933.

During the first years of their marriage Lars and Avey spent most of their time working on the farm which included not only the homestead quarter, but also the quarter just north (SE 21-29-21-W4) which had been purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Farm work was continuous and hard — land to clear and break, crops to seed and harvest, livestock to feed and care for. Most of the social activities consisted of visiting neighbors and relatives, attending the First of July picnics and Sport days in Hay Lakes, church activities, and school socials.

In 1918, Lars bought his first Model-T Ford with the hope that travelling would be faster. However, at times it became much slower especially after heavy

rains. Travelling on muddy roads was hazardous enough, but when they came to what was known as “Naslund Hill” special problems arose. The “Naslund Hill” was long and crooked, and the old Model-T had great difficulty climbing it. Since most of the roads in the area were rough and often muddy, the low band or gear was usually worn and in bad shape. However, the reverse band was used rarely and was usually in good shape. And so when the car came to the “Naslund Hill”, the low band did not have enough power to drive the car up the hill. Lars would politely ask Avey and the children to get out and walk up the hill, while he drove the Model-T up the hill backwards.



Lars, Norman and Avy Grue.

The Model-T also allowed the family to make long trips faster. Their most common long trip was going to Camrose. After the first few such trips nothing exciting happened on route. But one time, as Lars was about to go down the hill near Ole Rosendahl's, north of Camrose, Arthur Skaret decided to pull out and pass Lars. Lars decided that instead of letting Arthur pass they would have a short race. Both pulled their throttles right down to the bottom, allowing the cars to travel their top speed. The canvas tops looked like balloons, and the dust was flying. Top speed was probably twenty miles per hour!

In the early years the children were fortunate since the slough just north of their houses became the Sulitjelma community skating rink. At first the boys in the area used Iner Broen's water wagon to haul water from Miquelon Lake in order to keep the ice flooded, but this used up a lot of time. One fall Mr. Nordin had witched for water and had found a spring right next to the rink. A well was dug by hand, and as a result, flooding the ice became much faster and there was more time for skating and playing hockey. A combination engine-generator was borrowed from Eric and John Lofgren, and so the boys rigged up electric lights for the rink. For many years the Sulitjelma rink was the only rink in the area to have lights. The children were now able to use the rink at night, and many times after skating the neighborhood children would enjoy a nice cup of hot cocoa at the Grue's house.

The community's ball diamond was located just northwest of the skating rink on an open space in the cow pasture. For many players the closest they got to the playing field during a game was to clear it of manure before the game started. In the early 1930's the Breezy Baseball League was formed consisting of teams from Hay Lakes, Armena, Dinant, and Sulitjelma. Many hours were spent playing and watching exciting ball games. The opening of the League each season was on the May 24th weekend with a picnic and ball games held at the Dinant ball diamond near the Fridhem church.

With the church being close to their home, the family for many years were the janitors. It was their job to build a fire and keep the building clean. Avey was the Sunday School superintendent and the Ladies Aid president for many years. Since Sulitjelma school was close to their home, Lars and Avey boarded many of the school teachers in their home.

In the fall of 1944, Lars suffered a severe stroke which left him in poor health for the rest of his life. When Norman came home after serving overseas during the war, he took over the farm. A new house was built for Lars and Avey just south of the homestead house. During the winter of 1954-1955, Lars and Avey stayed at the Canadian Lutheran Institute in Camrose where Avey worked as a cook. In the summer of 1955, Avey cooked at the Bible Camp at Sylvan Lake. Lars died of heart failure on March 5, 1958. In the summer of 1958, Avey suffered a stroke leaving her speech impaired. Avey stayed with her daughter, Amy, at the Camrose Lutheran College. In January of 1960, Avey suffered another stroke, and died on March 6, 1960.

All of the Lars Grue children are still living.

Oliver married Mary Lofgren, July 24, 1940 and they live in Camrose, Alberta.

Chester married Nannie Swanlund, July 25, 1948 and they live at Campbell River, British Columbia.

Amy married Robert Thomas on June 30, 1967. They live in Vancouver, British Columbia. Amy is secretary at their church and Bob works for the Provincial Government Land Titles Office. Their one daughter, Lavern, married Dennis Befus. They have five grandchildren and live in Fort St. John.

Norman married Leila Jornlin on June 23, 1946 and lives in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Velma married Art Henkelman June 14, 1942 and they also live in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Isabelle married Bob Sherwin. They live on an acreage close to Sherwood Park. Bob is a commercial artist. They have five children: Stephen, Paul, Karen and Ruth. Their other daughter Lorraine married John Sproule and they have a little boy and little girl.

Gladys lives at the Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose.

Wallace Grue married Fern Nelson. They live at Surrey, British Columbia. Wallace is an accountant. Fern works in the church office. They have five children: Rebecca is married to Les Gross and they have a little boy. Faith is married to Gary Bergen. Naomi, Pamela and Clark are still at home.

Grue, Norman

After serving in the Canadian Airforce for four years, of which two and one-half years were spent overseas (in England), Norman returned home on September 13, 1945.

The following spring he bought his Dad's farm through the Veterans Land Act and on June 23, 1946 he was united in marriage to Leila Beatrice Jornlin, of Armena.

We lived in a garage on the Lars Grue farm for the first year while Norman's folks built a new house on the same farm. We then moved into the old Grue homestead house.

On June 21, 1947 our first child, Gerald Malcolm, was born. Barbara Faye, our first daughter, arrived on August 15, 1950 and on March 7, 1954 Audrey Heather, was born. Daniel Norman, born February 10, 1959 and Douglas Wade, born June 26, 1963 completed our family.

The first years were very busy years — raising pigs, milking eight to ten cows, farming the lake bottom east of Hay Lakes, sowing and harvesting the fields, etcetra. But with seven out of ten years of being hauled out, it didn't leave much at the end of each year. Somehow, we seemed to manage by living from one cream can cheque to the next. Anyhow, we knew everyone else was in the same boat, and we



Norman Grue Family. L. to R., Standing: Gerry, Norman, Audrey and Barbara. Sitting: Danny, Douglas and Leila.

were not used to too much so were happy. We were members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church and much of the activities centered there.

We didn't have Calgary Power until much later, so we ironed the clothes with sad irons or a gas iron, used the blackened chimney lanterns in the barn and the old kerosene lamps in the house besides a gas lamp. We cooked on the old coal and wood kitchen stove and had an oil heater for heat, and used the ice house for storing cream and milk. How happy we all were when the power was hooked up and we could have all the conveniences that went with it.

Then, later on, we went into dairying, milking thirty-five to forty cows and sold the milk in large cans to Northern Alberta Dairy Pool in Camrose. A large truck picked up the milk and hauled it.

The roads were not gravelled at first and many times we would even have trouble getting to our nearest neighbours. The roads seemed to be blocked for weeks on end in the wintertime and I still remember the thrill of hearing the snowplow coming.

Norman worked at Hinton, cutting pulpwood for one year, 1956-'57. We lived in a trailer, but because of a shut-down in the cutting business we returned to the farm. We farmed another ten years and then sold our farm to our son Gerry. We moved to Sherwood Park where we are still residing. Norman has been and still is working for Ostrem Chemicals Ltd.

Gerry married Dena Frostad on September 21, 1967. They have three sons, Steven John, born on March 30, 1970, Michael Gerald, born on August 25, 1971 and Paul Harold, born on July 7, 1974.

Barbara married James Grahm on September 4, 1971. They lived in Surrey, British Columbia for four years and are presently living in Sherwood Park, where James has his own Real Estate Company. They have two children, Timothy James, born on September 17, 1976 and Kristin Marie, born on November 10, 1980.

Audrey married Ronald Scott on March 1, 1975. They have one son, Christopher Adam, born on June 18, 1980. Ron is in partnership with his Dad and brother in Scott Steel Limited, and they live on an acreage east of Sherwood Park.

Daniel is working as a draftsman for Scott Steel and Douglas is graduating from Grade Twelve this spring, and then going into Building Construction.

Hanson, Peter and Hilda

by Wanda Grahm

My father, Peter Olaf Hanson, was born in December, 1879 in Björkliden, Vesterbotten, Sweden. He was the youngest of the three Hanson brothers who emigrated to Canada from Vilhelmina, Sweden, arriving in May, 1905. His brothers, Amandus and Erik, and a cousin, J. Amandus Johnson, who accompanied them, settled with their families on homesteads in the Miquelon Lake and Hay Lakes area.

Dad, like many immigrants, worked in the British Columbia woods in wintertime to supplement his income. He purchased Canadian Pacific Railroad land, SE 17-49-21-W4, receiving the title in 1911. The soil on this land was very fertile but, like most land in the area, had many small sloughs which had to be drained. On this quarter of land was a two-room log cabin, one room upstairs and one on the ground level. With additions, this house became our family home. In 1912, Dad filed on a homestead, NE 26-56-5-W4. This district is now known as Elk Point, Alberta. He sold this homestead in 1928 and bought his first car, a Model T Ford.

In 1914, Dad bought half share in a ditching machine owned by Gustav Edvall. Many sloughs in a large area were drained with the use of this machine. When he became pre-occupied with farming and a family, Dad resold his share to Mr. Edvall.

Dad was very interested in people and current events. Often his half hour errand at a neighbor's turned out to last two hours. He had good faith in his fellowmen and shared with them the hopes of a prosperous future.

Mother, Hilda Johanna (Johnson) Hanson was born in Vilhelmina, Sweden on March 15, 1884. Her parents were Jonas Erik Adamsson, born on May 18, 1856, and Anna Catharina (Almquist) Adamsson,



Peter and Hilda Hanson.

born on June 30, 1865. They were farmers in the Vilhelmina Parish.

Mother was the eldest of thirteen children and also the only member of her family to emigrate to Canada. She arrived in Canada in July, 1914. (See Margaret (Hanson) Verge.)

Though pioneer life was rugged, Mother looked on the bright side. The two-room house on the farm was made cosy with the lovely linens and many useful household items she had brought with her from Sweden. Many guests enjoyed her Swedish waffles and coffee boiled in her copper coffee pot. Her sewing machine and spinning wheel were put to good use.

Mother also possessed the art of weaving. Dad and Mr. Nordin built a loom. It was large and cumbersome, nevertheless it was in constant use by my mother, Mrs. Nordin, and several other neighbor ladies. Rag rugs and woolen blankets were woven to add comfort to homes. How often in wintertime, on entering the kitchen, the familiar sight of wool drying on the oven door greeted us. When it was dry it was carded and spun into yarn. In the early spring when we had a good supply of milk, a boilerful was often on the kitchen stove to be made into cheese, white and brown. The brown cheese was made by boiling the whey until it became quite thick, then poured into containers to cool.

Every spring when seeding was completed we moved into our summer kitchen. This was a small building not far from the main house. Here we cooked, ate, did all our canning and other general housework. Living outdoors left our house in a cool, clean state for the better part of the summer. In the early years we slept in outdoor buildings also. It was like camping out all summer long and very convenient as most of our work in summertime was out-of-doors. After harvest we would move back into the house. It was always an exciting experience for us children.

In 1916, the east half of NE 9-49-21-W4 was

purchased and used as pasture for cattle for many years. In the spring and fall on our way to school, we children would herd the cattle to this pasture which was one mile from our home. The east half of SW 17-49-21-W4 which joined the home farm was acquired in 1918. A large part of this land was lake bottom, therefore some was under water in spring time, but when drained it produced hay in abundance.

Social activities centered around the church. Swedish old country customs were also celebrated in the homes. Christmas Eve was a special time of awe and wonder. Except for Mother's colorful home-knit toques, scarves, and mittens there were few gifts. Rice pudding was a traditional supper dish on Christmas Eve. Cardamom flavored sweetbread was always served with afternoon coffee. The farm animals were not forgotten. They received extra care at Christmastime.

In our community the Scandinavian language was spoken in homes, the church, and at all family gatherings. When children began attending school, the use of the English language became more common in homes. I remember our mother encouraging us to speak English so she could become more familiar with the language. In time, all learned to speak and understand the English language, many retaining their Scandinavian accent.

In March, 1931, Dad passed away. This was at the beginning of the "depression" years. It was no small undertaking for our mother to run the farm and educate her children, but with her optimism she overcame the many hardships she encountered.

In spite of the lean depression years, with a lot of hard work and ingenuity, improvements were made on the farm. We milked a large number of cows, all handwork. Mother raised large flocks of turkeys,



L. to R., Back Row: Carl and Bert Hanson. L. to R., Front Row: Karen, Sonja, Wanda and Margaret Hanson — 1937.

and, with the help of all the family, they were dressed and ready for market in early December. Mother would board Einar Broen's threshing crew, consisting of as many as twenty-five men. Many would arrive as early as four o'clock in the morning to wait for breakfast.

When Bert left school, he helped Mother run the farm. All members of the family were part of the farming operation until one by one all the children (except Bert) left home.

The scarcity of help on farms during the war did not change our work on the farm as all the family were used to helping in whatever work was necessary. With the issue of ration books, we were forced to use our imaginations in preparing meals, besides using our cars to the best advantage. We also grew many vegetables and berries to fill our sealers in the fall.

In early 1950, oil was discovered on the two half-quarters of land. Some of the land was leased to oil companies for their well and battery sites.

In 1952, after living in Canada for thirty-eight years, Mother returned to Sweden for a visit with her sisters and brothers and their families.

In the year 1954, Mother retired from the farm to live in our first home in Hay Lakes Village. She was then seventy years old, the pension age at that time. During all her years of hard work she never received any pension or government assistance until she received her old age pension.

Mother was blessed with exceptional good health. She enjoyed her retirement in a quiet way, always busy keeping her house and yard in order, besides helping her family in whatever way she could.

In September, 1964, she suffered a stroke and became confined to Bethany Auxiliary Hospital in Camrose. There she remained until she passed away on the first day of August, 1967.

Her good humor and realistic outlook on life endeared her to her family and friends. She left us with many wonderful memories.

Dad and Mother had a family of seven children: four daughters and three sons. One son died when he was ten months old. The children attended Sulitjelma school, walking the three miles except during the coldest part of the winter when they drove with horses and sleigh. The younger children also attended school in Hay Lakes.

Margaret is the eldest of the children. Karen, next in age, was born on April 27, 1916. She married Sven Eliason and predeceased him in February, 1965. I, Wanda, was born on October 12, 1917. I married J. Oscar Grahn. Bert has his birthday on May 17, and was born in the year 1919. Carl Eric was born on

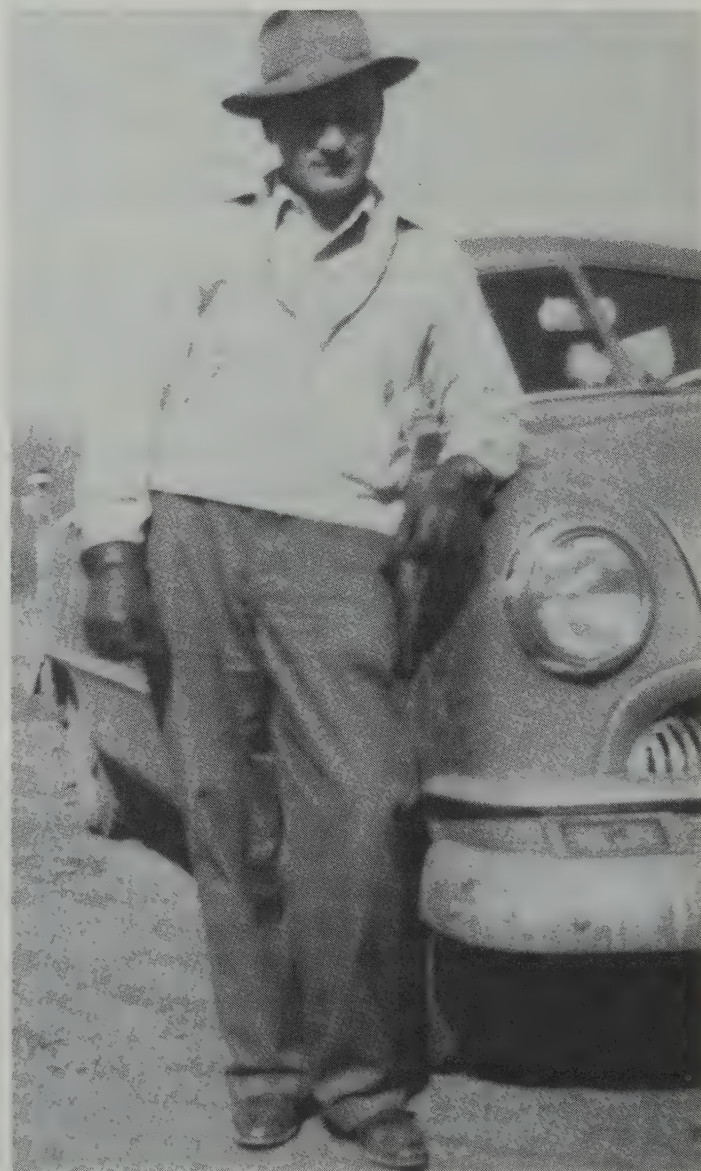
January 26, 1923. Sonja, the youngest, was born on December 4, 1924. She married John Bergstrom.

All the children have their story elsewhere in this book.

Hanson, Bert

Bert, the eldest son of Peter and Hilda Hanson, grew up on the family farm in the Sulitjelma district. Many early childhood memories are recalled, although each season of the year had its own interesting times. Springtime, with the melting snow and the burst of animal and bird activities, was special. At long last some of the heavy winter clothing could be shed and a sense of freedom prevailed.

For children on the farm there was an endless number of interesting things to do. Rafts were built and sailed on the sloughs, much to Mother's annoyance, for the children invariably came home in wet clothing. Spring was also a time to make willow



Bert Hanson.

whistles and play “knife”. Every school boy had a knife and had been taught its use.

When the hay meadow filled with water from the melting snow, the migrating waterfowl would land there in flocks. Swans and blue heron were often seen. There were also cranes and many species of geese and ducks. In springtime the evening air was filled with their noisy calls.

With the school years came other interests and new doors began to open. In wintertime besides his after-school chores, Bert had his trapline. The rabbit, weasel and muskrat skins were sold for pocket money. Bert also played hockey on the Sulitjelma team and often joined his friends in downhill skiing on the steep hills on Naslund’s land. The skis they used were made by men in the district, many of whom were quite expert in making skis.

During the summer months there was more work on the farm to keep Bert busy, but there was also time for fun, like joining Alfred Pearson and other friends in a few days of camping at Oliver Lake.

Bert often got into trouble because of his “sweet tooth”. He was the first suspect and often the guilty party when one of his older sisters discovered that someone had found and sampled her well-hidden chocolates.

On completing High school, Bert settled on the home farm and assumed the duties of a farmer. He experienced farming during the depression when money was very scarce; and also in the war years when there was rationing and scarcity of goods. The method by which the farmers made-do and improvised in the “hungry thirties” was indeed a hard, yet worthwhile education.

In November, 1940, Bert took his basic Army training in Camrose. This training was a requirement for boys of his age at that time.

Through the years Bert made a hobby of collecting Indian stone relics which he discovered in areas on the farm while cultivating fields. His collection also included many small antique items. A working radio crystal-set with ear-phones, he lent to an antique display in 1955. Unfortunately, it went astray and it was not returned to him.

In time most of the brushland on the farm was cleared and put under cultivation. As mechanized farming advanced the faithful workhorses vanished. This was sad, but necessary in the name of progress.

In early 1950, when Calgary Power came to the rural areas, the farmers were able to enjoy labor-saving devices and modern conveniences.

Bert had a good relationship with his neighbors, both socially and workwise. When farmers began using combines to harvest their crops, Bert and Magnus Sollid, a close neighbor on an adjoining farm, worked together, sharing their harvesting machinery.

In 1952, Bert and Ethel Spidel were married. The new home they built in 1962 contained all modern conveniences. The method of milking cows changed from hand-milking to machines. One way or another it involved a good amount of work and time as did all work on the farm.

Bert and Ethel were active in Unifarm and in the Home and School Association besides taking part in many community activities.

Their family of two boys and two girls attended and graduated from Hay Lakes High School.

Vera was born on February 24, 1954. Upon leaving home she worked in Edmonton. There she married David Swalm. They have a foster child, Michael.

Irene, born on March 26, 1957, also lives in Edmonton where she is employed.

Kenneth’s birthday is December 3, 1958. He is a driller with Mobile Augers and Research Limited.

Gary was born on May 15, 1961. He makes his home in Vancouver where he is employed.

Bert still lives on the home farm and is semi-retired.



L. to R.: Irene, Vera and Kenneth Hanson — 1965.



Gary Hanson — 1978.

Hanson, Carl Eric

I was born on January 26, 1923. My parents were Peter and Hilda Hanson. My early school years were in the Sulitjelma and Hay Lakes schools, and I graduated from Hay Lakes High School under the principalship of J. E. Lyle.

After completing pre-enlistment classes at Glenora School, Edmonton, in 1941, I began my Air Force training at Number Three Manning Depot, Edmonton. After being stationed in several training centers, I graduated as Sergeant Air Bomber from Air Observer School. On January 22, 1943, at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, I received my wings.

My Pilot Officer's Commission was awarded to me before we left for New York to board the Queen Elizabeth and set sail for England. Shortly after arriving in Bournemouth we got our first taste of the war when German fighters visited us overhead.

Our crew was like a League of Nations; it consisted of an Australian skipper, myself a Canadian, a Scotsman, a Newfoundlander, a Welshman, a Cockney, and a Geordy from Newcastle-on-the-Tyne. The majority of the flying crew were Polish Air Force.

We flew Lancaster Bombers and found ourselves on a front line Bomber Squadron, the 460 Royal Australian Air Force Squadron, at Binbrook, Lincolnshire.

Our mission on June 5, 1944 is historic. On returning to base after completing our mission, we were told that a second front had opened and paratroopers were landing where we had just been.

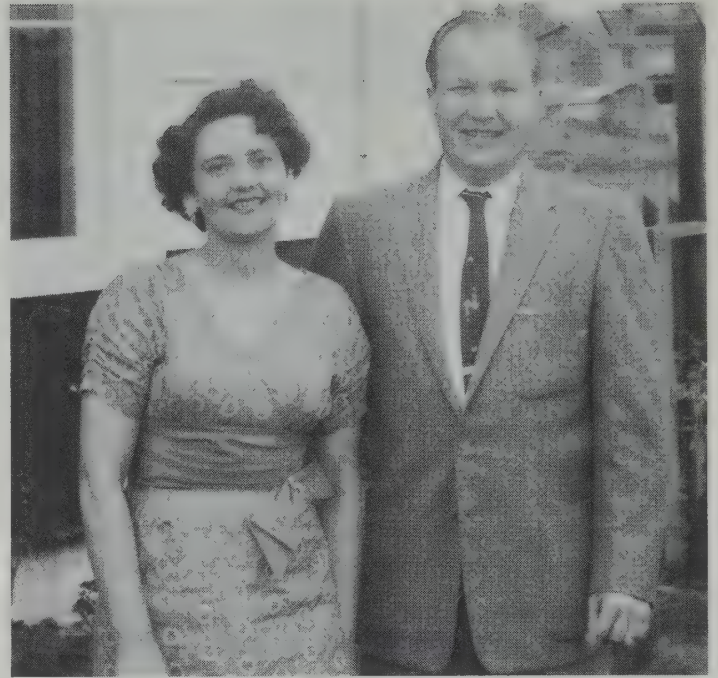
On July 17, 1944 my tour of operations were completed and I left for Wellesbourne where I was to instruct air crew.

Three significant things happened there. I met a young lady, Vera Burnly, from Leeds, Yorkshire, who was in the Women's Royal Naval Service. I was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and was informed that His Majesty King George VI had awarded me the Distinguished Flying Cross for my Service-in-Action.

It seemed fitting that Ronnie, "my wren" and I become engaged after Victory-Europe Day. Our wedding took place on August 2, 1945.

Ronnie was assigned to Portsmouth on the Commander-in-chief Royal Navy's staff. Due to heavy bombing they moved to Leamington Spa, a pretty midland city in Shakespeare country, and I would meet her there. We have wonderful memories of punting on the river Avon and of the many friendships made there.

With the Pacific war finished we knew we would be going home. To Ronnie this meant saying goodbye to her family. Early in September, 1945, I sailed for Canada and finally arrived home.



Carl and Ronnie Hanson.

In late September I left for Vancouver and took my demobilization there in October. Coinciding with that I learned that Ronnie and I were to become parents. Immediately I set about getting a job and a home. Ronnie by this time was demobilized from the Women's Royal Naval Service. She arrived in Vancouver on St. Valentine's Day in 1946.

Our daughter, Susanne, was born on May 5, 1946. Two other events occurred that year. I was invested with the Distinguished Flying Cross by Lord Alexander, our Governor-General. We also moved into our bungalow on Lulu island. Some time later we bought a larger home. The year 1946 was highlighted by a trip back to Hay Lakes to introduce Ronnie and baby to our family and friends. To this day we cherish the welcome and hospitality extended by all.

We thank the Lord for many blessings. We have three children: Susanne is a banker; her husband is John Robertson and their lovely daughter is Kelly, born on March 31, 1977 our first grandchild.

Eric, our son, was born in September, 1950. His wife is Leah and their daughter is Robyn, born in June, 1980. Eric teaches Science in a local Secondary School.

Janet, our youngest daughter, was born in January, 1954. She also has a career in banking. Janet and her husband, Stephen Redford, have a son, Sean, born in May, 1981.

In January, 1981, after a Military and Federal Public Service career spanning some thirty-six years, I retired. Now I am planning for those "Golden" retirement years. May we enjoy family and friends for years to come.

Ronnie and I celebrated our thirty-sixth Wedding Anniversary on August 2, 1981. We share a mutual affection for family and friends in many parts of the world.

Verge, Margaret (Hanson)

I, Margaret, was born in 1910 in Hernösand, Sweden and arrived in Canada with my mother in July, 1914. We landed at Ellis Island where all emigrants went through Customs at that time. The name of our ship was Oscar the Second. There were alerts of enemy submarines, as World War I was declared in August of that year. Mother was sea-sick all the way across the Atlantic, and having a four-year-old child wandering around must have been a worry.

We travelled by train to Winnipeg, then on to Wetaskiwin and stopped in Bittern Lake where Dad picked us up next morning with a fine team of horses and carriage. We went to uncle Erik Hanson's home where we stayed until early October, when we moved to SE 17-49-21-W4, where brother Bert now lives. The house was a log cabin, one room down and one

room upstairs, with a very rickety stairway up to the bedroom. This was our home for many years until another cabin was pulled near and made it into four rooms, still a log house.

Dad and Mother started out with two horses, three cows, a few chickens and pigs. The mare had a foal, and because she had to be tied during foaling as there was so little room in the barn, she got her foot in the halter and broke her neck. That was a great tragedy as horses were not very plentiful, and very expensive.

Wilhelmina church became the place of worship for many families related and acquainted in the district, which extended west towards Hay Lakes. Going to church on Christmas morning ("Julotta"), through the snow-covered countryside with horses and sleigh, with bells on the horses, was a memorable sight.

Gatherings by people of the community were events that were never forgotten. A surprise party at our house on a Wedding anniversary, was a surprise! The living room floor was full of potato sacks that mother and dad had dug but not yet put away in the cellar, the entrance of which was in the middle of the living room in the form of a trap door. The men soon stored the potatoes away and the party went on as planned.

There was a Hallowe'en night when two neighbor ladies came to play trick or treat on Mother. Well, not trusting such antics, Mother took the shotgun and fired over their heads. That was a story that grew and grew as time went on, and many a laugh was enjoyed.

I had my Public Schooling in Sulitjelma up to Grade nine, then went to Camrose High School and Camrose Normal School in 1930-'31. I taught school for one year at Sulitjelma. The following year I attended High School in Edmonton and later worked as a seamstress at Johnston-Walker's Department Store.

In 1936 I went to Vancouver and there I was married. I have one son, Terry Verge. My husband passed away in 1970.

Henkelman, Martin

by Elsie (Henkelman) Sommert

My father, Martin Henkelman (Little Martin), was born on February 15, 1909 in Koadeefka, Volhynnia, Russia to Martin and Emilia Henkelman.

In 1926 my father emigrated to Canada and travelled by train for seven days from Halifax to Lamont, Alberta. He worked for Fred Stelter on the farm for five months. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stelter paid for his fare — a total sum of two hundred and eighteen dollars from Russia to Lamont, Alberta. In the fall of 1926 he went to Hay Lakes, Alberta and worked for



Margaret (Hanson) Verge 1935.

his cousin, Martin Henkelman, until 1929. Then he bought his own farm from Albert Osgard in Hay Lakes, Alberta with the help of his cousin, Martin Henkelman. There were only twenty-three acres of land broken so there were many long working days ahead.

In 1930, my father was married to Sarah Ambler in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Henkelman Senior, Rev. William Kroening of the New Sarepta Moravian Church performed the ceremony. It had snowed so much that the snow was as high as the fences. The minister had to come by bobsleigh.

My mother and her sister, Susan, had been in a foster home in Edmonton, Alberta until Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Lydia (Schlender) Henkelman Senior, through the Provincial Government, took them into their home. They are very thankful for their foster parents. They had their education in a village school in Hay Lakes, Alberta. Every Saturday they went to the New Sarepta Moravian Church to learn the German language. They also sang in the choir.

In the early 1930's Christian cottage meetings were held in the neighborhood every other week in the homes of Jonas Lofgren, John Lofgren, Ferguson, Magnus Sware, Pete Hanson, George Webster and many others. Our house was too small to accommodate the crowd. After the meeting we would have fancy Swedish cookies and coffee. We were surrounded with Swedish people. Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Lofgren were like parents to my parents. Mrs. Lofgren taught Mother how to bake many Swedish recipes, like flat bread (hard tack) and good Swedish cookies (Spritz cookies). The coffee pot was always on at their house. Norman and I (Elsie) always knew where the flat bread was; we helped ourselves.

One Christmas Mary (Lofgren) Grue played Santa Claus. When she came into our house, Norman crawled under the bed until he recognized the ring on her finger. Those were unforgettable days.

My parents lived in the house on the east end of the farm where Norman and I (Elsie) were born. In 1937, Iner Broen with his steam engine helped move the house on our land from the east side to the west side by the road line. Norman and I (Elsie) went to church seven and a half miles in the wintertime with the cutter. Mother wrapped us up really well on the floor and brought hot bricks which were heated in the oven to keep us warm. In the summer we drove with buggy and a single horse called "Fanny".

When my parents were married and moved to the farm all they had were two cows and twelve chickens given to them by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Henkelman, Senior. Dad had three horses, a walking plow, three harrows and a fourteen-shoe drill. The furniture was very limited, a stove, bed, table (a trunk), and a



Martin Henkelman Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Norman, Elsie, Mervin. Front: Sarah, Martin and Donald.

rocking chair which was left in the house when he bought the farm. Orange boxes were used for many things until they could afford to buy furniture, and that was second-hand furniture.

Mervin was born in December, 1929. Mother was rushed to Edmonton in a 1928 Chevrolet car. Upon reaching St. Joseph Lake the gas line broke, so Dad cut a piece off the hose of the tire pump and repaired it. They safely arrived in time for the birth of their third child. Shortly after Mother came home from Edmonton with Mervin, Dad was warming the oil for the car on the stove when it caught fire. He grabbed a coat, threw it over the pot and threw it into the snow. We had nearly lost our home.

On one occasion Dad took two pigs to Camrose and got seven dollars and fifty cents for both. He brought home a wooden box of apples and one hundred pounds of flour. On another occasion he sold a cow to Ed Schlender for five dollars. In order to have heat during the nights he took mine props to the Dinant coal mine in exchange for coal.

I remember one time Dad was separating the milk in the kitchen when the separator bowl flew all apart and the discs spun all over the kitchen. Dad got a cut on his wrist and Mervin was miraculously missed as he was lying on the cupboard close by.

We had some memorable days with our neighbors, Jonas Lofgrens. Dad and Mr. Lofgren plowed their land side by side. One day they decided to have lunch together. My mother made waffles, whipped cream and coffee and Norman and I (Elsie) helped Mother carry it out to the field where they were working — what a good lunch that was. Many times



First home of Martin Henkelman's located on SW 9-49-21 W4.

the men would talk politics until the wee hours of the morning.

My parents sold their farm to Theodore Schultz in the fall of 1941 and bought a dairy farm in south-east Edmonton. We lived there for one year, sold it and bought another dairy farm at Bretona.

Donald was born in 1944. In 1947 Dad sold the dairy farm and moved to Edmonton, where he found a job. He was employed at several jobs until 1950, when he was hired as a caretaker with the Provincial Government. When he retired in 1974 he was the Supervisor of the caretaking staff at the Legislative Buildings.

Martin and Sarah had four children — Norman and Freda live in Edmonton, Alberta, Elsie and Bernard Sommert in South Edmonton, Alberta, Mervin and Dolores in Calgary, Alberta, and Donald and Bridget in Edmonton, Alberta. They have a total of twelve grandchildren — one grandchild is married.

Mother and Dad celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on February 25, 1980, with all the family present for a dinner followed by an open house. This was a happy occasion for them and one they had looked forward to. Martin and Sarah Henkelman are still residing in Edmonton, Alberta.

Edith (Sware) Holmberg (June 12, 1915-)

Edith was a serious-minded young lady. After completing her education (Grade XI) at Sulitjelma School, she remained at home with her brother, John, to help her parents on the farm.

On August 24, 1941, Edith married John Holmberg. Together, they farmed on the land that John had bought from his father. They had one son, Ronald (November 2, 1945).

Ronald graduated from Hay Lakes High School and went on to University, where he has since completed his education in Sociology at the Doctorate level. On August 4, 1968, he married Barbara Sexton of Calgary. They have two children, Andrew (Febru-

ary 25, 1971) and Kari (March 23, 1974). They reside in North Bay, Ontario.

John died on July 14, 1969. Edith has since sold out and makes her home in Camrose. Edith continues to be actively involved in quilt-making projects.

Jeck, Adam by Otto Drebert

Many Hay Lakes residents will recall the Sports Day parade that was held on July 1, 1973. This parade was followed by a huge motorhome that appeared to mystify the spectators along main street. However, the occupants of this motor home were soon to be recognized by many oldtimers of the Hay Lakes district. These occupants were the Adam Jeck family who pioneered in the Sulitjelma district for about fourteen years. Efforts to make contact with this family to compile their story proved to be in vain. However, the statistical records of the Moravian Church were helpful in compiling the early history of this family.

Adam Jeck was the youngest of the three brothers that were born to William Jeck and Anna (nee Maur) Jeck. The William Jecks had immigrated from Voly-nia, Russia in 1894. They made their home in Kalispel, Montana, where William operated a blacksmith shop. Adam was born on May 22, 1897, but lost his mother at the time of his birth. He and his two older brothers, Adolph and Charlie, were placed in foster care with their grandparents. Their grandparents were Karl and Emilia Maur who emigrated to Canada in 1894. The Maurs settled in the Strathcona district where a German Colony was established on the former Rapaschase Reserve.

In this area Adam was raised from infancy by his grandparents. Adam was baptized and confirmed in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church. He also received his education while living in this district. The Jeck brothers came to the New Sarepta district with their grandparents in 1909. Karl Maur filed his homestead on NW 4-50-22-W4. This farmyard is still intact where the railroad passed right by the farm house.

On this homestead Adam lived with his grandparents until he became of age to get established on his own. During this time Adam's social activities were centered around the Moravian Church, where he was a member of the Church Band.

On January 10, 1918, Adam Jeck and Emma Diewert were united in marriage at the Moravian Church. Emma was the third youngest daughter of Ludwig and Emilia Diewert, born on February 29, 1902. Adam and Emma established their farm home on NW 28-49-21-W4. This quarter section had been filed as a homestead by his brother-in-law, Jack Diewert who was operating a business in Hay Lakes



Adam and Emma Jack, their children and spouses — 1958.

when Adam took possession of the farm. The Adam Jeck's farming operation was interrupted when Adam was called to military service on May 28, 1918. However his stay at the Victoria Barracks in Calgary was of short duration. This resulted from an exemption of military duties that was negotiated by Bishop Hayler for all Moravians living in Canada.

Following his discharge from the military service, Adam and Emma Jeck established their farming operations in the Sulitjelma district. Adam started his farming operation by investing in a Rumely tractor and breaking plow. He shared this investment with his brother-in-law Emil Diewert. They provided the first custom land breaking for the district but their profits failed to meet the cost of the investment. Following the death of Adam's grandfather in 1919, his grandmother Mrs. Maur came to live with the Adam Jecks until her passing on November 21, 1922.

Adam and Emma Jeck remained as active members of the New Sarepta Moravian Church until 1927 when they dropped their membership. Part of their family attended classes in the Sulitjelma School. The Jecks established a warm neighbourly relationship

with the Scandinavian families in the Sulitjelma district over the fourteen years they farmed there.

In the winter of 1932, the Adam Jeck family sold their property and moved to the State of Washington. This family is presently operating a successful industry near Seattle, Washington. The industry was the result of an investment they made on some property that contains a rich lime deposit. The lime deposit is now being processed for fertilizer and other by products which has become their family enterprise.

Adam and Emma Jeck are now retired and celebrated their Sixtieth Wedding anniversary on January 16, 1978. Adam had his speech impaired as the result of a stroke he suffered some years ago. He had difficulty in communicating with his long time friends when the Jecks made their last visit to Hay Lakes. However, his warm handshakes expressed his emotional feelings.

John Adam Jeck — known as Adam; born May 22, 1897, in Kalispel, Montana. His grandparents Karl and Emilia Mawer raised him.

He married Emma Diewert on January 16, 1918.

They had ten children. Seven were born in Hay Lakes, Alberta.

Clarence — April 10, 1919.

Mabel — December 20, 1920.

Ervin — February 6, 1922.

Selma — September 28, 1923.

Roy — February 12, 1925.

Leslie — August 13, 1926.

James — September 28, 1928.

Two were born in Kennewick, Washington:

Lorraine — April 17, 1932.

Evelyn — June 20, 1934.

Born in Arlington, Washington was:

Rosemary — January 29, 1943.

In 1932 the family moved to Kennewick, Washington where they farmed.

In 1937 they moved to Arlington, Washington, where Adam started his business with a small lime quarry on the farm.

In 1946 Adam with his five sons opened the limestone plant in Seattle: J. A. Jeck and Sons Inc.

The company purchased a lime quarry on the island of Texada in British Columbia: Imperial Limestone Ltd. The limestone is brought to their plant in Seattle by barge.

The business prospered and they built a newer and much larger plant in 1966. (The plant is still expanding.)

Adam had a stroke October 5, 1963. He spent his last years in a rest home, before passing away on April 20, 1981.

Emma Diewert, born February 28, 1902, was the daughter of Ludwig and Amelia Diewert. She was one of thirteen children. She is still residing in Seattle.

The Children of John Adam Jeck.

Clarence married Aileen, January 14, 1950. Two adopted children — Marvin, Sara Hopper. Three grandchildren.

Mabel married George Swanson, Jan. 5, 1942. Four children — Carol Whipple, Rita Smith, Evelyn Killough, Judy Dailing. Twelve grandchildren.

Erven married Etta May, December 13, 1965. Four children — Janet, John, David, Nancy. Eleven grandchildren.

Selma married Ray Beller — Jan. 6, 1946. Two children — Dick, Tom. Four grandchildren.

Roy married Maxine — Jan. 14, 1950. Three sons — Gary, Randy, Dennis, one adopted daughter — Angela. Two grandchildren.

Leslie married Dorothy — July 2, 1956. Three children — David, Robert, John. Three grandchildren.

James married Darla — Jan. 3, 1956. Two children — Sharon McAllister, Linda Liebich. Four grandchildren.

Lorraine Peters (divorced). Four children — David, Philip, Janet, Dan.

Evelyn married Bill Lovett — Aug. 23, 1958. Three children — James, Kathy Fataftah, Micheal.

Rosemary married Phil Walden — Jan. 8, 1966. Four children — Diane, Marcy, Julie, Mathew.

Johnson, Jonas Amandus

Jonas Amandus Johnson and his wife, Anna Aqualina came from Wilhilmina, Sweden in 1905 and settled in the Hay Lakes district. To this union were born nine children (one died in infancy).

Mrs. Johnson passed away in 1920. This was a very hard and trying time for Jonas, with all the children still young, but through strength and determination, he managed to keep his family together at home until they married and left to start on their own.

In those early days times were hard, but the neighbors were very close and with their kindness and helping one another they managed.



Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Amandus Johnson.

In 1953, he sold his farm and moved to Camrose where he and his daughter, Thora, lived until his passing in 1966. Thora had been stricken with polio at the age of nine months and spent all her life in a wheelchair; she spent two years (1924-1925) in the Red Cross Hospital in Calgary. Although she could not walk she started sewing. She also did all her own baking and cleaning of the house until her passing in 1969.

Thor married Molester Hovelson and they farmed in the East Hay Lake district. They had four children, Arlo, Carol Worden, Opal Heller and Warren (deceased). They now reside in Vernon, British Columbia.

Sture married Mabel Sware and they farmed in the East Hay Lake district. They had three children, Ardes Johnson, Doreen Bergstrom and Ernest. Sture passed away in 1966.

The twins, Anna and Lillie, both married. Anna married Algot Eliason and they live in Camrose. Lillie married Magnus Broen and they had three children, Lloyd, Ann and Lila. They now live in Vernon, British Columbia.



Amandus Johnson Family on his 85th birthday. Back Row: Agnes, Annie, Helga, Amandus, Sture and Thor. Front Row: Thora, Alma, Myrtle and Lillie.

Myrtle married Hjalmer Sware and they had four children, Janice Tollefson, Herbert, Roger, and Barbara Hovelson. They now live in Camrose.

Alma married Conrad Odegard and they had two boys, Blayn and Bernell. They resided in Camrose, and Alma passed away in 1979.

Agnes married Albin Palm and lives on a farm in the East Hay Lakes district. They have two daughters, Eunice Dedels and Diana Coykendall.

Knull, Richard **by Inet Knull**

Richard was born in Edmonton, Alberta on January 14, 1939 and was the first son of Edward and Leah Knull of the Joseph Lake area. He obtained most of

his education in New Sarepta. Richard bought the farm from Amandus Johnson in 1958. In November 1968, Richard married Inet Johnson daughter of Alhard and Bernese Johnson of the Brandland area. Richard farmed and operated heavy equipment for eighteen years. The last few years we have been strictly farming with a hog and a cow-calf operation.

We have two sons, Roger — age nine and Lloyd — age five. Both boys are involved in the Scout movement. Richard has also been involved as a Beaver Leader and a helper for Cubs. Richard is a member of the Hay Lakes Fire Department and also is on the Wilhelmina Church Council. We both have been involved in the Hay Lakes Home and School as Membership Chairmen.

Krol, Rae and Kathleyn **by Kathleyn Krol**

Our story in the Hay Lakes community started in August 1978 when we purchased the Richard Pearson farm. Before that our home was near South Cooking Lake on rolling land now developed into Hillside Park subdivision.

Rae grew up in Winnipeg and Toronto. Ever since he was a small boy the country, horses and art have been his interests. His father, Franz, was a skilled craftsman from the small Austrian village of Berndorf. His mother, Pauline, was from a German family. Franz emigrated to Canada in 1925. He was musically gifted but earned his living over the years as a silversmith. As a family business existed in the home, Pauline as responsible for all the final polishing and marketing of the works of art. Besides raising two children, Elizabeth and Rae, she had numerous interests and a large correspondence with the family in Europe and friends here.

Rae has been involved in the advertising and commercial art business both in Toronto and Edmonton. By 1957 he was well on his way to owning the largest advertising production house in Western Canada. He bought his first land near South Cooking Lake and quickly purchased horses at that time. Since then these graceful non-working boarders have kept Rae hustling to keep the oat bin filled.

I was born and raised on a mixed farm in the Yorkville school district near Fort Saskatchewan. I am the second in a family of four girls and one boy. My family roots, both paternal and maternal, have been in the soil. My dad, James Armstrong, was born in 1882 in Sherbrooke, Quebec. He and his identical twin brother, Bill, homesteaded in the Vermilion area in 1906. In 1917 Daddy moved back to the Fort where his father, George, and four other brothers, Guy, Elmer, Jack and Bert had settled in the early 1900's.



Kathleyn and Rae Krol.

My mother, Margaret (nee McDonell) Armstrong still farms at age 75. She comes from a large family, being the oldest of five girls and four boys. Her father, Angus McDonell, came from Glengarry County in Ontario and homesteaded in Glengarry School district north of St. Albert in 1894. My mother loves the outdoors and at an early age drove her own team doing field work. Snapshots show her expertly managing an eight-horse team. She and Daddy were married in 1937. True to her nature and the needs of the farm, she worked actively at all farming activities. When my father died in 1951 Mother continued farming three quarters and raised five children from ages three to thirteen.

My interest in farming is strictly as an observer . . . of nature and human nature. Shovelling grain and cleaning chicken houses ceased being fun for me about age ten. Rae, however, still loves the land and has a wonderful rapport with animals, especially horses. We will not earn our living here but the farm will provide a great environment in which we can pursue our art publishing business. "The Homestead" as we have named the Pearson farm has all the aspects of our 'dream farm' . . . the seclusion of a dead-end road, a winding driveway, a traditional farm house, red hip-roof barns, water and picturesque rolling land. A farm with a history. A place and community in which our own country-oriented emotional roots can flourish.

Lindberg, Nels and Eva and Family by Inez (Lindberg) Watkins

My father Nels Solomon Lindberg, together with his wife Eva (my mother) and three children, Louise, Ruth and John, arrived in Canada in (1904) from

Sweden. Father learned of this district from an earlier immigrant and relative, E. P. Nordin and also from Gust Edwald, whose wife was a sister of our mother. After filing on their homesteads they built their log homes and being thrifty Swedes, even used pegs instead of nails. To start with, Mr. Nordin and my father owned one oxen apiece. Father would lead the oxen to our farm with his family on a stoneboat, then they would pool both oxen, hitch them to a wagon or sleigh for the trip to town for groceries and mail.

As time passed they got some land cleared, and planted grain and vegetables. Later they acquired some horses and a buggy. Even though there were no cars, they were not immune from accidents. My Uncle, Gust Edwald's brother Ante Carlson, was driving my Aunt Julia, her baby and Mrs. Nordin to Camrose by horses and buggy. He stopped along the way (for the trip was long), and as he was returning to the rig the horses became startled and ran away. Mrs. Edwald threw her baby into the bushes at the side of the road, and both my aunt and Mrs. Nordin jumped. Mrs. Edwald broke her leg and was taken to the hospital. When my Uncle came to pick her up a week later, he was shocked to learn she had suddenly passed away. The baby in the bushes survived and



Helen and Edith Lindberg at homestead at Enilda.



Nels Soloman Lindberg and wife Eva. Standing, L. to R.: John, Thorsten, Louise, Ruth, Inez (in front) on Eva's lap, Edith. Missing are Helen and Irene.

was raised by the Kringen family at Armena. She married Tony Broen (now deceased) and now lives in Camrose near her three married sons.

As their worldly possessions grew, so did their families. The pioneer women worked very hard. All the clothes for the family were sewn by hand, and the wool from the sheep was washed, carded, spun and knit into sweaters, socks and mitts.

Our family now numbered eight children, so in 1918 our Dad built a new big house. Although pregnant, our mother worked very hard, painting and varnishing the new house and looked so forward to moving in. Tragically before this happened she passed away from a heart attack in childbirth, so the first function in our new home was our mother's funeral. In the spring the Asian "flu" hit and many died. Although we all contracted it, our widowed father and eight children managed to survive.

As we grew up we had many good friends, the young people from the Amandus Johnson family and the various Sware's families, Lofgrens and others. We were poor, but we had some good times and we were resourceful. I recall one summer, we walked and carried pieces of lumber we managed to scrounge to Miquelon Lake where we built an out-

door platform and used it on which to play music and dance.

My father sold the farm at Hay Lakes to Louise and her husband George Webster in 1924. A few years later he took up homesteading again at Enilda in the Peace River country together with his two sons and his daughters. These years were not without heartache as our sister Helen drowned in 1931 at the age of seventeen years.

Nels Solomon Lindberg passed away from cancer on February 10, 1940. Born in 1901 in Sweden, Ruth (Lindberg) Pledge died in 1962, aged sixty-one years. Irene (Lindberg) Lee was born on February 10, 1916 and died on October 17, 1967. John Lindberg was born on September 20, 1903 and died on September 23, 1971. Thorsten Lindberg was born on April 28, 1905 and died on July 29, 1976. Louise (Lindberg) Webster was born on June 22, 1899 and passed away on April 6, 1977.

Although there are many in the second and third generations, the only two remaining members of the original Lindberg family are myself, Inez Watkins of Penticton, British Columbia and Edith Helland of Cranbrook, British Columbia.

Lofgren, Johan Natanael and Family by Dagne (Lofgren) Lyseng

The Johan Natanael Lofgren family arrived in Canada from SiksJones, Westerbotten District, Sweden in 1909 with two children, myself Dagne, three years old and an infant, Erik. We travelled as far as Wetaskiwin by train, and there the weary travellers were met by a bachelor named Berlund, and the rest of the trip was with horses, and a lumber wagon. This was a long rough journey with two small children to what was then known as Lundemo. We stayed with the Magnus Lindberg family and later with the Oscar Swanlunds, until a log cabin was built on the farmstead, the east half of SE 16-49-21-W4.

The first beasts of burden on this homestead were three oxen, with these animals and a walking plow, a garden and potato patch were broke up in 1910. When the oxen got tired they would lie down and chew their cud, and no amount of coaxing would get them mobile again until they were good and ready. Prairie chickens were plentiful in those early days; there was a lot of dark meat on their breasts and when ground up it made delicious Swedish Meat Balls. Wild berries were abundant as well as fish in the local lakes. The Lord was good and we fared very well.



J. N. Lofgren Family — 1921. Back Row, L. to R.: Ina, Edelena (mother), Dagne, Erik. Front Row, L. to R.: Hedvig, Verna. Seated: John (father) holding Hattie, Gus and John.

The family grew in numbers and more land was purchased and eventually a larger house was built.

In 1944, the folks retired to a home in the village of Hay Lakes. The home farm was purchased by their son, John, who is still the present owner. The folks also owned a cottage at Pigeon Lake where they enjoyed their summers for many years.

I married Martin Lyseng and we lived on the Erik

Lyseng farm, Armena, until 1972 when we retired and moved to Camrose. We had five children, Everald, Barbara, Marylin, Diane and Malcolm. Everald married the former Jean Dahl, and they have three children, Daryl, Perry and Gaylene. Barbara married Ron Waite and they had one son Derek. Barbara passed away in 1968. Diane married R.C.M.P. Sargeant Marvin Sheperd, and they have two sons, Bob and Barry. Marylin passed away in 1949 at the age of ten years. Malcolm married Lynn McFarland. They, together with their two sons, John and Andrew presently farm the original Erik Lyseng homestead.

My husband, Martin Lyseng, passed away in 1980.

Lofgren, Johan Natanael and Family by Hattie (Lofgren) Ramsey

I was the youngest of eight children born to John and Edelina Lofgren. “The baby”, I was teasingly called. As a child, I used to sit on Dad’s lap and he would tell me about all the hardships of leaving Sweden and all his friends and his coming to Canada, the drudgery of clearing land, with no money, having only a dream and a strong back. I believe, where they lived, ditches had to be dug to drain the land for planting. To start with they used oxen to pull out the tree roots and plow the soil. Our mother didn’t have any way to wash clothes, so Dad dug a big hole in the creek that ran behind our machine shed, and put a log for Mother to lean over and do her wash, and then rinse them as the creek flowed, always getting clean water. In the spring she would wash all the bedding and rugs after winter use. When I was three years old, I fell in when no one was around. I had on my white Sunday dress, for we had company. My brother John and Ivar, a cousin, happened to come by and saw this white thing in the water, and fished me out with a pole. I remember it well, for I was so frightened and upset about ruining my new white dress.

When I was about eight years old I recall a very severe hail storm. We had a very good crop of wheat and vegetables coming that year, and things were looking up. I saw Dad anxiously watching the sky as it darkened. Mother hurriedly put a big tub over her precious peony flowers and weighted it down with large rocks. The storm was terrible, huge hailstones pounded the windows as we held quilts to them to cushion the beating. After the storm, Mother and Dad sat on the veranda looking at all the destruction — no crop, no garden, even the leaves on the trees were gone! Dad felt totally whipped as he held his head with his hands. Mother lifted the tub off her peonies, and there they were perfect and blooming, and she said, “but we have our flowers,” and they both laughed. During the depression we were very

poor and I remember we roasted frozen wheat and ground it for coffee.

I also have recollections of driving to school in a bobsleigh and driving on top of drifts so high that we could touch the telephone wires. Leslie Webster was the driver and picked up all the kids along the line who attended Sulitjelma School. We had many good times at the skating rink located at the Lars Grue farm.

Our Dad, along with E. P. Nordin, donated land on which the first church was built in the Sulitjelma district. He was also one of the main ones to organize this venture. The church was used originally by two congregations, the Lutherans, and the Swan Hills Church Society later called the Christian Church and Benevolence Society Branch in Hay Lakes. The church was later purchased solely by the Lutherans and moved to a new location. This St. Joseph Lutheran church is still in use today.



John and Edelina Lofgren — 1955.

The two oldest sons, Erik and John, operated the McCormick Deering Farm Implement and Imperial Oil Agency in Hay Lakes. Erik married Mildred McLean, and they had three children; Ireta, Richard and Allen. Erik is now deceased. John married Freida Schlender and they had six children, Joanne, Eddie, Don, Jane, Kenneth and Terry. Kenneth passed away as a baby. John took over the family farm in 1944. He is now retired and lives in Edmonton, and the land is rented by his son-in-law. Gus operated a farm implement business at Wainwright, Alberta until his death in 1944. Dagne married Mar-

tin Lyseng. Ina was a teacher in the Swan Hills District and New Sarepta and also in New Norway. She married Fred Djuve and they farmed the old Djuve homestead at New Norway, later retiring to Camrose. Their family included three children, Dorothy, Jim and Gloria. Fred is deceased. Hedvig was also a teacher serving in Edberg and other schools in the province. She married Walfred Swanson and they farmed the old Swanson farm at Edberg, later moving to Camrose, and they have two sons, Lorne and Wayne. Verna married Eddie Lindberg of Kingman. Eddie taught school in the Sulitjelma district, also in Round Hill and several other schools in Alberta and British Columbia. They retired to Victoria, British Columbia. They have three sons, Dexter of San Francisco, Perry in Lethbridge and Fred in Edmonton. I married Gordon Ramsey from New Norway, and during the war we moved to Ontario where we both worked in an aircraft factory. We have three children, Coral Lee of Washington, District of Columbia, Penny at Pompano Beach, Florida, and John in Rochester, New York. We are now retired and make our home at Fishers, New York.

Johan Lofgren was born in SiksJones, Vesterbotten, Sweden on July seventeenth, 1877, he passed away on September twelfth, 1955, aged seventy-eight years. Edelina (Wiberg) Lofgren was born in Osele, Sweden, on July second, 1885. She passed away on January twenty-sixth, 1967 at the age of eighty-one.

Lofgren, John and Frieda

John Alexis Lofgren was born April 2, 1912 in a log house on a Hay Lakes homestead, the second son of Edelina and John N. Lofgren. The day before he was born was sunny and warm. His mother had spent the day raking leaves and straightening the homestead building site.

Most days on a homestead were busy with work, but occasionally there were diversions that led to interesting memories. One day a group of Indians with horses pulling Red-river carts came close to the log house. John can still remember the loud squeal of the cart wheels, and the attempt at communication and property protection by his Swedish speaking father. Another interesting adventure was a train trip with his parents to Edmonton when John was about four years old. John can remember that the train had to back into the South Edmonton station. The family paid fifty cents for a night's lodging plus breakfast in a rooming-house. His father took him to see the original Fort Edmonton. On the way they saw scaffolds and signs of construction around the Legislative Buildings. The Fort fence was white-washed, and the Fort buildings were being used as a warehouse for the

newer store downtown. John remembers the gates opening to let a large dray team out, meanwhile revealing the "big house" inside. He says the present reconstructed Fort Edmonton is accurate according to his memory.

By 1918 John's parents and Nils Lindberg had bought SW15-49-21W4 which they divided into two eighty-acre parcels. They then built a new house on higher ground across the road from the homestead site. Shortly after moving into the new house the parents went to visit neighbours for an afternoon, leaving the eldest daughter, Dagne, in charge. Like all six-year-olds, John resented his older sister's orders and retaliated by throwing a shoe. When the parents returned, they had to replace the window in their new house. John felt sorry for the work and the expense he caused his father, but felt it really wasn't all his fault because, "Dagne ducked".

After attending school at Sulitjelma, John and his older brother, Eric, came into the work force just as the depression years were beginning. The first job they found away from the farm was at Pearson's lumber camp during the winters of 1931-32. They received a dollar a day, or twenty-six dollars a month. Because cash was short they took half the value of their wages in lumber. The lumber was then used to build the barn which is still standing on the Lofgren farm. John used his artistic talents to paint the white horse head on the loft door.

In 1933-34 Eric and John earned their livings by custom-brushing and breaking land, and custom-chopping and milling with a feed mill. In 1934 they bought Herman Lechelt's business in Hay Lakes which included an International Harvester dealership, Imperial Oil Agency and a light plant for the town's electrical power. By 1936 they had to purchase a truck to bring fuel from Calgary for the Imperial Oil Agency. The purchase of a truck at this time became a lucky break. Prior to 1936 barley was selling for ten cents a bushel. After 1936, the markets opened and barley prices soared to a dollar a bushel. Trucks hauled day and night to make up carloads of barley. The Lofgren Brothers charged three cents a bushel to haul grain. By 1939 they had four trucks. They then bought a garage on Main Street from Herman Selin to store and service their trucks.

On July 28, 1938 John married Frieda Schlender. She was born on a homestead by Looma, the second child and eldest daughter of Ed and Olga Schlender. When Frieda was very young the family moved to Hay Lakes. Frieda took all her schooling in Hay Lakes.

In 1940-41, John and family moved to Wainwright, Alberta to handle a White Rose and International Harvester Dealership for his younger brother



John and Freida Lofgren with grandchildren Nadine and Steven Feduk.

Gus. During an illness, however, when it became obvious that Gus would never get well, the agencies were closed down, and they returned to Hay Lakes.

In 1943 John sold his share of Lofgren Bros., Hay Lakes to his older brother, Eric. On April 15, 1943 John and family took over his parents farm upon their retirement. His father's hired man, Dick Peterson, stayed on the farm for the first years to allow John to continue trucking. John gradually dropped the trucking chores as the farm became the main source of income.

Between 1955-1962, John became the Imperial Oil Agent for Hay Lakes, handling bulk fuels and oil.

In 1967 Frieda and John bought a house in Edmonton. Frieda went to work for Edmonton Telephones where she is still employed. John continued to farm for another ten years. In 1977 he rented the farm to his son-in-law. John still returns to the farm home often to work on his many hobbies and to help with the farm work during the busy seasons. In 1980 he was very honored to receive a certificate from Wilhelmina Church for still farming the original family homestead.

John and Frieda Lofgren have five children. The eldest, Joanne married Clarence A. Huebner of Hay Lakes. They farm their own land, and also rent John's farm. They have two children, Claranne and Darren.

The eldest son, Ed married Betty Krausert. They live in Camrose where Betty works for Alberta Fish and Wildlife. Ed commutes to Edmonton where he is an Auto Body Instructor at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. They have two sons, Lindsay and Shawn.

Don lives in Rimbey where he works for Alberta Government Parks and Recreation.

Jane married Phil Feduk. They are presently living on Vancouver Island. They have two children, Steven and Nadine.

Theresa (Terry) lives at home. She is presently enrolled in the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta.

Louden, Horace and Emily

Horace and Emily moved into the Hay Lakes district (NE 23-49-21-W4) in November, 1969, from Edmonton, Alberta. They are both originally from the Onoway area. They bought the farm from Allan and Emily Sware near Miquelon Lake. They were married in 1967. Emily's maiden name was Dubovsky. Her parents immigrated from Czechoslovakia. Horace's parents were from Big Valley, Alberta.

As well as farming, Horace commutes to Edmonton where he has been driving a bus for the Edmonton Transit System for fourteen years. They have two children: a boy, Lorne who is eight years old, and a girl, Tracy, who is six. They belong to the St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church where Emily is involved in the Youth Group and has taught Catechism. Emily is vice-president of the Home and School Association in Hay Lakes. Horace is president of the Gymkhana Club. The family is also involved with Cubs, Minor Hockey, the Figure Skating Club and other community activities.

Matson, Edward and Alida

Edward Matson was born on March 10, 1879 in Voxna, Halsingland, Sweden. As an adult he worked in the forests near there cutting lumber. In 1906 he married Alida Trogen, (who was born in Grufbyn, Halsingland on February 4, 1881).

In 1909 they, with their young son, Alex, who was one and a half years old and their baby daughter, Elsie, emigrated to North America. They sailed on the ship "Baltic" and landed in New York and then made their way to Illinois where they lived for about a year. In 1910 they moved to the Hay Lakes area and settled on a homestead six miles east of Hay Lakes on Section 14.

On the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, only forty acres were high land — the rest was under water, so many long hours were devoted to draining the water with a horse-drawn scraper. The family built a log house, but until it was finished they lived with neighbors.

Five more children were born to Edward and Alida: Alvie, Fjolke, Sidney and twins, Hannah and Dorothy.

The children attended Sulitjelma School which was two miles west and two miles north of their farm. The school had one room with about twenty-five to thirty students. Another room was later built on.



Edward and Elida Matson.

Alex remembers the teachers named Miss Lawler, a lady originally from England, and Mr. J. W. Morrison. The family attended the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.

Edward retired from farming in 1940 and in 1956 he and Alida moved into the Wetaskiwin Home for the Aged. Edward died there on July 2, 1956 at the age of seventy-seven years. Alida lived at the Home until her death on May 9, 1960 at the age of seventy-nine years.



Matson Family — 1962. L. to R.: Hannah, Alex, Dorothy, Fjolke, Elsie, Sidney and Alvie.

Family of Edward and Alida Matson

Alex: Born June 3, 1908 in Sweden. Farmed in the area till retirement. Currently living in the Hardisty Nursing Home, Edmonton, Alberta.

Elsie: Born March 23, 1909 in Sweden. Married Lorne Lee in 1938 and lived in the Tofield area. Had two daughters, Noreen and Lorraine. Currently living in Edmonton, Alberta.

Alvie: Born February 9, 1911 in Hay Lakes. Married Albert Selin, Aug. 18, 1934 and lived in Hay Lakes area. Had three daughters, Marilyn, Velma and Barbara. Died on November 13, 1962.

Fjolke: Born in 1912 in Hay Lakes. Moved to British Columbia where he married and raised a son and a daughter, Ron, and Linda. Died in December 1975.

Sidney: Information is supplied by his wife, Agnes.

Hannah: Born November 17, 1915 in Hay Lakes. Married James Wyllie on August 15, 1940 and lived in Bon Accord and then moved to Edmonton where they lived for many years. Had two daughters and one son, Eileen, Dorothy and David. Died in November, 1969.

Dorothy: Born November 17, 1915. Married John Ruis in 1940 and lived in the Bon Accord area. Had one daughter and two sons, RoseMarie, Edward and Anthony. Died July 1979.

Millar, Agda (Sware)

Agda, born on May 17, 1906 and being the eldest girl, was often called upon to take charge. It was Agda and her older brothers who helped their father look after their family of ten while their mother lay ill following complications from the birth of the tenth child. Agda attended school, baked bread, washed clothes and tried to keep house. Times were tough, but because the family worked as a unit, the chores got done.

Agda completed Grades one through ten at Sulitjelma School. She then remained at home helping the family until her marriage to Fred Miller on October 30, 1928.

Agda and Fred settled on NW 22-49-21-W4, which was the old Miller homestead. They had four children: Harold (July 10, 1931), Arlene (November 11, 1934 to April 22, 1948), Rodney (June 19, 1939) and Dianne (March 27, 1944).

Harold married Shirley Haugen of Tofield on February seventh, 1959. Harold and Shirley reside on the home place where Harold continues to farm. Shirley is a Registered Nurse and is currently working at the Rosehaven Care Center in Camrose. They have five children: Fred (December 2, 1959), Ilene



Fred Miller Family — 1947. L. to R.: Agda, Fred, Harold, Arlene, Dianne and Rodney in front.

(December 13, 1960), Cathy (May 30, 1963), Kevin (December 13, 1965) and Linda (May 20, 1971).

Fred is currently attending NAIT where he is studying to be a Heavy Duty Mechanic. Ilene is in her third year at the University of Alberta, studying to be a teacher. Cathy is in her first year at the Royal Alexandra School of Nursing. Kevin is in his first year of High School at Hay Lakes and continues to be very sports-minded. Linda is in Grade five at Hay Lakes.

Arlene was known for her good-natured ways and enjoyed singing. She was especially talented when it came to looking after small children. Although her life was short, she managed to fill it to the brim with activities ranging from work at home to Sunday School and Luther League. She died following an operation with complications.

Rodney married Vera Busenius of Hay Lakes on April 27, 1962. He graduated from Hay Lakes School and received his degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and worked his way to the title of Major. Since this job required periodic transfer, Rodney and his family lived in places such as Winnipeg, Toronto, Grande Prairie, Chilliwack, and Ottawa. Finally, he decided that a more permanent home would be better for his children. By negotiating with the government and the Air Force, he was able to retain his pension benefits and to secure a



Fred Miller, Dianne and Rodney.

permanent job as Regional Chief of Facilities Planning of Western Penitentiaries. Rodney and Vera now reside in Saskatoon. They have two children: Shelley (December 31, 1962) and Steven (June 8, 1967).

Shelley graduated from High School and is currently working as a secretary. Steven is in Grade nine.

Dianne married Norman Schultz of Bashaw on October 25, 1969. Dianne graduated from the Hay Lakes School and obtained her degree from the Royal Alexandra School of Nursing in 1966. Norman farms near Bashaw and hauls milk within the district. Dianne has worked as Director of Nursing for the Bashaw General Hospital for a number of years. Dianne and Norman live in Bashaw. They have three children: Robert (January 5, 1972), Sandra (May 13, 1974), and Scott (February 19, 1981).

Adga's husband, Fred, died on June 30, 1950. Adga continued farming with her son, Harold, until he married in 1959. Since then, she has been retired

and Harold has managed the farm. She continues to live in the original Miller house and keeps busy with weaving, spinning, knitting, quilting, and other hobbies.

Miller, Charles and Family

Mr. Charles Miller and two sons Edward and Charlie came to Canada from Elizabeth, New Jersey in 1904.

They took up homesteads on NW 22-49-21-W4 and NE 22-49-21-W4 and SW 22-49-21-W4.

After that they went to Edmonton to see about starting a bakery. Charles was a baker and had brought along his equipment. He got a place on Kimistina Avenue and started his breadbaking. His two sons delivered the bread with a horse and buggy. In 1906, his wife and three sons Fred, George and



Charlie Miller's first log cabin 1904.

Joe, also two daughters Louise and Nellie came from U.S.A. and settled on the farm in a little log house.

After four years Charlie Miller sold his bakery and moved to the farm. The oldest son got married and lived in Edmonton, later moving back to Elizabeth, New Jersey. In 1908, a school was to be built, Charles Miller donated an acre of land on NW 22-49-21-W4 for the building site. After the boys got started farming, Charles Miller bought potato-planting and potato-picking machinery for growing potatoes and vegetables. They built a big root house to keep the vegetables in and sold their produce to the stores during the winter. Louise, the oldest girl, went to a job in Edmonton. Nellie, the youngest girl, had a heart condition so they had to buy her a Shetland pony and cart to ride to school in. In 1916 they built a new house. This house is still in use.

Mrs. Miller was badly crippled with arthritis and spent a lot of time in a Calgary sanatorium.

In 1920, Charles and his wife made a trip back to Germany and France. They brought back one niece

and three nephews from their war-torn homes and gave them a chance to get started here in Canada. The year following their trip Mrs. Miller passed away. Louise came from Edmonton to help the family until 1926 when she took her sister Nellie to Seattle for doctoring. Nellie passed away in the late fall of 1926, but Louise got married and remained in Seattle.



Nellie Miller with her Shetland pony and cart used to go to school.

George Miller went to Seattle in 1921, got married and made his home there too. Joe Miller got married in 1925 and built his home on his own place. Fred bought his dad's quarter and farmed together with his brother Ed who had a farm on SW 28 — until the fall of 1928. Fred got married to Agda Sware. Ed sold his farm to H. Grahn and went to Edmonton to work. Charles Miller, their father remained with Fred and Agda until he passed away in December, 1931.

Miller, Harold

Harold Fredrick Miller was born July 10, 1931, and has spent his lifetime on the family farm, taking over when his father died in 1950. He married Shirley Louise Haugen in February, 1959, shortly after she finished her nurse's training. Shirley is the daughter of the late Torger and Helen Haugen of the Tofield district.

Harold and Shirley have five children — Freddy, born December 2, 1960, and presently attending Northern Alberta Institute of Technology — plans to be a heavy duty mechanic.

Ilene, born December 13, 1961, is presently in her third year at the University of Alberta, studying to be a teacher.

Cathy, born May 30, 1963, presently in nurses training at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton.



Harold Miller Family. Back, L. to R.: Fred, Ilene, Kevin, Cathy. Front, L. to R.: Linda, Harold, Shirley.

Kevin, born December 13, 1965, and in Grade ten at school.

Linda, born May 20, 1971, and in Grade five at school. All the children attended Hay Lakes School.

Harold spent several years as Cub leader during the time when Freddy and Kevin were in Cubs. This kept him quite busy since they had meetings every week, and went on several outings, including camping during the summer. He also coached several hockey and baseball teams, which he enjoyed because he liked working with the boys.

One of Ilene's highlights was in 1979 when she won the fourth prize (\$2,500.00 scholarship) in the annual Guideposts Youth Writing Contest. It was exciting for our whole family when the Editor from Guideposts came from New York and visited her personally, at home and at school.



Harold Miller and Alfred Arnston with Cubs at Miquelon Lake.

Since the children are bigger and all at school, Shirley has gone back to part-time nursing in Camrose, but they still continue to farm.

Nordin, Eldon and Margaret submitted by Eldon Nordin

I was the eldest of four children born to Lenart and Jennie Nordin. The first year of my schooling was in Sulitjelma School, which was still in its original location. Mrs. Christine Hudson (now Webster) was my first teacher. The next year, Sulitjelma School was moved to the village of Hay lakes, along with some other country schools, and they were used temporarily until the new large school was built. We were bused to Hay Lakes, and since there were few gravelled roads to start with the going was very rough at times, but our driver, Eric Heubner, always seemed to get through. After finishing school in Hay Lakes, I attended a school in Toronto in 1963, where I took radio and television. I put this knowledge to work after I returned, spending a period with Canadian National.

After our father passed away, I returned to the farm July 1, 1966, to help my mother. In November, 1967, I married Margaret Baker, daughter and only child of Harry and Helen Baker. Margaret was born and raised in Gadsby, Alberta. Later, the Bakers moved to Hay Lakes, where Harry operated the Pool Elevator. Before her marriage, Margaret worked for the Park Davis Drug Company in Edmonton and also the University Hospital. After our marriage, Mother moved to Camrose, and I took over the dairying for five years.

We were blessed with three sons, Cory Howard, born on June 30, 1970; Shane Dean, born on April 15, 1973; and Sterling Eldon, born on December 21, 1979.

In 1971, I went back to my former job at Acklands, Edmonton, a firm that repairs welding equipment. After two and a half years, I joined Gasarc, where I have done similar work for the past seven years. Last August, I went to Dallas, Texas, for Victor Welding Supplies. While there, I toured the enormous Texas Instruments, a firm that manufactures computers and employs seventy-five thousand people.

We attend St. Joseph Lutheran Church. Cory was a former Cub Scout, and now Shane is a member of the Beavers.

In addition to being a homemaker and mother of three lively sons, Margaret does ceramics as a hobby. She, together with five other neighbor ladies, decided they were getting just a little bit "tubby", so they formed a so-called "fat ladies club". They meet



Eldon Nordin Family. L. to R., Back: Eldon holding Sterling, Margaret. Front: Shane, Cory.

once a week and "weigh in", and there the similarity to weight watchers ends. They are not getting too much thinner, but are having a lot of fun.

We are still living on the home farm, the original E. P. Nordin place, S.E. 22-49-21-W4. I have a few cattle, rent out the fields and commute to the city every day to work.

Nordin, Erling by Reidun (Feragen) Nordin

In 1928 Erling decided to go homesteading, so he went to the Peace River country and, after looking around, filed on SE 36-74-16-W5 in the Enilda district. During the next two summers he spent some time on the homestead, building a log cabin to live in and clearing land.

In December, 1930, Erling and I (Reidun Feragen) were married and after a couple days of honeymoon in Edmonton and a Wedding dance in Hay Lakes, we lived with the Nordin family until the next spring.

The hard times were already being felt, but we were very fortunate in many ways. Together with what we had managed to save for our new home and the many gifts received at showers and the wedding dance, we were ready to start our new home. We had

to make do with boxes and crates for cupboards for a while but all in all we did quite well.

In the spring of 1931, with a car load of settlers' effects, we moved to the homestead at Enilda where Erling, his dad, and brother, Bill, had built a nice three-room log house.

We brought four horses, five cows and one calf. We sold the calf in the fall when he was a year and a half old and by the time the freight was paid, we received a cheque for ninety-seven cents. That was quite a letdown especially since we ate moose meat the rest of the winter!

We also brought two sows, two turkey hens, one gobbler and some chickens with us.

Before we had left Hay Lakes cream was worth forty-eight cents a pound in February, and by the time we sold our first can of cream in May it was down to twelve cents a pound. We were buying eggs at five cents a dozen. So hard times were really being felt but we struggled on and never had to go on relief.

We have two sons: Howard, born in April 1933, and Norris, born in May, 1938. In 1950 we adopted two girls, Betty, three years old, and Edna, two years of age.

Howard married Maxine McCue. They have one son, Adrian, and a daughter, Audrey, and they have now taken over the home farm.

Norris married Maureen Cleary, and they have one daughter, Kristen. Norris works for Cominco Mining in Vancouver and Maureen is a legal secretary. They live in Burnaby, British Columbia.

Betty lives in Calgary. Edna is married to David Clelland, and they live in Edmonton.

We are now living in High Prairie, and are enjoying our retirement.

Nordin, Erik and Sigrid

Erik Peter Eliasson Nordin was born in the parish of Dorotea, Sweden, on November 19, 1877. Sigrid Brita Olson, whom he married on September 30, 1903, at Resbach, was born near the place on July 23, 1881. With their first child, Erling, not a year old, they left Sweden to come to the Hay Lakes area in August, 1905, having been drawn to the district by the presence there of friends and relatives who had preceded them.

While choosing a homestead and preparing to settle thereon, they shared the hospitality and home of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Lindberg. During that first winter here, Mr. Nordin and several other district men went to Revelstoke, British Columbia, to hew ties for the Canadian Pacific Railroad, often wading in snow four to five feet deep.

Not until the spring of 1906 could they build a log house on their homestead, SE 22-49-21-W4 (filed on

November 13, 1905, and patented March 25, 1909). Then came land clearing and breaking, using two purchased oxen, a black named Nigger and a red named Jack. These same oxen provided transportation, too; Erling remembers the whole family travelling in their oxen-powered wagon to Oliver Lake to fish.

The outdoor clay oven built by Mr. Nordin was used and valued by many a neighbour, too; sometimes the batches of flatbread were large enough to fill the back of a democrat.

Within a few years, land holdings had been increased by purchases of Canadian Pacific Railroad lands — the north half of NW 15-49-21-W4 and all of NE 15-49-21-W4. Covered with trees useful for log buildings as well as much poplar and willow scrub growth, these lands became productive after years of father-and-sons' hard labour with axe and horse-powered breaking plough.

In 1912, a large hip-roofed barn was added. Being one of the first such barns in the district, it could house at least ten horses and fourteen milch cows. At the time of building, a hay sling and barn-clearing equipment were installed. All the timber was cut and sawn five miles northeast of the farm; Anton Pearson's portable saw-mill was used, and manpower was supplied by neighbours. Studdings were fashioned from six- to eight-inch logs, slabbed on either side.

Just north of their first log house, in 1918 a large six-bedroom frame house, wired for electricity, was erected. The former was moved some three hundred yards away to serve as a granary. Lumber for this new home was obtained from the Breton-Pigeon Lake area, and hauled by horses to the building site. In 1928, a 32-volt plant provided modern lighting for house and barn, a first in the community. This house, a bit altered, still stands, now the residence of grandson, Eldon Nordin and family.



E. P. Nordin family. L. to R.: Elida, Erling, Bill, Rudolph, Adolph, Lennart, Carl, Verner.



E. P. Nordin Family. L. to R., Standing: Adolph, Bill, Rudolph, Elida, Erling, Lennart. Sitting: Verner, Mr. and Mrs. Nordin, Carl.

Sheep provided the wool from which Mrs. Nordin spun, wove, and fashioned many an item for wear and/or household use. Neighbours either gathered at the Nordin home, spinning and weaving, or borrowed the equipment for use in their own homes.

In true pioneer spirit, Mrs. Nordin often had to call upon utmost resources of strength and endurance. In 1922, for example, when husband and older sons were away threshing, the barn caught fire. Mrs. Nordin ran, carrying pail upon pail of water from the well some distance away, and finally succeeded in quelling the blaze.

Mr. Nordin's expertise with the broad-axe was called upon frequently by neighbours and family. In the late 1920's he led in preparing materials for and in building a log house for each of three sons — Erling, Bill, and Rudolph — on their respective homesteads in the High Prairie area.

He also gained a well-earned reputation as a self-taught veterinarian; his services were in demand because the nearest professional veterinary doctor was in Camrose, and horses were the quickest means of transportation. He was known as a good horseman

too; his beautiful, well-cared-for work and driving teams attested to that fact.

Dowsing — witching for water — was a highly-valued talent, especially in pioneer days. Mr. Nordin located many a water source in his own and surrounding districts. This same skill has been inherited by his son, Carl.

An incident exemplifying will-power and self-control occurred after Mr. Nordin's hand became caught in a manure carrier. Ere long one finger became gangrenous. The surgeon lived twenty-five miles and \$15 away, so the patient, instructing his eldest son to hold a freshly sharpened knife firmly in place, struck that knife soundly with a hammer. The offending finger struck the opposite kitchen wall. The clean cut healed well!

The plight of new immigrants was of great concern to both Mr. and Mrs. Nordin. Assistance to them included sacks of flour, a milch cow, and grain.

For a number of years the Nordin family, accompanied by several neighbors, motored to the Whitecourt and Blue Ridge areas to pick cranberries and blueberries. Special berry pickers were made and to

clean them the berries would be rolled on flannelette blankets. Berries were either canned or preserved in stone crocks.

The Nordins spent winters in Vancouver enjoying the warmer climate. During their absence the boys were left to batch and take care of the livestock.

Nine children were born to this hardy couple: two daughters, Hattie who died at the age of three, and Elida, and seven sons: Erling, Wilhelm (Bill), Rudolph, Adolph, Lennart, Carl, and Verner.

Eric Peter Nordin died at home on November 10, 1935, after a long and painful battle with cancer. He had gone to both the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and to Muscatine, Iowa, seeking help for his illness but to no avail. At that time a friend wrote:

The late Mr. Nordin had the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He had for many years been interested in progressive organizations and movements, and was a serious thinker, worn-out doctrines and traditions and superstitions having no place in his scheme of living. He was ever a searcher after truth and the realities of life, and, while a man of few words, was one whose opinions were valued.

Mrs. Nordin, frail and in poor health herself, was his constant nurse and companion. Though she never regained good health, she remained at the helm of farm operations until 1939.

At the age of 57 she learned to drive a car and bought a new 1939 Ford. Roads were often treacherous and one day while driving to Hay Lakes the car slid into the ditch and upset. Undaunted, she had friends right the car and continued her journey.

Her death came on June 27, 1953. Both Erik and Sigrid are buried in the Swan Hill cemetery, east of Hay Lakes village.

Olaf Wilhelm (Bill) Nordin was born on May 15, 1909 at Hay Lakes where he spent his childhood. He attended Sulitjelma school and was quite active with the baseball team.

In 1928, Bill took a homestead at Enilda where he spent the summers and during the winters he worked at Pearson's Lumber Camp at Breton.

In 1937, he married Inez Robinson, granddaughter of the late John P. Nelson of Hay Lakes. He was employed in Yellowknife in 1938 and after returning home in the fall of 1939, Bill and Inez moved to their homestead at Enilda.

In 1978, this couple sold their farm and, after living in High Prairie for a few years, they bought a home in Waskatenau in 1981 where they are now enjoying their retirement.

They have two daughters: Delores married Philip Morris of Stettler, and Penny Lynn is married to Robert Fairweather of Saint John, New Brunswick.

Adolph Nordin was born on November 4, 1912 in

Hay Lakes. In 1930, at the age of eighteen, he went with his father to file on a homestead in the Enilda district. His two older brothers, Erling and Bill, already had homesteads in the area. He lived on his land only during the summer months and in the winter time he worked in a sawmill at Breton, earning \$1.00 a day. He continued going to the homestead in the summer time to clear and break the land. Then, in the spring of 1936, he decided to move to his farm permanently. He had \$70.00 left from his winter wages and with this money he bought a sleigh, wagon, disc and plow at a local sale. The \$70.00 was enough to pay for his purchases.

In 1937 he met a local girl, Christine Bubiak, and they were married on October 25, 1940. They had a family of three children, Ronald born on August 24, 1943, David born on January 10, 1948 and Dianne born on November 24, 1933.

Ron married Gail Broen, a girl from Hay Lakes, and they have two sons, Shawn and Christopher. Dave married Sue Lawrence from High Prairie, and they have one son, David. Both Ron and David live in the Sherwood Park area. Dianne married Darrel Henry from Fairview, and they have one son, Reid, and are presently living in Grande Prairie.

Adolph and Christine lived on their farm until Adolph's death on October 28, 1976.

Nordin, Lennart and Family by Jennie (Hansen) Nordin

On December 6, 1941, Lennart Nordin and I (Jennie Hansen) were married. We settled on the Nordin farm northeast of Hay Lakes. This was during the war years so times were hard, but everyone had the same problems and we all enjoyed community activities, visiting and our Church work.

We farmed with horses and we didn't have a car so we used horses for transportation as well. We had a beautiful pony named Flash. We used to hitch him to the cutter and go as far as Armena to visit friends in the evenings.

Our main source of income was from cattle. We had six milk cows to start with and we sold cream to buy our groceries. We would get \$4.00 or \$5.00 for a five-gallon can of cream. We were lucky to have an ice house to keep our cream cold. Every spring the men would get together and fill it with blocks of ice cut from the lake. It usually lasted until it got cold in the fall as the house was built of logs and well insulated with sawdust.

On the farm, our well water was so hard that we couldn't use it for washing. We'd melt snow in the winter and haul our water from the neighbours in the summertime. I washed clothes by hand so I would get up at 3:30 or 4:00 o'clock in the morning to have it

done before we went out to do chores. I would always bake and iron clothes on the same day as I needed good even heat for both these chores.

In 1942 our first son Eldon was born and in 1944 our first daughter, Joanne, was born. In 1945 we got our first car, a 1937 Pontiac Coupe for which we paid \$300.00.

During this time, we kept increasing our herd of milk cows until we had nineteen head which we still milked by hand. Most of the grain we raised was used for feed.

We didn't have good luck with our grain farming. We hailed out seven years out of fourteen and, of course, the hail insurance was so high in that hail belt that we couldn't afford to take it.

In 1947 our second son Lance was born. By that time Lennart had bought his first tractor, a John Deere D on Steel and we got rid of most of our horses.

In 1951 Lennart and Ken Rotto, one of our neighbours, decided to buy a combine. They bought a John Deere pull-type combine which sure made harvesting easier!



Lennart Nordin Family — 1954. L. to R.: Lennart, Lance, Jennie holding Annette, Joanne and Eldon.

In January of 1952 our youngest daughter, Annette, was born. We also got Calgary Power installed that year. Imagine my delight when I came home from the hospital and Lennart had bought a washing machine, a cream separator and an iron!

In 1958 we decided to try to get water closer to our house. We had to drill one hundred and eighty-five feet down and we got a fairly good soft water well which we then had piped into the house and heated with propane.

In 1963 we started shipping milk. We kept increasing our production and the price kept going up and everything was going great.

Then on December 13, 1965 Lennart passed away very suddenly from a cerebral hemorrhage. That ended our farming career.

I stayed on the farm for almost two years after Lennart died. Lance was taking Grade XII and he would help me with all the work. I had a barn built in the spring of 1967 as the old one collapsed.

In 1967 Annette and I moved to Camrose and I went to work at Rosehaven.

The children are all married now. Eldon married Margaret Baker and they have three sons, Corey, Shane and Sterling. They live on the farm and Eldon works at GasArc Repair in Edmonton. Joanne married Michael Long and they live in St. Albert. Joanne is a legal secretary and Michael works for the Government. Lance married Marge Schut and they have two children, Mark and Lee-Anne. They live in Olds. Marge works for Olds Contracting and Lance for Alberta Opportunity Company. Annette married Jan Nowakowski. They live in Camrose and have one son, Shawn. Annette works for Alberta Government Telephones and Jan manages Radio Shack and has his own band.

Erik and Hanna Paulson

Erik and Hanna Paulson came from Minnesota in 1896 and settled three miles west of Leduc. They cleared the land and farmed there until 1919, when they moved to the Hay Lake district. When they came from the States, they had eight children — Hilda, Emma, Carl, Frank, Nancy, Walter, Rose, and Askel, and also brought Hanna's mother with them. In 1900, Albert was born, making nine in all. None of them are now living.

Askel married Josephine Broen in 1922. To this union four children were born — Ernie, Harvey, Clair and Patricia. Ernie lives in Edson, they had seven children. Harvey had been in Legal until recently when his health forced him off his job; they had three children — Roni, Shelly and Robie. Clair is in Wildwood, they have seven children. Patricia is at the Miquelon Lake Store (Paulson's Store) which Askel and Josephine had run for 25 years until Askel passed away in 1974. Patricia and Dave had four children. Josephine is retired and living in Tofield.

Erik passed away in 1933 and Hanna passed away in 1929.

Pearson, Alvin Lenard by Pearl (Hoath) Pearson (1909-1973)

Mr. Alvin Lenard Pearson was born on July seventh, 1909 at Hay Lakes to Jonas and Selma Pearson at the farm home. He had his schooling at Hay Lakes Sulitjelma district and then he went on to

Olds Agricultural College where he graduated in 1927. He was a Weed Inspector in 1928. In 1929, Alvin and his brother, Henry, joined their father in the lumber business during the winter months and farming during the summer.

Alvin met his future wife in Breton in 1935. Pearl A. Hoath and Alvin were married at Edmonton on May sixteenth, 1938 and went to Breton to live. Alvin worked in the Pearson Brothers Mill in the summer and drove a truck hauling lumber in the winter.

A daughter, Nora Selma, was born to Pearl and Alvin on February sixth, 1939. Milton Alvin was born March twenty-seventh, 1946. Soon after the lumber business began to decline, and in 1953 Alvin moved his family to Burnaby, British Columbia, where he purchased the Blue Haven Motel. In 1959, a son, Robert Anton, was born on April eighth. Alvin sold the Motel in 1967, and then retired. In 1971, he decided to move to Vernon, British Columbia, but the move proved too much for him and he had a stroke a few days later. He was never well again and



Alvin Pearson Family. L. to R.: Milton, Robert, Pearl, Alvin and Nora.

during a visit to Texas to see his daughter and her family in February 1973, he succumbed to a heart attack. He died on February twenty-third, 1973 and was buried in Vernon where his widow Pearl still lives.

Pearson, Henry

I was born in 1905 in a district which later became the Hay Lakes district after the Canadian National Railway came through. I attended the Sulitjelma School, which I believe was built in 1908 and Mrs. Lehane of Leduc was its first teacher. Most of my memories of those early school years centre around the cold winters, walking back and forth to school. Many hardships were experienced in those early pioneering years and Dad's first power on the farm

were two oxen. Later he acquired a horse and when the three animals were hitched together for field work, the horse was on the outside, to be able to make a faster turn around. One experience that Dad had was a run away with the oxen while hitched to a wagon. It seems the flies were very bad, so up went their tails and they headed right for a slough, wagon and all. It must have taken hours to get the outfit back to normal.

In 1916, Dad bought his first car, a Maxwell touring car and travelling to town and visiting neighbours did not become such long and slow travel as with horses or oxen.

In 1923, I attended the Olds School of Agriculture as my future seemed to have been planned to be a farmer. I had acquired a quarter section of land, NW27-49-21-W4. This I paid for entirely by hunting muskrats. Trapping was one way to obtain some cash money. Later on I sold this land to my brother, Sigward, for five dollars.

In 1927, my Dad and Uncle Anton went on a moose hunting trip, west to the Breton district. They learned about a railroad being built from Lacombe to Leduc with the right-of-way passing through some beautiful virgin spruce forest. This area also had some homestead land, which my cousin, Bill Pearson, and myself homesteaded. This then became our future sawmill locations, which we operated in the winter months, returning to the farms at Hay Lakes in the spring. By 1930 I had made my future home in Breton and our lumber operations had become year-round. The first couple of years were good, but in 1929, when Wall Street crumbled the lumber market also fell victim and in the early nineteen thirties lumber was selling for seven dollars a thousand board feet. Most of our men employed in the logging and Saw Mill were boys from the farms, many from the Hay Lakes district and they would take lumber in exchange for work. In 1932, my brother, Alvin and I bought out my Uncle's share and the Company became Pearson and Sons. During the nineteen thirties we had many forest fires and on two occasions lost all our camps, sawmill and most of our standing timber.

In 1937, I married the former Mary Tylosky of Bawlf, who had cooked in our camps, so I knew she was a very good cook. We had one son Harlan.

After the Second World War, lumber became in great demand and the business prospered. In 1948, Dad retired from lumber operations and it became Pearson Brothers Limited. We carried on lumbering until 1953 when between forest fires and heavy logging the timber was about exhausted. By this time I was well rooted to the forest industry, with not much experience in any other form of livelihood. I decided to continue in the lumber business so I moved to

Burns Lake, British Columbia and found many challenging problems in Labour Forestry, as well as taxes that were strange to me having come from Alberta. However, after a few years' struggle, I built up a good operation and had a good relationship with Labour Forestry. I had made some good business connections with lumber wholesalers in the U.S.A., particularly in the New England states.

By this time I had spent some forty years in the lumber business and it was beginning to tax my health, so I sold out and retired. While in the Burns Lake district we enjoyed much sport fishing, this area is called the Lakes District and our sawmills were located on lakes. Fishing became a great pastime for the workmen on their off-shifts. The first two years after retiring, we spent travelling to such places as South America, Australia, New Zealand and other Pacific Islands. In the meantime while looking for a place to retire, Salmon Arm, British Columbia became very appealing for its evergreen mountains and its beautiful Shuswap Lake, so this is where we settled buying a small acreage with an orchard.

My wife, Mary, passed away in 1973. Harlan is

married and has his own home on the acreage. He and his wife, Marlene now look after the business of H. Pearson Holdings Limited. We both enjoy summer homes on the Shuswap Lake where we spend much time in the summer.

I am married again and enjoy golfing with my wife, Adeline at home in Salmon Arm, where I am a member of the Senior Club. We spend a couple of months every winter in Maui where we resume our golfing. The golf clubs are always in our car when we visit other places in British Columbia as well as Alberta.

Persson, Jonas Amandus and Family by Henry Pearson

Manie Persson from Lusksele, Sweden and his wife Selma Persson, the former Selma Solomson of Vilhelmena, arrived in Canada July 1905, and homesteaded N.E. 28-49-21-W4. For the first five months they lived with a bachelor by the name of John Smith on S.E. 28-49-21-W4 where their first son Henry Pearson was born.

The first house was constructed from logs, the



Henry and Adeline Pearson.



Jonas Amandus Persson and his wife Selma.

floor was whip-sawed lumber and hand-planed, window frames and door jams were also hand-sawed and planed. Many of the early settlers went to British Columbia during the winter months to work in logging camps to earn some ready cash. Manie Persson stayed home trapping muskrats and mink for needed money. When Manie Persson applied for the homestead on his land, he walked to Edmonton where the filing office was located. At this time there was no bridge across the Saskatchewan River, so he took the ferry across the river to the Land Titles office. Four years later when he had proved up the land and went up to apply for the Title, he again walked the distance which took him a day and part of the night. This time the High Level bridge was built, so he walked across during the night, arriving at the office in the morning.

Additional children born to Manie and Selma were, Alvin, Lily, Sigward, Jurdis, Alfred, Richard and Jeannette.

The first source of power was two oxen, named King and Gröla. Later a small pony was acquired which was always hitched on the outside to speed up

turning corners when pulling a binder or plow. In 1911 a complete blacksmith set was bought consisting of Anvil, Tap and dies, Vice and Drill for the price of \$25.00 from T. Eaton's mail order. The same year he bought more land which was S.E. 33-49-21-W4 and the east half of N.E. 21-49-21-W4.

Fish was plentiful in the local lakes. Some of the Jackfish that were caught before 1910 measured up to four feet in length. Muskrats were a great source of income. In the fall of 1908, E. P. Nordin and Manie Persson shot three hundred muskrats in one afternoon. They ran out of shot shells, so Manie remained at the lake to skin muskrats while Mr. Nordin walked home to re-load shells. They said their shotgun barrels got hot from excessive firing. Skins sold from ten to eighteen cents per pelt.

From the sale of butter, cream, and some livestock things began to prosper. In 1916 Manie and his brother Anton Persson bought the first cars in the Sulitjelma district. Manie had a 1914 Maxwell, and Anton bought a 1912 Model T. Ford. The Maxwell was a very temperamental car and many trips ended with a team of horses bringing it back home.



The J. A. Pearson Family — 1923. Standing, L. to R.: Sigward, Lily, Jurdis, Henry, Alvin, Alfred. Seated: Mrs. Pearson holding Jeannette, Mr. Pearson holding Richard.

Anton Persson thought it would be a good idea to teach his wife to drive, but she had trouble stopping in the garage as she would always go through the wall. Anton put doors on both ends, and eventually after many trial runs, she would stop at the right place.

In 1917 the Manie Persson's built their new home which still stands in good use today. Most of the lumber for this house was custom-sawed at Anton Persson's saw mill at first Miquelon Lake on Ed Norlander's place. Alfred Pearson was born in this house. The fall of 1918 was the year of the Influenza epidemic, and some of the pioneers passed away. Dad and Lily caught the 'flu, so Henry, thirteen years old, and Alvin, nine years old stacked all the grain which was later stack-threshed by Anton Persson's threshing outfit.

The winter 1919 and 1920 was early and long with the first snow arriving on October 7th. Spring break did not come until May 24th. That spring Fred and Ed Miller were the first to drive their cars. Ed Miller had a Baby-Grand and Fred Miller had a light six-Buick purchased the previous fall, but couldn't drive due to the early winter. Because of the extreme winter many cattle were lost due to lack of forage. Loose hay sold for \$100.00 per rack full, straw was \$25.00 per load. Farmers anticipated high prices due to a shortage of cattle. However, in 1921 the United Farmers of Alberta Government gathered a boat load of cattle for shipment to England. This had to consist of the top choice beef animals. Manie Persson had one steer that qualified for shipment. When the receipt arrived after three months, Mr. Persson owed \$2.00 for his animal as all profits from shipment were eaten up by the freight and other costs.

In 1919 Manie built the first barn constructed from fir lumber shipped from British Columbia. This mill was owned by the United Farmers of Alberta Government. The 1920s were perhaps the most outstanding years because the Perssons ventured out into the lumber and sawmill business in addition to farming. This new venture was entered into with Anton Persson at Breton, Alberta. The lumber business was fairly successful until 1929 when the Wall Street Stock Market crumbled, resulting in ten years of depression.

In 1928 a new Fairbank Morse windmill was erected with the help of Bill Pearson. This was to provide wind-power to pump water for the cattle. A large round wooden tank was used to supply water as there were many days with no wind. Before this, the cattle were herded to the big slough a short distance northwest of the farm for their water.

During the early years the livestock herd, including milk cows, roamed at will on open range from

Joseph Lake, east of Larry Lake, and south of Sixteen Lake. With so much territory to cover there were many evenings when the cattle were not found. Each herd had bells, and the owner could distinguish the herd by the sound of the bells. Cows were milked outdoors so smoke smudges were built to keep the numerous mosquitoes away. Once during a severe lightning storm when milking, a two-year-old steer was struck dead next to a cow Dad was milking. The steer was butchered with help from neighbours, who later discovered that it was covered by liability insurance of Wawanesa.

Half of the land taxes were paid by work on building roads. The farm now consisted of two and a half quarters of land, and many more buildings were added to the farm. Farm products such as oats, hay, beef, potatoes, and horses used for the lumber operation at Breton, were re-paid by lumber delivered to the farm.

The farm was now being operated by Manie's two sons, Sigward and Richard Pearson, as Alvin and Henry had bought out Anton Persson's share in the lumber business in 1933, having no more interest in farming.

In 1943, the farm was sold to Richard and Sigward Pearson, and Manie and Selma Persson moved to Breton that fall. In 1948, Manie sold his third share of the lumber business to Alvin and Henry Pearson.

Alfred Pearson passed away from a drowning accident in Buck Lake in May, 1948. Manie passed away in September 1952, and his wife Selma in May 1958, Alvin in February 1973, and Sigward in December 1973.

Surviving family members are, Henry Pearson of Salmon Arm, British Columbia, Mrs. Lily Ohlen of Kimberley, British Columbia, Mrs. Jeannette Polischuk of Breton, Alberta, Mrs. Jurdis Nacuk of Thorsby, Alberta, and Richard Pearson of Hay Lakes, Alberta.

Pearson, Richard and Family by Richard Pearson

My memories as a boy relate to our fun-times which were different from today because we didn't have toys, electric trains, educational games, etc. Necessity being the mother of invention, we had to create our own play things. We did have pocket knives, so did a lot of whittling, making whistles, toy guns, sling shots, spinning tops, arrows, and even steam engines from wood. Our parents used to let us visit our neighbours' friends, staying overnight and longer during the summer holidays.

I remember going to Pete Hanson's to be with Bert and Carl Eric, which was a memorable adventure. We thought nothing of walking four to eight

miles as this was the normal way of travelling. Bert and Carl had made an underground cave with a concealed trapdoor at ground level leading to the first room. Here we had to say a "password" which would give us entry to a passageway to the main cave. It was dark inside so a small kerosene lamp was lit revealing pictures on the wall. There was a table and chairs and a picture of Dick Tracy, our comic-book hero in those days. They showed a small movie from slides, a small kerosene lamp provided light which projected images on white paper fastened to the wall.

We also made crossbow arrow guns that we used for shooting gophers and predator birds. They were quite powerful, and many arrows would break, so we had to carry a good supply. Our father taught us to travel into unfamiliar places in wooden country, how to determine directions by certain signs, observing land marks, distance travelled by time, and many other things. This made our hikes more interesting, and this knowledge is valuable even today.

Other memories in the district go back to around the 1930s, the dry years. When walking to school, the spring dust storms virtually turned daylight to dusk. The drought and depressed prices for farm products contributed to hard times. There was no such thing as allowances for children, so I would trap weasels for pocket money. This has carried forward to now, and I still enjoy trapping muskrats and beaver. We also hunted ducks and upland game consisting of sharp tail grouse, ruffed grouse and pheasants. As well as providing meat for the table, it was a favorite sport. There was a good relationship among neighbours and we freely hunted on their land in good trust respecting their property.

In 1938, 1939 and 1940 I attended the Vermilion School of Agriculture. This was an excellent course and it provided a good social life with other students from Alberta as well as practical subjects related to Agriculture. Without this course, I would not have had as much interest in farming.

In 1943, my brother Sigward and I bought the farm from our parents, and they moved to Breton. On June 30, 1945 I married Evelyn Esther Webster, sharing together and farming the land in its many good, and some disappointing times. We had two children, Duane Neil born on July 24, 1949 and Diane Patrice, born on May 6, 1951. I well remember 1949 for on August 7th we were hailed out one hundred per cent. We had insurance covering some of the loss, but most of the hay crop was destroyed, so we had to sell half of our livestock herd. We bought hay from Breton, and my brothers who had a Lumber mill there hauled the hay on their trucks. Sigward lived with us and was a great help, doing many things I would not have time for. He worked in the saw mill



Richard Pearson Family — 1959. L. to R.: Diane, Duane, Richard and Evelyn.

at Breton during the winter, returning home in the spring.

Our farming consisted of raising grain, hogs, milk cows and range cattle. In 1955 we installed electricity on the farm through the Armena Rural Electrification Association supplied by Calgary Power, and what a difference that was in convenience. Later we progressed to a Surge milking machine, a great labor saver, however, our introduction to it was rather hectic. The noise of the compressor and the suction of the milk cups just about sent some of the cows into orbit. One cow broke loose and ran out with the milk bucket flinging to and fro, and milk was not the only thing flying around. When it was all over, and incidentally it took twice as long as by hand, we had very little milk. We looked at the not-so-shiny-anymore buckets, and had some misgivings. After three days the cows settled down and we wouldn't change the machine for the cows. Duane and Diane helped with the chores faithfully, allowing me to put in longer hours in the fields.

Our recreation consisted of curling in the Hay Lakes Curling Club, making our winters enjoyable. We also enjoyed dancing at various places, keeping in touch with friends and neighbours in the area. Due to our present ideal location and the weather permit-

ting, we keep in shape by Cross-country skiing. We live at the end of a dead-end road and fortunately can ski north on an old oil-drilling trail to Oliver Lake with its scenic hills and curves through dense brush.

We were involved in many good organizations contributing to good community development, among them the Hay Lakes Boy Scout movement from January 1963 until the end of June 1967. I was Cub Leader, and Evelyn assistant Cub Leader. It was a family venture for Duane served in Scouts, and became a Queen Scout, and Diane was a member of the Girl Guides. It was a great experience, and we will always have fond memories of our time spent in the movement. We are members of the Wilhelmina Lutheran church, which gives meaningful purpose to our lives and Christian fellowship with our friends.

The winter of 1973-74 was an unforgettable one. It was long and extremely cold, with a snowfall of one hundred and ten inches. Our first snow came on October 25th. Most of this melted, but it snowed again in the beginning of November and stayed. From March to April it snowed daily, blowing from the southeast and blocking the roads continually, to the point where the plows gave up on some of the roads. We were blocked solidly for ten days, which made one nervous in case of emergencies. Hay and straw became very scarce toward spring, and was difficult to get at as it was buried in deep snow. Some farmers rented Bombadeers to haul bales from the fields. Our biggest loss was during calving time in the spring. We lost nine head due to the weakened condition of the cows from the severe winter, and the feed lacked nourishment, due to a wet growing season. We had earlier spring grass than usual for the ground wasn't frozen because of the heavy snow cover.



Visiting Burns Lake, B.C. 1965. L. to R.: Richard Pearson, Harlan Pearson (nephew), Duane, Diane and Evelyn Pearson.

In 1977 we sold our farm consisting of one half-section to Clarence Servold. We retained two hundred and thirty acres and moved one half mile to North West 27, where we established a new place and we now reside. We sold our cattle the first part of October 1978 for a good price, but it was rather a sad day for one becomes attached to them, and they were our main bread and butter through thick and thin. Sad too because they are gone forever, but the land still remains.

We chose not to move to town as we cherish the land and its quality of life, and we did not wish to leave our good friends and neighbours in our farming community. We are taking it easier now, rent out some of the remaining land, and farm just a little. We have a lot of time and really enjoy visits from relatives and friends, and especially visits from our children and grandchildren.

Duane now lives on an acreage near Sherwood Park. He is an electrical engineer and works for Jarvis Engineering, Edmonton. He is married to the former Barbara Francoeur of Camrose. They have been married ten and one half years and have four children. Michelle Denise is nine years, Anthony Richard is five, Scott Daniel is three and a half, and Kent Christopher is one and a half years old. Diane married David Blore of Craigmyle in 1973. He has a Degree in Agriculture. After his graduation from the University of Alberta, he took two years of Agriculture Mechanics and Diane worked at the Olds college. They now live in Delia and Dave is a grain farmer with his dad and works out in the winter time. They have one daughter Kimberly Jean who is two years old, and Kim is looking forward to having a brother or sister this summer.

On June 30th. we will be celebrating our thirty-sixth Wedding anniversary, having spent the entire time in this area, and not really wishing to live anywhere else as our roots here are deep.

Chris Roth and Family

Chris Roth and his wife Selma, nee Selma Thompson the daughter of Martin Thompson of the Sulitjelma district, moved from Camrose to the Hay Lakes district in the spring of 1939. They, with their five children, Donald, Rodney, Noreen, Joan and Robert, farmed for five years at SE32-49-21-W4. During this time all the children attended Sulitjelma school.

Chris was a very good cattleman and helped with the veterinarian duties in the Sulitjelma district. Another duty that usually fell on his shoulders was auctioneering at the St. Joseph church bazaars.

In the spring of 1944 they moved one mile west and three miles south of Hay Lakes. This land was

owned by Peter Kouald. That summer this land was condemned by the county weed inspector (Herman Weisenburg). Due to this unfortunate circumstance the Roths moved into the village of Hay Lakes in November, 1944, into a house owned by Oscar Grahn, Sr. Chris brought two milk cows into town and started selling milk door to door through the whole town, for the price of nine cents a quart. He carried on this venture for two years, then was forced to quit when health regulations required milk to be pasteurized.

In 1946 they took over the cafe in Hay Lakes which had formerly been operated by two Chinese gentlemen. This building, owned by Morris Aspell, was later turned into a frozen food locker plant. Chris and Selma moved into a vacant building next to the locker plant and opened up the Blue Lunch Room. They left the cafe business in May 1952 and retired to Camrose.

Donald together with his wife, Hazel, and two children live at Elnora, Alberta. Noreen and her husband Louie Pratt and two children live at High Level. Rodney and Mary Roth and three children reside at Twin Lakes Lodge, Manning, Alberta. Joan and Len Coté live at Munsen with their five children. Robert and his wife Roberta and four children also live at Twin Lakes Lodge.

Chris Roth passed away February 11, 1953. Selma died June 10, 1975.

Rotto, Edwin and Family

Edwin Rotto was born in Kensington, Minnesota, U.S.A. on November 12, 1890. He moved to Canada with his family when he was a young man.

He met Jennie Westlund of Meeting Creek and they were married on March 18, 1922. They returned to Brickenridge, Minnesota, U.S.A. where their first child, Magna, was born. Edwin worked on the Great Northern Railroad there. After a year or so they returned to Alberta and he worked for Canadian Pacific Railroad as a brakeman for a few years.

He later bought a farm in the Meeting Creek district where two more children, Kenneth and Ed-die, were born.

After leaving Meeting Creek he and his family settled in the Hay Lakes area. They lived in a couple of different places and then bought Joe Miller's Farm. By this time their fourth child, Donna, had been born. She and Eddie attended school in the Hay Lakes area. Donna later attended college in Camrose. Along with farming Edwin and his brother Clarence drilled wells in Hay Lakes and the surrounding district. His sons Kenneth and Eddie both worked for Oil Companies in the Hay Lakes area.

In his later years, Edwin moved to Camrose with



Edwin and Jenny Rotto.

his wife where he finally retired in 1960. He passed away in 1963, leaving his wife Jennie, who is now in the Bethany Nursing Home, Magna Hatch of Nanaimo, B.C. and Kenneth, Eddie and Donna all of Camrose. Their eldest son Kenneth died in a tragic car crash near Hay Lakes in 1969.

Samson, Eva — "Angel of Mercy" as remembered by her niece Lily (Pearson) Ohlen

I would like to put down some of my memories of my aunt Eva Salomonson or Samson, as she later called herself. The memory of this woman is almost as dear to me as of my own parents, and a memory that goes back just about as far.

I cannot remember her arrival here from Vil-helmina, Sweden, as I was only one year old at the time. My brother Alivin was born on the very day of her departure from Sweden, July 7, 1909. Auntie always said his birthday made it easy to remember the date.

I can well imagine my mother's joy in having her



Eva Samson in Central America — 1925.

youngest sister, then nineteen years old, for help on the homestead, with all the work of three small children, the animals in the barn, and helping Dad clear the land for cultivation. It was only four years after their own arrival in this new land, where everything had to be done by hand, the hard way. The log cabin, that was to be our home for four years, the log barn and everything were carved from the forest.

Included in the thousand and one things that went with pioneering in the wilds, was the bark tanning of hides that made the leather for shoes and other things. This method was much superior to the bucksin method as the leather was much stronger and water resistant. The smoking of meat and fish was used for preserving as fish was plentiful in Oliver Lake. I can also remember the muskrat skins drying on stretches in our cabin. The women spent the long winter evenings busy at the Swedish spinning wheels by the light of coal oil lamps, making yarn from the wool from our own sheep.

I can understand that an extra pair of hands were

most welcome in those days, and Aunti came prepared to work, to repay her sister and brother-in-law for the ticket that had enabled her to come here from the land that she was never to see again.

Aunt Eva was member of the Salvation Army. I still have in my possession the little Red Pass issued to her in Sweden, recommending her as a member in good standing, and that pass served her well in Winnipeg when she was admitted to Grace Hospital as a student nurse. I guess it could be argued that she would have been wiser to stay after her graduation as a Registered Nurse, but her love of adventure would not let her. Perhaps she remembered her "Sally Ann" pass with its motto to work for the glory of God, and the betterment of mankind and the next thing we knew she was a medical missionary in Costa Rica and later in Guatemala, wherever she was needed in those Spanish-speaking countries of Central America.

The physical demands on her strong body were great, probably too much. She was telling me once, how when wading in a swamp to an outpost to tend sick natives, they had to get on higher ground every once in awhile to pick the leaches off their legs before they became too attached. The malaria fever kept undermining her health, and then her legs began troubling her also. After an operation on her hip in Baltimore, she could not return to Central America, because of deteriorating health. Finally the work in the hospital was also too much for her, so she came back and made her home with us for a time. Every now and then when someone was in need of help, Auntie would be gone for days or weeks to help at a time when a doctor was out of reach due to road conditions, economy or both. Thanks to her vast experience she could correct anything from female disorders to broken limbs to contagious diseases. Aunt Eva was able to solve most of the medical problems of that generation of hardy immigrants.

In the early 1940's, the Grace Hospital in Winnipeg offered her a job as night supervisor, which she accepted and stayed on until 1953. Now mother was widowed and living alone in Camrose; and Aunt Eva was getting her pension and tired of working nights. Mother was lonely and the two sisters needed each other. They probably had been talking it over previously when Aunti took a leave of absence to nurse Dad during his last illness.

When mother passed away in 1958, Aunt Eva moved to Wetaskiwin and the Lutheran Home for the Aged became her home. She died in Camrose in 1970, and that is where she is laid to rest. My memory of her is that of a friend wherever she was, in health or in sickness, without thought of reward or compensation.

Servold, Clarence and Marjorie

by Marjorie (Webster) Servold

I attended Sulitjelma School for eight years and the Hay Lakes High School following this. After leaving school I worked in Camrose for five years as a receptionist for Doctors Cloarec and Parson. Although I enjoyed this job very much, I decided that I needed a change and moved to Edmonton where I worked as a Secretary for the Alumni Secretary at the University of Alberta.

On September 6, 1958, I married Clarence Servold, a native of Camrose. At the time of our marriage, Clarence was just starting his third year of Civil Engineering at Denver University in Colorado. We spent a very busy, but enjoyable two years in residences right on the Campus. Besides a heavy schedule of studies, Clarence was on the Denver University Ski Team and spent as much time as possible on weekends training for competition in cross-country skiing and ski jumping. During this time, I found a job as a receptionist at a large medical clinic close to the University.

While attending Denver University in the Winter of 1960, Clarence represented Canada at the Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, California. He was also on the Olympic Team of 1956 at Cortina, Italy. The Olympics of 1960 will always be remembered, as I was able to attend and with a Guest Pass, could take in any of the sporting events. The opening ceremonies were very impressive produced by none other than Walt Disney. Clarence was entered in the Nordic Combined Event as well as special "cross-country". Nordic Combined consists of points scored in a cross-country race together with points for ski jumping. He had a fantastic cross-country race, finishing second only by one second to a Russian competitor. This left him in good position. However, after completing the jumping event, his placing dropped considerably. All in all, it was the most exciting competition we have experienced-skiing with the world's best!

While attending University, Clarence was named "All American" for the years 1958 and 1959. He graduated in 1960, and we moved back to Camrose with our year-old son Marty who was born on July 31, 1959. Our second child, Connie, was born on August 30, 1960.

Clarence began working for the Becktal Corporation which was building the Steel Mill in Camrose at that time. Upon completion of the plant, he was offered the job as assistant plant superintendent which he accepted. Our third child, David, was born on August 11, 1961.

In the spring of 1962, Clarence was asked to join the Calgary Olympic Development Association.

This organization was working on a bid to obtain the Olympic Winter games for the Banff-Calgary area for the year 1968. His job was to lay out proposed cross-country trails within the Banff Park. We then moved to Banff for a period of six months. During this time, Clarence was name Canada's representative for cross-country skiing on the FIS — the World Ski Federation. This position took him to several meetings in different parts of the world, a position he held until the year 1970.

From Banff we moved to Calgary where our youngest daughter, Louann, was born on January 3, 1963. In May of 1964, we moved to Innisfail, Alberta where Clarence accepted the position as Town Engineer. In 1967, he started his own Consulting Engineering Business, working out of Innisfail and Red Deer.



Marjorie, Clarence, Marty, Louann, Connie, and David Servold.

Through the years of competing, Clarence has won the Canadian Senior Title in the fifteen Kilometer crosscountry ski event four times, the North American, and United States Championships as well as numerous Veteran's races in more recent years. Our children started competing when they were seven or eight years old. As result, they also have several medals and trophies in their collection.

In the summer of 1975, Clarence moved his business to Edmonton, and we moved back to my home district. We purchased eighty acres, (the south half of SW 28-49-21-W4) from Georgette Grahn. We also bought a ten-acre parcel, (a portion of NW 27-49-21-W4) from my brother-in-law, Richard Pearson. We immediately started clearing bush to build a "Cee-Deer-Log home" which we moved into five months later.

In 1977, we sold the eighty acres to the Neumans and in the same summer we purchased the Richard

Pearson farm, which we have since sold to Rae Krol who now lived there.

As of January 1979, Clarence has operated his Consulting Business out of Camrose and we continue to enjoy the peace and quiet of our country home.

Smith, Jonas

by Alice Skalin

Jonas Smith was born at Bradford, England in 1872, and emigrated to Canada around 1900.

His application for homestead in June 1903 was a patent for SW 28-49-21-W4. The following was taken from the statutory declaration of Jonas Smith on the matter of his homestead:

"About twenty acres of my land is broken up with sloughs and hilly. The rest is all covered with burnt poplar and willow bushes.

"I had to clear and stump the land before I could plough. I have thirteen acres cleared that I cut hay off, and seven acres ploughed.



John and Jonas Smith.

"If it is not too much trouble I should like the homestead inspector to call around when suitable."

Signed Jonas Smith
dated the 12th day of March 1907

In August, 1907 he applied for a patent on SE 28-21-49-W4. At that time he had built a sixteen by fourteen foot log shack valued at \$150.00. Two stables were valued at \$138.00, one hen house ten by twelve feet, three horses, ten cows and two hogs.

On January 27, 1911 he married Olena Olson and to this union were born four children, Mary, Olof, Amy and Ann.

Smith sold the farm to Hilmer Grahn and moved to Dryden, Ontario.

Olena passed away in 1919 and Jonas in 1937. Both are buried at Dryden. There is one daughter, Amy, still living in England.



Back Row, L. to R.: Jonas, John, unknown. Seated: children, Olaf, Mary, Mrs. Jonas Smith holding Amy.

Kristensen, Olaus and Eakima

by Magna Berg

Olaus Kristensen was born in 1830, and his wife Eakima was born in 1835 in Senja, Norway. Senja is the largest Island off the northern coast of Norway.

They had three children, Krestian, Elise and a daughter who died in infancy.

He made their living by fishing in the Lofoten Islands. He was also a tailor by trade and made mens suits when he wasn't at sea.



Olaus and Eakima Kristensen.

They emigrated to Canada in 1894 taking Krestian and Elise with them.

Olaus died in March 1914 and Eakima died in September, 1924.

Both are buried in the St. Joseph's Lutheran church cemetery in the Sulitjelma district.

Sollid, Christian Olaus

Christian Sollid was born Krestian Kristensen, on November 27th, 1873 to Olaus and Eakima Kristensen in Senja, Norway. Later he changed his name to Christian Sollid.

He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Finnsnes. Finnsnes is on the mainland and in order to get there the trips had to be made by boat. The weather and rough sea was a determining factor in the frequency of their trips.

He lived with his parents on a small farm where they had a few sheep and cows.

In 1894 he emigrated to Canada with his parents and sister. They arrived in Calgary after a long and tiresome journey. Their next stop was Pretty Hill (Armena) where his father filed on a homestead. They resided there for three years. It was a meager existence and they began looking for greener pastures. The prairies sounded promising so they packed their few possessions and moved to the Castor and Czar area. However, conditions weren't much better and six years later they were on the move again.

Christian decided to get a homestead of his own and after some looking he settled on SE 20-49-21 W4 in 1903. This district was later named Sulitjelma. His parents and sister moved with him and helped build a log house, his first home. It was quite a struggle for these pioneers.

The closest shopping center was Wetaskiwin. These shopping expeditions were few and far between as the trips had to be made with oxen and took several days.

They were dependent upon wild fowl and rabbits for survival, and how they grew to hate this fare!! The women did their best to prepare these meals. They ate:

“rabbit young and rabbit old
rabbit hot and rabbit cold
rabbit roasted and rabbit fried
every recipe was tried
rabbit was a common dish
no more rabbit was their wish.”

Even though they had a very monotonous diet they lived to be old people.

Christian met Marie Sware and a romance blossomed. However, Marie did not like his cumbersome name “Krestian Kristensen” so he decided to change it to please her. This is when he changed it to Christian Sollid, taking the name of their farmstead (gørsnavn) in Norway. It apparently met with her approval and they were married on October 3rd, 1908 in New Sarepta by Rev. T. T. Carlson.

There was no such thing as a honeymoon. After the ceremony they drove home in their fancy rig — a horse and buggy. They arrived home in time for chores, so on went their old duds. They milked the cows, then cooked their own supper. Do you suppose it was rabbit??

They lived in the log house that he had built earlier. It had a floor of earth and their lavish furnishings consisted of a homemade table and chairs, cupboards and a washstand. The bed had a straw



C. Sollid's first farm.

mattress. Some years later they built another house where their family grew up. This was home!

Christian and Marie had a family of four, two sons, Magnus and Emil, and two daughters, Magna and Jennie. All four were baptized and confirmed in the St. Joseph's Lutheran Church and they attended Sulitjelma School.

Marie was born in Gyltvik, Norway on May 6th, 1890. She was baptized in Rosvik Church which is located across the Fjord. The only means of getting to it was by boat, which was quite an ordeal for the family.

She accompanied the Anton Sware family when they emigrated to Canada, arriving in Wetaskiwin in May, 1903.

Their first year in Canada was spent with the Turnquist and Volden families at Crooked Lake (new Wetaskiwin). Marie was confirmed here. The next move was to the Anton Sware homestead in the Sulitjelma district.

Christian and Marie lived on the farm at Hay Lakes all their lives.

Christian passed away on November 29th, 1957. Marie continued to live with her son, Magnus, until she moved to the Stoney Creek Lodge in Camrose in July, 1961. She remained there until her passing on May 1st, 1972.

Her hobbies were knitting and quilting and she kept her family well supplied with both items.

Magnus (single) was born on June 9th, 1909. He worked on the farm all his life. It was not unusual for him to work from dawn to dusk. When the water supply was low he used to haul water from St. Joseph's Lake for the cattle in freezing temperatures. That was an endurance test.

In his spare time he cut bush and cleared many an acre for breaking. In spite of being busy he was always ready and willing to help a neighbor.

For Magnus there was little time for recreation, but singing in the St. Joseph's choir gave him some pleasure. However, he made two trips to Norway, accompanied by Emil, Magna and Arnold. They travelled by car giving them time to explore the areas of their parents's birthplaces as well as to meet many of their relatives.

Magnus retired in 1974, and resides in Edmonton near his nephews and their families who lovingly call him "Uncle Mac".

Emile (single) was born on September 29th, 1910. He attended Camrose Lutheran College from 1928 until 1931 when he graduated in Commerce.

He worked for Beaver Lumber in Hay Lakes, Onoway and Barrhead. Later he ventured into the building supply business. He was co-owner of Northern Lumber in Barrhead for seventeen years before

selling and moving to Kelowna, British Columbia where he still resides.

Emil's first love was playing the accordion. He mastered it even though his one finger was chopped off accidentally by his brother when he was a year and a half old. He taught accordion in Barrhead, later switching to piano. He is still teaching piano in Kelowna and is thoroughly enjoying it even though he jokingly say's "it takes the patience of Job, but Job never taught music".

Emil is still active in Church activities and sings in two choirs.



The Christian Sollid Family. Back Row: Magnus, Magna, Emil. Front Row: Marie, Jennie, Christian.

Magna (married) was born on September 18th, 1917. She attended Jacobsons School of Hair Design in Calgary, graduating in June, 1938. This has been a lifetime career, only interrupted while her children were young. Her profession expanded into Cosmetology and Barbering. She taught Mens' and Ladies' hairstyling at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton for sixteen years until 1980.

Magna married Arnold Berg on May 11th, 1941. They have two sons, Robert (Bob) and Donald. Arnold works for Power Ignition, servicing gas plants all over Alberta.

Robert is a Mechanic and has his own business, "Roberts Rig Repairs". He is married to Yvonne (Dupras) and they have two daughters, Kathy and Tara. Yvonne works at Alberta Government Telephones in accounting.

Donald works for the City of Edmonton as a mechanic. He is with the Rapid Transit (L.R.T.) division. He is married to Barbara (McBey) and they have two sons, Clayton and Steven. Barbara works at Alberta Government Telephones accounts payable.

Jennie (married) was born on April 1, 1923. She works as supervisor in the Gourmet shop at Eatons in

Vancouver, British Columbia. She has been serving the public with a smile for many years even though she has had to deal with numerous hard-to-please customers. However the good ones far out-number the bad and that makes the job worth while.

Jennie married John Titmus on June 9th, 1962. They have no family. She has been a constant help-mate to John who has worked with the Boy Scouts all his life. John works for a Biscuit Import Wholesale and has:

“cookies here and cookies there
cookies round and cookies square
cookies filled and cookies plain
anything more I can't explain.”

The Anton Sware Family

If the term, “oldest son”, means anything in a family history, then Stanley Sware, of Enilda, Alberta (sometimes called “The Saga-Singer” of the Peace), must surely be something special for he is “oldest son” five times over. Stan is the oldest son of John Sware, who was the oldest son of Anton Sware, who is the oldest son of Johannes Arnesen Sware, who was the oldest son of Tore Olsdatter Sware, who was born in 1823. Such roots, shrouded in the mists of history as they are, lend some authority and wisdom to Stan when making statements about the family as he did in his “Sware Reunion Song” of 1980, the summer he sang:

“When the Swares get together,



Johannes Sware.

They enjoy themselves a lot;
But the things you'd like to hear about,
Are best to be forgot!”

Stan's sage advice will be followed in this story of the Anton Sware Family. We shall try to make it enjoyable without rattling the family skeletons or offending anyone, because no offense is intended. However, we ask pardon now, if such has occurred, and for any mistakes that may have been made unintentionally.

Great Grandfather Sware, father of Tore Olsdatter Sware, was a rich man, it is told, of high class and unbending character, who lived in a fine house in Vaaga, Norway. He was so strict and unbending that in 1845 when Tore and Arne Johanneson Saeta wanted to get married, he forbade it outright because he considered Arne to be of “lower class”. Instead, he chose to take Tore's son, who was named Johannes Arnesen Sware, into his own house to be raised and given the advantages of society. And so it came to pass that Johannes grew up in his Grandfather's home in Vaaga, and was called “Sware”.

Johannes grew to be a handsome, well-mannered young man, patient and uncomplaining, kind and considerate, soft-hearted and compassionate to such a degree that he never could bear to witness suffering of any kind. He went to work in the copper mines located in the Sulitjelma District of Norway. In 1872, he married Marit Amundsen, thought to be an aunt of Roald Amundsen, the world-famous polar explorer. Johannes and Marit set up their home at Gjyltvika (now Gyltvik), which was about eighty kilometers “over the mountain” from the mines at Sulitjelma. Marit was a strong-minded dominating character who showed the independence and fearlessness that was evident in her children when they gave up their homeland forever to brave the unknown with daring and optimism in pioneering the sloughy bush country in the northeast corner of “A-pi-chi-koo-chi-was”, now known as the Sulitjelma District of Hay Lakes. Their descendants, the current generations of Swares, can be justly proud of their Norwegian forbearers.

Johannes and Marit Sware raised a family of nine children consisting of four boys and five girls. One child died in infancy in 1888. The children who lived in Gjyltvika were: Anton (1873-1934), Anna (1875-1963), John (1876-1950), Tora (1878-1913), Johanna (1880-1952), Ole (1883-1953), Hans (1885-1958), Marie (1890-1972), and Amanda (1892-still living).

Of this family, Anna (Mrs. Nils Nordquist) and Tora (Mrs. Edward Abelsen) remained in Norway where their children and grandchildren continue to reside. All the others came to Canada and settled

permanently in the Hay Lakes District with the exception of Amanda who grew up in the John Sware Home, married Harry Harris, a baker, and moved to the West Coast where she still lives.

After sailing in the spring from Bodo, Norway, aboard the ship "Oscar 2", Anton, John, Marie, and Amanda arrived in Halifax in May 1903. Johanna and her husband, Halvor Hansen, landed in New York earlier the same year. Hans with his wife Petra, along with his father, Johannes Arnesen Sware (Marit had passed away in 1905), came in 1911.

Asbjørn Lee, a nephew of Mrs. Anton Sware, arrived as an immigrant in Hay Lakes in 1919.

The Sware men took up homestead land to the northeast of the present Village of Hay Lakes and set out to build homes and carve farms by hand from the bush land and sloughs of "A-pi-chi-koo-chi-was". Bush rabbits and wild ducks were plentiful. At first everybody lived on this wild game while they faced the seemingly hopeless task of building a community from scratch. They spoke little English, they had practically no money, there were no roads, no houses, no schools, no churches, and no doctors. The nearest town was Wetaskiwin, fifty miles to the southwest, to which they walked for the few groceries they could pack home on their backs over the bush trails around the lakes and sloughs. Some winters the men left their wives and families on the homesteads and went to work in the logging camps of British Columbia in order to get a little money. They faced their problems manfully and laboured magnificently, never complaining, and dedicated their lives to their new homeland. Gradually conditions improved until finally these hardy Norse settlers were successful. Everyone of the "originals" lived to see the land cleared and broken, their houses and barns built, roads and bridges constructed, schools and churches established, the railroad built through, villages spring up and their district develop into a pleasant countryside where their children could live in peace and comparative ease.

After Marit's death, Johannes Arnesen Sware who was uprooted from Norway late in life never really settled down again. For twenty years or so after 1911, when he came to Canada, he wandered from the home of one of his children to another, spending time with each, in the Sulitjelma District of Hay Lakes, helping out where he could. He died at Anton Sware's in 1931, at the age of eighty-six years, and was buried in the Cemetery that is now the church yard of St. Joseph's Norwegian Lutheran Church.

Anton Sware was born on June 19, 1873, in Gjyltvika (now spelled Gyltvik) Norway, the oldest of nine children in the family of Johannes and Marit Sware. One day, when Anton was just five years old,

his Mother dressed him up and took him with her to a neighbour's place, across the way, to see a new-born babe. Anton was fascinated with this tiny baby girl; he could not get over how nice and pretty and sweet she was. On the way home, Anton confided to his Mother that one day he would marry that little girl. Twenty years later he did just that, for it was the newly born Karen Pedersen they had gone to visit. And that was the very beginning of the Anton Sware Family.

At age eighteen, in 1891, Anton went to work in the copper mines in the Sulitjelma District of Norway. He worked his way up to "foreman" because he was a very good hard rock miner. In 1898, he married Karen Pedersen. They lived in Gjyltvika about eighty kilometers "over the mountain" from the copper mine, as mentioned above, where Anton worked. Anton and Karen had two children born in Gjyltvika, John in 1899 and Astrid in 1901.

Times were hard in Norway in those years. The economy, based on fishing and shipping, was poor, the population was increasing, living space was limited because eighty per cent of the country was mountainous and, in addition, rock dust was beginning to affect Anton's lungs, so after twelve years in the mines, he gave it up and in 1903 migrated to Canada. With him came his wife and family and his younger sister, Marie, thirteen years old to help with the children and to be a maid-of-all-work.

As Karen was packing her "settler's effects", she was presented with a well-used spinning wheel by Marit, her Mother-in-law. This was Marit's own spinning wheel. It proved to be a most useful item during the early days on the homestead. Karen used the spinning wheel all her life, then in 1959, passed it along to her Granddaughter, Lorna Karen Lyle. Today, that same spinning wheel, carefully restored, is proudly displayed as a treasured heirloom in Lorna's home in Ottawa, Ontario.

The ship "Oscar 2" sailed from Bodo, Norway, in the spring of 1903 with the following members of the Sware Family aboard. There was Anton and Karen with their children, John four years old, Astrid two years and Anton's sister, Marie, thirteen years; there was John Sware with his wife Johanna and two children, Magnus three years and Ole one year, and John's youngest sister, Amanda eleven years; and there was Anton's and John's younger brother, Ole, twenty years old. Aboard ship they argued about what surname to use in Canada. Since they were brothers and sisters and nieces and nephews, a common surname would save difficult explanations, in English, of Norwegian naming systems that gave them several possible choices. They could use "Johannesen" which was their Father's Christian

name with “sen” added as was the custom in Norway, or they could use their “gørnavn”, that is, the name of the farmstead from which they came, which was permissible and popular among Norwegian immigrants, or they could use their Father’s surname of “Sware”, as was the custom in Canada. Finally they all agreed to use “Sware” when registering with the Canadian Immigration Authorities in Halifax in May when they landed, and “Swares” they have been ever since, signed, sealed and delivered.

Having been duly processed through Immigration at Halifax, they boarded Canadian Pacific Railroad “immigrant train” for the week-long journey to the Canadian Northwest Territories which in those days included all of what is now Saskatchewan and Alberta. The “immigrant coaches” had wooden slats on the seats where people slept as well as sat. There was a wood-burning stove at one end of the coach for cooking, while sanitary facilities at the other end were primitive. Everyone brought his own food and bedding. They came via Winnipeg and Calgary to Wetaskiwin where they “de-trained” and unloaded their goods. Everybody was weary but thankful to be off that train at last.

At first they lodged in Wetaskiwin with a family named “Volden”. Mrs. Volden was a Turnquist’ girl from Crooked Lake (now called “Coal Lake”). Soon the Swares met the Turnquists and not long after that they all moved out to the Turnquist farm near Crooked Lake where they stayed for a few months until they got themselves organized. During their stay at the Turnquist home, Marie was confirmed in the Crooked Lake Lutheran Church, and Amanda attended the Wang School while the men, Anton, John, and Ole picked out their homesteads and registered them in Wetaskiwin.

As soon as possible, a log house was erected on each homestead. For Anton Sware that was the N.E. 20-49-21-W4 and it became the “home-place” now occupied by Margaret and Stanley Sware. Anton’s young sister, Marie, worked like a man assisting with the logs, tending cows, doing house work and helping with the children. Marie lived with the Anton Swares three or four years until she married Kristian Sollid whose homestead was the quarter section adjoining Anton Sware’s to the south.

Karen told of only having enough money to buy a cow and Mrs. Hendrickson from Armena gave them a chicken. They shared a horse with a neighbor. During the heavy spring rains the bridge connecting the farmyard and the barn would be swept away and they would swim across with the milkpail to milk the cows.

In the early days, Karen Sware became a sort of “district mid-wife” because of her helpfulness, de-



J. W. Morrison Family. L. to R.: Donald, Douglas, Abby, J. W. Morrison. Seated: Astrid, Lewis and Karen.

termination and self-confidence in handling difficult situations. She was called upon for assistance at all hours of day or night and always responded regardless of the state of her own health or the condition of her family. John and Astrid soon had to learn to take responsibilities. Astrid became the “little mother” and bossed the other children around in fine style. John, stern and silent, was highly respected by the young fry among whom his word was law without question. Karen, herself had a new baby just about every other year from 1899 to 1917 inclusive. In all there were ten children, two born in Norway and eight born on the homestead five miles northeast of Hay Lakes. They were: John (1899-1968), Astrid (1901-), Peter (Jan. 1, 1904-1945), Bertha (1905-), Maude (1907-1969), Clara (1909-), William (1911-1977), Helen (1913-1956), Nellie (1915-) and Stanley (1917-). They all went to Sulitjelma School.

Anton Sware built “the big house” in 1911 and planted rows of spruce trees as a shelter belt to the north of it. The “big red barn” was built in 1927. The place has been a district landmark ever since. Anton cleared and broke the arable land on the homestead, then bought the quarter section adjacent east, N.W. 21-49-21-W4. and brought that under cultivation also. Finally he purchased the west eighty acres of NE 21, so that his farm consisted of two and a half quarter sections of land in an east-west row. It was a good farm and a very satisfying accomplishment to have made in a new homeland. Along the north edge of his land near the quarter line of Section 21, Anton donated three acres of ground for a Cemetery that is now the church yard of St. Joseph’s Norwegian Lutheran Church. Anton died in 1934 and was buried



Anton Sware Family — 1911. L. to R.: Peter, Karen, holding Clara, Astrid, Bertha, John and Anton holding Maude.

there in the family plot near the grave of Johannes Arnesen Sware, his father.

Some Sware Stories

Amusing tales of family life and stories of certain family members are sometimes interesting to folks outside the family itself. The following stories of the Anton Sware Family are told here strictly for the enjoyment of anyone interested.

When the Sulitjelma School was opened, Astrid extended her authority over all the youngsters of the district. Her “say-so” was obeyed by all the school kids, “or else”. She had the strength and the will to enforce it too. As a teenager, Astrid had to help at home with the milking of the cows, the separating of the cream and the feeding of the calves. One evening at milking time, a neighbour lad, Ed Miller, about Astrid’s age, came to visit. He teased Astrid when she had trouble teaching a new-born calf to drink from a bucket. Astrid was vexed with the calf and thought that Ed Miller was casting aspersions on her ability and confronting her authority. She set the bucket of milk down, grabbed Ed Miller and like a wrestler threw him to the ground, none too gently, where holding his neck between her knees she

dunked his face repeatedly into the milk in the bucket and said, “I’ll show you if I know how to teach a calf to drink or not!”

We may laugh now, over fifty years later, at this incident, but Astrid’s authority was maintained at the time, and the story shows that Astrid had inherited some of her Grandmother Marit’s high spirit, a trait that is admired by everyone.

Then there was the time Bertha was vexed. The Anton Sware Family was a lively bunch and “did things” if pushed too far. The children played in groups of three: the older ones, John, Astrid and Peter; the middle ones, Maude, Clara and William; and the young ones, Helen, Nellie and Stanley. This arrangement left Bertha “the odd man out” and as a result she did all manners of things to gain attention. The other children teased her a good deal, particularly the “middle” group. One afternoon Maude and Clara teased Bertha until she “blew her top” and took after them to exact retribution. The two imps ran into the house, through the kitchen and dining room, up the stairs and into their bedroom, the curtained doorway of which was straight ahead of the staircase. They jumped up and down on their beds, a forbidden



Phyllis Lyseng Eide, her mother Bertha Lyseng, her grandmother Karen Sware and twin daughters Kathryn and Karen.



L. to R.: Mrs. Johanna Hansen, Johnnie and Maude Johnson, Tillie Hansen. Johnson children — Lorraine, Joan, Bud and Allan.

practice, and continued to shout infuriating remarks at Bertha. As Bertha chased them through the kitchen, she grabbed a few sticks of firewood from the filled-up woodbox, and flung them at Maude and Clara as they scampered up the stairs. Bertha returned to the woodbox for more ammunition to hurl up the stairway right into the girls' bedroom. The girls roared with laughter being delighted to "get Bertha's goat". Bertha was so angry she continued throwing sticks of firewood at Maude and Clara until the woodbox was completely empty. When it was all over and thing settled down, Bertha got control of herself and made the two younger ones replace all the firewood in the woodbox and clean up the mess of chips and bark in their bedroom, down the stairs,

through the dining room and kitchen. Clara, to this day, "just has to laugh" at that caper, though she has long since forgotten what was said to Bertha that was so offensive.

During the summer time, the children, especially the boys, used to run barefoot all day long. One day William picked up a sliver in his big toe, but trying to be manly and independent, refused to let anyone touch it. After a few days it festered and his Mother wanted to take care of it. But William was wiry and quick and no one could catch him let alone hold him. Another couple of days went by and the foot was obviously worse, so his Mother decided it was time to remove the sliver. She enlisted Maude and Clara to help her catch William. Then the chase was really on all over the place, until the girls finally herded him into the house at full speed. William spied a baby blanket spread out on the living room floor and instantly figured that if he were to wrap up in it, no one could get at his sore toe. In a flash he dived on to the blanket and rolling over and over he wrapped himself tightly in it. Also in a flash and before William could make another move, both Maude and Clara were on him, sitting there to bring their full weight to bear. And there was William neatly trussed up as in a straight jacket with his head out one end of the roll and his bare feet out the other, with two great lumps of girls, both bigger than he was, sitting on top gleefully holding him still. His Mother proceeded forthwith to remove the sliver and treat the wound regardless of William's wailing and bawling in protest. The foot got better, no problem, but William learned that when his Mother made up her mind to do something, she always found a good way to do it. He also discovered that to out-wit Maude and Clara, "you had to get up before breakfast", and a long time before breakfast at that.

What not to do while baking a cake was the lesson that Helen never forgot. In order to teach her daughters to make cakes and fancy pastries, Grandma Sware, as everyone fondly called her in later years, pretended that she did not know how to bake. Some of the younger ones, at least, believed her and promptly learned to make the desired goodies whenever they were required. Helen was baking a cake one day and in cleaning up the house afterwards she swept the dining room floor along with the rest. Now just at that time the menfolk were clearing new land and were using dynamite (with which Anton was well acquainted from his years in the copper mine) to remove the stumps quickly and easily. The blasting caps necessary to explode the dynamite were carried in the pockets of the work clothes. One of these dynamite caps had fallen unnoticed from a pocket to the floor of the dining room. Equally unnoticed by

Helen, it was swept into the dust pan. In those days dust pans were emptied into a stove to burn up the sweepings. Consequently, Helen opened the door of the big pot-bellied heater that stood in the dining room close to the upstairs doorway, and shovelled the dust into the blazing fire and slammed the door shut. "BANG!" The lid on the top of the heater went flying, the main fire door burst open explosively, the door on the ash box blew open scattering ashes all over the room. Fortunately no one was injured and nothing caught fire. But that poor cake in the oven of the kitchen range fell flatter than a pan-cake from the blast and was pronounced a dismal failure by the unsympathetic sister critics who were preparing for company that evening. Blast it all, anyway! No cake for the company and all Helen's fault too! That was how Helen learned that when you bake a cake, "DON'T PUT DYNAMITE CAPS IN THE FIRE!"

When Maude was four years old she learned that it was better to have a hand in things than to have any other part of your person involved. That year, 1911, the "big house" was built and when the new stairs were installed, Maude wanted to be the first to try them out and thought up a unique way to initiate them. She wrapped herself in a blanket for protection and with her sisters as an audience, she slid on her seat, "bumpity-bump-bump" all the way down the fourteen steps. Somewhat shaken and a little bruised, where no one could see it, Maude stood up and declared the stairs to be satisfactory by saying, "You can come down them, anyway!" while unwrapping herself from the blanket and gently rubbing the sore spots to the amusement of her audience.

The very first time Johnnie Lyle was ever at the Anton Sware home was the evening of the day Clara, just married, arrived there to boast about her brand new husband, Donnie Fisher. Of course a celebration was in order and a surprise party had been organized for Clara, since Donnie had to stay and look after the farm where they lived east of New Norway. Everyone for miles around came to wish Clara and Donnie well and to shower them with gifts. "Lyle", as he was called by the Norwegian people of Hay Lakes was swept along with the crowd by Maude and Johnnie Johnson. Part of the sisters' and cousins programme was to stage a mock wedding ceremony to tease Clara. However, who would be "the bride" and make all those previously prepared, ridiculous and daringly suggestive promises in front of friends and relatives? Every girl refused to do it, even in fun. Then those young ladies spied "Lyle" who was about the right size and a stranger to Clara as well. The eager hands of six or eight strong farm girls seized and informed him that he was to be the mock bride, willing or not, while Bert Hanson was to be the

"groom" and Ole Olson, the Pastor. Up those stairs "Lyle" was rushed, into a bedroom and off came his clothes down to his underwear, stripped by many eager hands accompanied by sly remarks that produced gales of girlish laughter. Well, it was easy to be seen that this was the "fun part" of the ceremony and made it a howling success regardless of what went on



Helen Lyle with Joyce McCoy and Lorna Lyle.

downstairs afterwards. Then they dressed him up in girls' clothes, painted his face, supplied the required, "something new, something borrowed and something blue", put on a garter for him to cast among the young men, found a bouquet to be thrown to the young ladies and gave instructions as to how to mimic Clara. The outfit was complete with panties, bra, silk stockings rolled to make them stay up, high-heeled shoes, a gown, and veil. Few guests knew him and Clara never guessed who could act so crazy. But she found out later, no doubt. For "butter und for wurst" as Ole said that evening, there was "no hitch" in the whole ceremony! But it did have results. None of Clara's sisters or cousins would ever admit afterwards that they were implicated in this hoax, or that that was the way they welcomed strange young men into their homes. However, "Lyle" had been initiated and felt he knew the Sware girls and believed from some years that a "stripping and dressing procedure" was a good old Norwegian custom, like drinking coffee, to be enjoyed to the full.

There are many more anecdotes concerning the

Anton Sware Family that could be told, but the final one selected for this series again involves Astrid and her early athletic prowess.

During the summer previous to this incident, the Sulitjelma School had been improved by the installation of a new blackboard. The Sulitjelma School boasted a teacherage and during the noon hour the teacher left the schoolroom to have lunch in her own house located in one corner of the school yard. At noon time, in the lunch hour, Astrid ruled the roost and exercised her own authority allowing no one, boy or girl, to get the better of her at anything. Shortly after the start of the school term at the beginning of September that year, the new blackboard proved too much of a temptation for the youngsters. They had to try it out. A "high-kicking" competition was organized in which each student chalked the toe of his boot with a dusty blackboard brush, then kicked at the nice new blackboard to make his mark as high as possible in order to determine who could kick the highest. Astrid realized that all would be in trouble if the teacher returned and caught them treating the new blackboard so. To stop it all she took a turn at kicking to show what a real kick was like. She kicked so high, almost seven feet, and so hard that she broke the surface of the blackboard slightly and left a permanent scar near the top. WOW! Now they were in for it! Astrid carefully dusted over the mark with chalk and the teacher did not notice it for weeks. By that time everyone was quite innocent and knew nothing about it when eventually questioned, not daring to tell what had happened for fear of Astrid's threatened revenge if they did. The real result was a continuation of the "kick-the-blackboard" competition for the succeeding thirty years or so, because all the "high kickers" who came later in the Sulitjelma District challenged Astrid's mark but no one ever equalled or exceeded it. That mark was on the blackboard for all to see and compete with until the school was closed and moved away when all country schools, such as Sulitjelma, were consolidated about the year 1950.

Branches of the Anton Sware Family Tree

Life goes on. And on! The ten children of the Anton Sware family all grew up, got married and had families of their own which produced children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren by the score. What follows is a brief look at what happened.

I. John Sware (1899-1968) married Annie Moen (1901-1963)

John had taken a business course in Edmonton but when Annie came from Norway and he saw her, all thoughts of business were driven from his head. Not long after Annie arrived in Canada, she and John were married and they went homesteading about five miles north Enilda, Alberta. They cleared the home-

stead, farmed it and lived there while their family grew up.

A. Margaret Sware (1931) died in infancy.

B. Solveig Sware (1933) married William Wacke (1923-1974)

Solveig, a trained nurse, has worked in Oliver, Toronto and Edmonton. Bill was an energetic social worker with the Governments of Ontario, Alberta and Canada at various times part of which was with Indian Affairs. Solveig and Bill had four children: Linda (1955), Leona (1957), Richard (1959) and Delores (1961). These children live in Edmonton. Three of them have gone through University and excell in Ukrainian dancing as an avocation.

C. Stanley Sware (1935) married Stephanie Diakow (1944)

Stan and "Stella", as she is called, have taken over the John Sware home place north of Enilda. They have improved it, enlarged it, farm it and live there. Stan has played drums in local dance bands and has built a reputation as a "Saga Singer" composing his own lyrics. Stella is an energetic wife and mother and an efficient receptionist for an optometrist in High Prairie. Stan and Stella have five children: Taina (1964), Kirsten (1966), Stanley (1969), Kent (1970), and Stephanie (1973). These children live at home on the farm and attend school in High Prairie.

D. Norman Sware (1940) married Rosemarie Homoniuk (1940)

Norman, a former "Coke Man" and car salesman, now operates a thriving Real Estate business in High Prairie. Rosemarie runs their beautiful home three miles south of town. They have two children: Scott (1965) and Shawna (1966) who attend school in High Prairie.

E. Kenneth Sware (1944) married Donna Basarab (1945)

Ken was a truck driver for many years and Donna a Nursing Aide. They have lived and worked in Edmonton and High Prairie, but now own and operate an excellent farm west of High Prairie. They have built a lovely home for themselves and their family on the farm. Their three children, Ingrid (1965), John (1970) and Karen (1971) live at home and attend school in High Prairie.

F. Marie Nycholychak (Sware) (1945) married Garry Cooper ()

Marie came to Annie and John Sware's to be adopted but before the adoption papers were signed she caught polio and the Alberta Government claimed her as its ward and provided for her thenceforth. However, she was permitted to remain with the Swares and grew up as a member of the family. Marie and Garry live in Edmonton.

II. Astrid Sware (1901) married John Morrison (1899-1980)

Astrid came to Hay Lakes in 1903 as a two-year-old immigrant. She grew up on the parental Anton Sware homestead where she worked hard both indoors and outdoors. She attended the Sulitjelma School. In 1921 she married the Sulitjelma school teacher; John Morrison, who was an outstanding leader of young people in the community. John taught school at Sulitjelma for seven years during which time, in addition to teaching, he played on and coached baseball and basketball teams. In proper costume he demonstrated highland dancing; he organized dance orchestras and a marching band. He inspired enthusiastic participation in community efforts among the children of the district. All were sorry when he gave up teaching to manage Larsen's Hardware Store in Hay Lakes. After several years in Hay Lakes, John and Astrid moved to Duhamel to run the store and Post Office. Then they went on to New Norway to manage Mr. Larsen's Nu-Way Store. In 1934, things got tough in New Norway so John moved his family to his parents' farm at Okotoks for a time before taking up a ranch at Kew, Alberta, right at the foot of the mountains west of Okotoks. In 1956, John went homesteading with his sons at Silver Valley, about fifty miles northwest of Spirit River. John's last few years were spent in Dawson Creek, British Columbia at the home of his son Ab. There he wrote stories for the magazine "Field and Stream". John could always spin a yarn and make it interesting. He died in 1980. Astrid continues to live in Dawson Creek. John and Astrid had a family of five children:

A. Karen Morrison (1922) married John W. Minue (1921).

Karen had had much experience in working in stores. In 1940, John enlisted in the RCME of the Canadian Army; since the War he has worked in the oil and gas industry on drilling rigs all over Western Canada and in the Arctic. He and Karen have lived in Okotoks, Calgary and Edmonton. They had a family of four children:

(i) Lana Minue (1946) married Brian L. Fjeseth (1941). Both Lana and Brian taught school at Silver Valley. Before that Brian was principal of the Hay Lakes School. But now, Lana and Brian have a fine farm and a lovely home on the banks of the Peace River about sixty miles northwest of Spirit River.

(ii) John Minue (1948) married Darlene Paul (1951). They live on a farm at Teepee Creek and John is a Steam Engineer at the gas plant. They have two children, Denise (1970) and John (1972).

(iii) Robert Minue (1951) married Alice Rouse (1948). As a graduate of Business Administration,

Robert worked for some years for the Russel Steel Company in Edmonton before being transferred to Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. where he and Alice live in a "preserved" historic house.

(iv) Alan Minue (1956) lives in Edmonton, attending the University of Alberta, taking Education. He has worked for the C.N.R. at the Edmonton Airport.

B. Absalom Morrison (1924) married Mary-Lou O'Niel (1946).

Ab Morrison was a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force with the rank of Flying Officer in the Second World War; he is now a gunsmith in Dawson Creek, B.C. where he runs a Sports Shop. When Mary-Lou left the family, John and Astrid Morrison came to live with Ab to help raise the two boys: John (1964) and Adam (1966). These boys attend High school in Dawson Creek and both have become very good hockey players.

C. Douglas Morrison (1926) married Verna Orum (1937).

Douglas and Donald Morrison were twins who were always "gettin' into something" together, even into the Canadian Army where when one caught the measles, the other had to catch them also. Douglas has been a soldier, a hunter, rancher and pioneer farmer. He and Verna filed on a homestead in the Silver Valley area where they specialize in growing grass seed and raising cattle. Verna and Douglas have a family of four children: An infant boy who died at birth, (1955). Shirley Morrison (1958) married Russell Wager. Wayne (1959) and Joan (1961).

D. Donald Morrison (1926) married Evelyn Smith (1931).

Donald is a twin brother to Douglas and when they were young they were scamps together forever into mischief. Donald has been a soldier, hunter, rancher, farmer, plant worker and a truck driver. He and Evelyn live in Okotoks and have a family of two children; Larry Morrison (1953) employed in packing plant, and Verdell Morrison (1958) married James Barclay (1957). Verdell and James live in Okotoks and have a daughter, Alaina, born (1979). He is an accountant in Calgary.

E. Clare Lewis Morrison (1934) married Helen Dyck (1936).

Lewis is a rancher, hunter and pioneer farmer with a homestead in the Silver Valley country where he and Helen live. Their daughter, Beverley Morrison (1959) married Ronald Lillico (1958) and they have a girl, Erin Raeanne (1977) and a boy, Marc Ronald (1979).

III Peter Sware (1904-1945) married Etta Staub (1908)

Peter was born January 1, 1904 and was the first

“New Year’s Baby” in the Sulitjelma District, where he grew up and went to school. He was a hard worker and full of fun as a young man. He and Etta farmed at Stony Plain and there the family was born. Later they farmed in the Thordenskjold District. They have six children:

A. Malcolm Sware (1926) married Marie Sheminosky (1924).

Malcolm farmed his father’s place in the Thordenskjold District. He and Marie had eight children: (i) Stanton (1951) married Renita Jensen (1955) and they have two children Sharlene (1977) and Steven (1979). (ii) Sandra (1952) married Murray Cress (1940). They have two children: Lewis (1976) and Steven (1978). (iii) Carolyn Sware (1953) married Brian Metcalfe (1953). Their child, Sherrilyn was born in 1980. (iv) Corrine (1955), a twin, (v) Coleen Sware (1955) married Stan Grenier (1958) and they have a daughter, Christy (1978). (vi) Wanda (1957) married Brian Skjaveland (1956). Their two children are; Shauna (1977) and Jason (1979). (vii) Narda (1958) married Brian McCleod (1957). Narda and Brian McCleod have a son Douglas (1980). (viii) Blair (1963).

B. Velna Sware (1923-1975) married Edward Shermack (1925).

They lived in Sherwood Park and had a family of five children: (i) Joy Shermack (1949) married Brian Garcelon (1948); (ii) Linda Shermack (1951) married Harvey Norman (1949) and they have three children, Casey (1972), Shawn (1975) and Corina (1978); (iii) Darrel Shermack (1953) married Rose Eliuk (1956). They have a daughter, Tanya (1979); (iv) Brenda Shermack (1957) married Robert Roy (1958). They have two children: Christopher (1977) and Michelle (1979); and (v) Valerie Shermack (1958) married Douglas O’Leary (1945).

C. Gwen Sware (1937) married Mylo Heuer (1935), and they have two:

(i) Sheryl Heuer (1960) married Leonard Espetveidt (1954), and (ii) Merlin (1963).

D. Karen Sware (1941-1974) married David Poettcker (1924).

They had two children: (i) Donna (1960), and (ii) Darcy (1963).

E. Peter Sware (1945) married Myrna Rumka (1945).

Peter’s twin, Petra died at birth. Peter is a welder. He and Myrna live in Edmonton and have two children: (i) Cari (1977), and (ii) Lenai (1979).

IV Bertha Sware (1905) — Married Anders Lyseng (1891-1979).

Bertha and Anders farmed north of Armena in the Thordenskjold School District all their lives. Anders

was a very good horseman and handy with all kinds of tools. Bertha was trained as a milliner and more recently has become adept in arts and crafts such as ceramics and making artificial flowers. They have done considerable travelling in Canada, the U.S.A., and Europe. Bertha and Anders raised a family of two children:

A Phyllis Lyseng (1929) married Morley Eide (1922).

Phyllis attended school at Thordenskjold and in Camrose, graduating from the University of Alberta as a school teacher. After teaching at a couple of places around Alberta she taught in Woking where she met Morley and settled down to raise a family. Morley is a man of many talents. First he is a good farmer, then a carpenter, a plumber, an electrician, a school bus driver, and the best all-round handy-man in the Sexsmith area. He is also a good father for their family of five children;

(i) Wade (1954), a one time University student who is now in the construction business in the Vancouver area of British Columbia and also finishing a degree in architecture.

(ii) Karen Eide (1956) married James Shannon (1954). Karen is a graduate of the University of Alberta in Education and has taught school in Sexsmith while her husband is a farmer and a dealer in Massey-Ferguson farm machinery. Karen and Kathryn are twins.

(iii) Kathryn Eide (1956) married Philip Kildal (1952). They live in La Glace, Alberta and have two daughters; Dara (1978) and Lynette (1980).

(iv) Craig (1958), a horseman and a ferrier is in great demand in the Sexsmith-Grande Prairie area for shoeing the many show horses there. He farms with his Dad.

(v) Heather Eide (1959) married Keith Horneland (1956) they live in La Glace and have a daughter, Alissa (1979). Keith is in the carpet and rug laying business. Bertha has five grandchildren and three great grand-daughters.

B. Lyle Lyseng (1933), grew up on his Father’s farm north of Armena. He attended the Thordenskjold School before going to the School of Agriculture in Vermilion. Upon graduation he came home to farm with his Dad. Finally he took over the home place. Lyle has become a very successful farmer, cattleman and sportsman but so far has not displayed much interest in girls (unless we don’t know).

V Maude Sware (1907-1969) married Johnnie S. Johnson (1904-1975).

Maude was a business course graduate with a sense of humour who once ran the Hay Lakes Post Office. Johnnie was a wild Norwegian immigrant, a daring skier, a keen hunter, who for many years

during the 1930's was the grain buyer for the Pool Elevator in Hay Lakes. Later he became a soldier in World War II and finally worked as a carpenter in Victoria, British Columbia, where he was advised to live because of a war injury. Maude later worked at Mount Saint Mary Hospital as a Nursing Aide or practical nurse. While in Hay Lakes Maude and Johnnie built a nice little house just north of the old ball diamond. They had a family of four children.

A. Lorraine Johnson (1930) married Victor Van Slyke (1929).

Lorraine started school in Hay Lakes but finished it in Victoria. She recently quit working for Woodwards in Vancouver. Victor is an accountant. They live in Vancouver and have a family of four:

(i) Richard (1953) married Vivienne Guttridge (1954) and he works for Century 21 Realty. They have three children: Benjamin (1978), Matthew (1979), and Sarah (1981). (ii) Karen (1954) is now a member of the Canadian Forces stationed in Ottawa, Ontario. (iii) Stephanie (1960) is a student in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary and Jeffery Bruce (1962) attends Langara College in Vancouver.

B. Bernard Johnson (1934) married Elaine Jennings (1938).

"Buddie" worked for Finning Tractor and ran a Sports Shop near Vernon, British Columbia. He now lives and works in Prince George. Elaine is a trained nurse; through the years she has continued to work. Maude's often expressed wish when Buddie was small, was that Buddie would grow up and have a boy as troublesome as Buddie himself. Maude's wish was granted, only Buddie got three such boys: (i) Dale (1964), (ii) Rodney (1965), and (iii) Dean (1970).

C. Alan Johnson (1935) married Shirley Orr (1935).

Alan took up forestry as a young man and has worked in the forests of British Columbia for the Provincial Government for many years. Shirley is a trained nurse, still nursing, and has become an efficient homemaker. Alan and Shirley live in Victoria and have a family of four children: (i) LeAnne (1956) married Tom Davies. They live in Toronto where LeAnne nurses and Tom is with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. (ii) David (1958) is a Music graduate, (iii) Gregory (1961) attends University and (iv) Bryan (1965) is still in school.

D. Joan Johnson (1938) married Dr. James Mitchell (1933).

Joan was born in Norway when Maude and Johnnie went there for a visit, and came to Hay Lakes as a "landed immigrant" before she was one year old. Joan claimed that her Mother, "Didn't do her any favor" by letting her be born in Norway. Dr. Mitchell

practiced medicine in Ladysmith on Vancouver Island for a number of years before moving his practice to Victoria where they now live. Joan and Jim have two children: (i) James Todd (1963) and (ii) Shannon (1965). Maude was very fond of these two grand children.

VI Clara L. Sware (1909) married Donald Fisher (1908-1975).

Clara worked in the Post Office in New Norway where she met Donnie. Clara and Donnie farmed for quite a few years in the Dried Meat Lake country east of New Norway until they became discouraged with it and sold out. Donnie worked in Rosehaven in Camrose and later in the University Hospital in Edmonton as an orderly. Clara got into some catering business, some Real Estate deals and interior decorating all in which she did well. In recent years they have lived in Edmonton. There were two boys in their family:

A. Donald (1936) who took training as a car mechanic and later as a barber. He lives at home, and loved good cars.

B. Brian (1938) went to school in Edberg, then trained as a cook at the Calgary Technology Institute and ever since has been a cook in the Charles Cammel Hospital in Edmonton.

VII William Sware (1911-1977) married Anna McCoy (1907-1980).

William grew up on the Anton Sware homestead and went to the Sulitjelma School. Bill and Anna cared for Grandma (Karen) Sware during her last days after she suffered the amputation of one leg. Bill was the originator and organizer of the "Sware Picnic" the first of which was held July 21, 1957. They had five children. (More information is in William Sware's history):

A. Patricia Sware (1937) married William Rost (1936).

They have three children: (i) Rory (1960), (ii) Brent (1962), and (iii) Rhonda (1963). (More information is in W. Rost's history.)

B. William Sware (1939) married Maryann Magarrell (1935).

They have three children: (i) Pamela (1960) married Ron Parker (1958), (ii) Tracey (1965), and (iii) Sterling (1971).

C. Anton Sware (1941) married Judy Fry (1946).

They have two children: (i) Michelle (1969) and (ii) Derek (1971).

D. Sharon Sware (1943) married Gary Crane (1939).

They have two children: (i) Christopher (1970), and (ii) Kiersten (1973).

E. Gail Sware (1945) married Kenneth Likins (1940).

VIII Helen Sware (1913-1956) married John E. Lyle (1912).

Helen sang alto in the St. Joseph's Lutheran Church choir which Johnnie was trying to lead in 1934. It went so well that in the fall of 1935 Helen married the Hay Lakes school teacher and went to live in town. They had two children. (More information is in J. E. Lyle's history).

A. Lorna K. Lyle (1936) married Tom Jennings (1925).

B. Barbara Lyle (1947) married Mounir Charif (1946).

IX Nellie Sware (1915) married John (Jack) McCoy (1911).

Like the other Anton Sware children Nellie grew up on her father's farm. She went to Sulitjelma school and helped her mother on the farm until she married Jack. They ran the Drug Store in Hay Lakes for Anna (McCoy) Sware while Bill and Anne were on the farm. While in Hay Lakes, Jack was active in sports, playing hockey and baseball. When Bill and Anne moved back to town the McCoy family left to live in Edmonton where they bought their home and are still residing. Jack worked for the Canadian National Railroad and also in the fish business. Nellie has been with a catering firm for some time. The family consists of two girls and three boys.

A. Joyce McCoy (1936) married Arthur Baird (1935).

Joyce started life in Hay Lakes but grew up and took her schooling in Edmonton where she trained as a nurse and took her Bachelor of Science at the University of Alberta. She taught obstetrics and is now Assistant-Supervisor of Nurses (surgery) at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Art works at Edmonton Power as an electrical engineer. They live in Edmonton and have two children: Lisabeth (1964), and James (1966).

B. John (Jack) McCoy (1939).

Jack worked at Swift's in meat processing and later in his own business.

C. Dale McCoy (1941) married Margaret Wedman (1943).

Dale also took his schooling in Edmonton. He is a Diesel mechanic and works for the Alberta Department of Highways in Edson, where he and Margaret have their home. Margaret has a position as a bank secretary. Their family of two consists of Kathleen (1964) and Stephen (1966).

D. Linda McCoy (1948).

Linda grew up in Edmonton where she finished High School and earned a Degree at the University of Alberta. She has since been employed at the Cross Cancer Institute in research.

E. Timothy McCoy (1953).

Tim has always been an Edmontonian also, and has a Degree from the University of Alberta where he works in the Town Planning Department.

X Stanley Sware (1917) married Margaret Ferguson (1918).

Stanley was born and grew up on the farm that was Anton Sware's homestead. He went to Sulitjelma school. Margaret grew up and went to school in Edmonton. She came to Hay Lakes as a school teacher from Mulhurst at the north end of Pigeon Lake. She has taught in Hay Lakes, off and on, for a good many years. When she and Stanley were married they bought the "home place" and have farmed it and raised cattle on it ever since. They replaced the big house with a modern bungalow where they raised a family of two girls.



Stanley Sware Family — 1980. L. to R.: Margaret, Jeanne, Marilyn and Stanley.

A. Jeannie Sware (1951) married Fredrick Stanley (1950).

Jeannie went to school in Hay Lakes, then went to University. She works in the University of Alberta Administration office. She and Fred live in Edmonton.

B. Marilyn Sware (1955).

She is still single, a graduate of the Olds School of Agriculture, and specialized in cereal crops and soil science. Marilyn works and lives in Edmonton.

Asbjørn Lee (1901-1979) married Irene Lindberg (1914).

Asbjørn Lee (changed from "Lie" in Norwegian) from Bodo was a nephew of Mrs. Anton

Sware and the only member of her side of the family who came to Canada. For close to a year he was a member of the Anton Sware household. Although Asbjørn had graduated as a school teacher in Norway and was grown man, he attended the Sulitjelma School with the children of the district in order to learn English. After they were married he took up a homestead at Enilda. They then moved to Wells, British Columbia where he worked in the gold mines until he retired. He and Irene had a family of two girls:

A. Ina () married Frank Lehman.

They live in Burns Lake, British Columbia and have two sons.

B. Joyce () married Graham Robertson.

They live in Richmond, British Columbia and have two sons.

The girls still keep in touch with their relatives here.

In concluding this account of the Anton Sware Family tree, it might be of interest to know that a grand total of two hundred and forty-eight different persons, everyone of whom has family connections, have been mentioned in discussing the roots, the main trunk, the ten branches, the lesser branches, the twigs, the shoots and the buds. This tree transplanted from Norway in 1903 to the fertile soil of Hay Lakes has flourished beyond the wildest expectations of those who sailed in the "Oscar 2" and argued what they should call themselves.

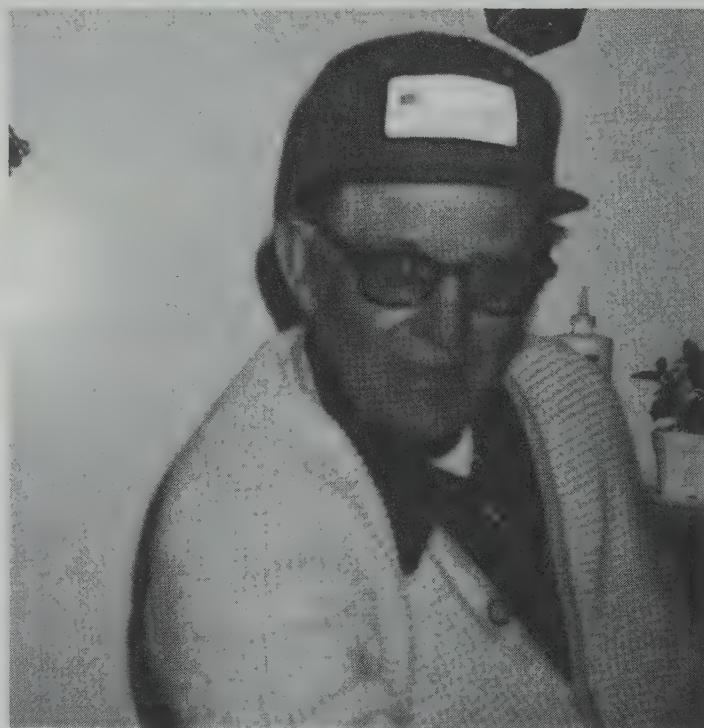
researched by Clara L. Fisher
written by John E. Lyle, P. Eng.

Sware, Hans

Hans Sware was born in Gyltvik, Norway on March 18, 1885. He emigrated to Canada with other members of his family in 1902. He was seventeen years of age. Hans worked in lumber camps in British Columbia until 1909 when he returned to his homeland and was united in marriage to Petra Hansen. He then came back to Canada with his bride and also brought his father back with him. Hans and Petra bought NE 23-49-21-W4 which was Canadian Pacific Railroad land. He also had SE 27-49-21-W4. Hans and Petra had a lot of hardships, joys and sorrows. They were active in St. Joseph Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes and the community affairs. Petra was a seamstress so she had sewed Hans' wedding suit. They had four sons, Melfred born on April 13, 1911, Lorne born on November 13, 1914, Allan born on October 18, 1917 and James born on June 14, 1926. James passed away on January 17, 1937, Petra on February 18, 1940, Melfred on May 9, 1943, Hans on January 20, 1958 and Allan on May 7, 1980.



Mr. and Mrs. Hans Sware.



Lorne Sware.

Sware, Lorne

Lorne has farmed in the East Hay Lakes area all his life. Lorne and his brother Melfred bought the NE 23-49-21-W4. After the passing of Melfred in May, 1943, Lorne continued to live there. He has now sold the land to Otto Streberg but still lives in the same yard.

Sware, Allan

Allan Sware was born at Hay Lakes, October 18, 1917. He took all his schooling at the Sulitjelma school. He bought the home farm NE 23-49-21-W4 and SE 27-49-21-W4 from his father. In 1941 he married Emily Lyseng. Like every one else in the district we milked cows and fed pigs, besides field work and haying. We were active members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church and community affairs. We



Back Row, L. to R.: John, Rena, Howard, Lorna, Trudy, George. Front Row: Terry, Allan holding Jason, Darci at back, Dale in front, Emily holding Jodi, Darren.

saw many changes even in our day. In 1951 we built a new house and installed the Calgary Power. The first years we just had trails for roads so when we went north of the lake we had about fifteen gates to open. The country school was closed in 1950, the year Rena started school, so our children were bused to Hay Lakes. Many times Allan pulled the bus through mudholes and snowdrifts with a team of horses. In 1969 we sold NE 23-49-21-W4 to Horace Loudon. Later we sold SE 27-49-21-W4 to Gerry Oram. When we moved to Camrose we both worked at Rosehaven. Allan passed away on May 7, 1980. We have three children — Rena, Trudy and Howard. Rena married John Stobbe and they have two sons, Darci and Dale. They live in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Trudy married George Deley and they have three sons, Darren, Terry and Jodi. They live in Vulcan, Alberta. Howard married Lorna Pearson. They have

three children, Jason, Tricia and Derrick, and live in Camrose, Alberta.

Sware, John and Johanna and Family

Johannes Sware emigrated to Canada in the spring of 1902. Attracted by the beautiful lakes and trees, John chose to settle in the Sulitjelma district. His wife, Johanna, their two children Magnus and Ole, and his two younger sisters Maria and Amanda joined him in the early summer, shortly after he had completed a one-room cabin.

Supplies had to be gotten from Wetaskiwin which meant long treks on foot for John until the family managed to buy a team of oxen. Along with the store-bought essentials, the Sware family made good use of the area's fish and rabbit supply.

After the family was settled and cows and chickens bought, John left for British Columbia to find work in the logging camps. While he was away, Johanna had her first encounter with Indians. Alone with the children, she watched in fear as a small band of Indians rode up the trail to their house. They stopped only to tether their horses, then continued into the house. Staring at Johanna's freshly baked bread, the chief motioned that he would like some. Johanna gathered up several loaves of bread and gave them to him. This seemed to be all the band wanted as they turned and left. These same Indians came back later and brought fresh fish for Johanna. Johanna then realized that many of the rumors she had heard about Indians were less than true.

On his return from British Columbia, John found that he had another son, Hjalmer. When having this baby, Johanna had had to leave her little ones and walk across country for four miles to her brother-in-law's place. There, the baby was born and she was taken care of. Later, when she was stronger, her brother-in-law returned her to her house. Meanwhile, John had earned enough money to buy a team of horses, a plow and other things necessary to break land and prove up the homestead.

In the following years, the Sware family grew to include six boys and four girls. Hjalmer, Agda, Johnny, George, Tryve, Edith, Betsy and Beatrice were all born at home with neighbour's wives acting as midwives.

In 1941, Mr. and Mrs. Sware retired from the farm* and built a new home in Hay Lakes. On December 27, 1949, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. John Sware passed away on May 17, 1950 and Johanna passed away on November 9, 1962.

*The location of the original Sware home was NW14-21-49-W4.



Mrs. John Sware enjoying her spinning.



John Sware's pioneer home located on N.W. 14-49-21 W4th. There was no time for such luxuries as pens for chickens or turkeys so they enjoy the run of the place.

Sware, Beatrice

At an early age Beatrice left the farm and became a hairdresser in Edmonton. Soon after, she married Rene Glauser who was a jeweller at the time. They had two children. Their first, Bonnie, became a legal secretary and later married Norm Beaudry. They also had two children. Their second, Brian, became an anaesthetist and married Karen Frisk, Registered Nurse. They have a girl, Nicole, born in 1981.



John Sware Family — 1917. L. to R.: Ole, Agda, Trygve, John holding Edith, George, Johnnie, Johanna holding Beatrice, Hjalmar, Magnus, Betsy standing in front.

Sware, Betsy

Betsy left the farm and became a hairdresser and seamstress. She married Tommy Barry who was the son of a St. Albert pioneer. They farmed near St. Albert for many years and had three children, Sandra (1947), Jeanette (1949) and Laurence (1955). They also took two foster children, Sandy and Wayne, who came to live with them at the ages of nine and ten. Sandra married Les Petry who is in Real Estate. They had one son, Dallas (1968). Laurence married Wendy King and is farming at Busby. He does some carpenter work as well. Wayne joined the Air Force and is stationed in Halifax. He is married and has a girl, Marsha (1971). Sandy is a heavy duty mechanic for G.M.C. and is married to Barbara Robinson. They are living at Wabamun with their two daughters, Seana (1976), and Siobahan (1979).

Sware, George

George, born on May 23, 1910, was a shy nervous youngster until he attended Sulitjelma School, where he quickly learned to stand up for himself. He completed Grade nine at Sulitjelma and then worked out as a hired man. After he grew up, he decided to take barbering and hairdressing. He took his training at Madame Deys' Beauty Salon in Edmonton. George then was a barber and hair dresser in Bawlf where he stayed for a number of years before setting up shop in Hay Lakes.

In Hay Lakes, his shop was located in the corner of the Hay Lakes' Cafe. George was known to give more than one free haircut and shave and soon found that business was not prospering. He eventually decided to look for work elsewhere, and this led him to a job at a peat plant in Ladner, British Columbia.

On April 22, 1944, he married Irene Ferris of Ladner, British Columbia. After his marriage, he tried his luck at mink farming, but eventually set up a barber shop at Scott Plaza. Here, he also operated a Cafe until his retirement.

George and his wife had five children: Jerry (May 18, 1945-June 1961), Kenny (October 12, 1946), Allan (March 20, 1948), Lorena (July 20, 1954), and Karen (July 26, 1955).

Kenny and his wife, Arlie, live in New Westminster. Kenny works as a gas fitter at Parkinson Heating in Whalley, British Columbia; Arlie is a secretary at Pitt Steel. They have two children, Michell and Jamie.

Allan is single and works as a Heavy Duty Mechanic with Pardee Equipment in Red Deer.

Lorena married Philip Parmiter, and they live in Surrey, British Columbia. Lorena is a Credit Man-

ager at Pitt Steel, and Phillip works for the pulp and paper industry. They have a daughter, Tanya.

Karen married Frank Wristen and they also live in Surrey. Karen is a housewife while Frank works at Ecco Heating in Langley, British Columbia. They have two children, Sherrie and James.

After retiring, George and his wife moved from their farm in Ladner to Surrey where they purchased a new house. They continue to reside there.

Sware, Hjalmer and Myrtle

Hjalmer left the farm in 1931 and married Myrtle Johnson, a daughter of A. Johnson. They farmed north of Miquelon Lake for thirty-one years before moving to Camrose where they retired. They have four children; Herbert (1932), Janice (1933), Rodger (1936), and Barbara (1941).

Sware, Herbert and Family

Herb Sware was married to Erna Busenius of Hay Lakes in December 1951 and operated his own farm in the Spilstead district. They had two sons, Wade (1953) and Darrell (1955) and one daughter, Debbie (1958).

In 1961 Erna passed away leaving Herb alone with the children until 1970 when he married Elsie Appleby of the Tofield area. Elsie has four children, Robert (1956), Heather (1958), Donald (1960) and Dale (1962). This increased the family to five sons and two daughters, and in October of 1971, Karen was born. They continued to live in the Spilstead area but they farmed both the home place and the Tofield farm. In 1978 Herb sold his dairy and hog operations in Spilstead and moved to the Tofield farm where he does some grain farming and has a small beef herd.

Wade was married in 1976 to Linda McLeod of Lindbrook and they have one daughter, Leann. Wade is journeyman carpenter for Darwest Construction and they reside in Spilstead.

Darrell is as yet unmarried and also works for Darwest and resides in Edmonton.

Robert is also in the construction business working for Stater Managements. He is married to Jan Murray of Tofield since 1974.

Heather married Reed Smiley of Montreal, Quebec and they both work for the Royal Bank in Calgary where they live. Debbie works as a secretary for Alberta West Construction and lives in Millwood, Edmonton.

Donald is an apprentising heavy-duty mechanic at Dressers and lives in Edmonton with Darrell.

Dale finished High School in 1981 and is presently working at Stelco and living in Camrose.

Karen is now in Grade five and busy at home with her cats and pony.

Sware, Janice and Family

Janice was born in July of 1933. She grew up on her parents' farm. In the fall of 1949 she worked for Fred and Agda Miller and in 1950 she began working at the Tofield Hospital. In 1951 she married Adolph Tollefson of Kingman and they continued to farm in the area. They had six children, Larry (1952) who was Hjalmer and Myrtle's first grandchild and the first great grandchild of Mrs. Johanna Sware, Linda (1953), Judy (1955), Dale (1958), Timothy (1960) and Pamela (1963).

After the sale of their farm in 1972 they moved to Camrose where they lived until March of 1973. They then purchased a farm five miles northwest of Camrose where they still reside. Larry married Norma Berg in 1971 and they have two children, Dennis (1971) and Tara (1973). Larry is manager with Dar-west Oil Services in Edmonton and they reside in Sherwood Park. Linda married Terry Volsky in 1973 and they also have two children, Carmen (1974) and Cory (1976). They are now living in Warman, Sask.

Judy married Harvey Radke in 1971 and they have three children, Shannon (1972), John (1975) and Jennifer (1980). Dale, Tim and Pam are still living at home. Dale is a plumber, Tim an electrician and Pam is employed at Safeway in Camrose.

Sware, Rodger and Family

Rodger was born in 1936 in Camrose, Alta. At the age of eighteen he moved to Drayton Valley to work for an oil company on the rigs. He contacted polio and was hospitalized in Edmonton. While in Edmonton he met Carol Kocourek, also a polio patient. They were married in 1962 and took up residence in Calgary. They had two children, Glenda (1963) and Richard (1966).

In 1970 they moved back to Edmonton where Rodger enrolled in a two-year drafting course at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. After completing this they bought a home in Sherwood Park where they still reside.

Both Rodger and Carol have been active in community sports programs in Sherwood Park, Rodger, as a director for minor baseball for two years and as a coach for an additional two years. Carol has served on the executive of Minor Hockey's Hockey Moms and recently ended three years of Presidency of Minor Baseball. Carol was also recently awarded the Mother of the Year Award for her outstanding community involvement. They are both currently employed by the City of Edmonton.

Glenda plans on entering a vocational training school to become a nursing assistant.

Richard is still in high school at Salisbury Composite.

Sware, Barbara and Family

After growing up on her father's farm Barbara married Harvey Hovelson in 1960. They resided on the Hovelson home place at Kingman. Harvey worked on the construction of Stelco in Camrose and in 1960 he was employed by them and has continued to work there.

They have three children, Wendy (1961), Cindy (1962) and Terrence (1968).

Wendy is now employed in the Health Unit in Vegreville.

Cindy is working at Stelco in Camrose.

Terry is attending School in Kingman.

Barbara passed away on November 7, 1981, at the age of forty years.

Sware, Magnus

January 26, 1900-February 6, 1981

Magnus, being the oldest in the family, was somewhat of a prankster. On one occasion, a mousetrap put in the sugar chest, snapped on the fingers of the hired girl rather than those of the sugar-snitching Magnus.



Magnus Sware.

Magnus married Inga Winder in 1922 and they resided on a farm across from his father's for a number of years. Before leaving the farm, Magnus and Inga took two girls, Arlene and Lorena Cole, as foster children.

In the late 'thirty's, Magnus and his family moved to Hay Lakes where he built himself a new house. While in Hay Lakes, Magnus became Treasury Branch manager and owned a little store. He also had a well-drilling outfit that was run by two hired

men. Later, Magnus became an agent for Canadian Propane and moved to Lloydminster.

While in Lloydminster, Magnus' wife passed away (April, 1951). He was later transferred to Quesnell, British Columbia and then on to White Rock where he was in charge of setting up propane depots.

After retiring from Canadian Propane, Magnus became involved with the Motel business. He made his home in White Rock with his second wife, Ingeborg. Ingeborg passed away on July 28, 1972. Magnus continued to live in his White Rock home until his passing on February 16, 1981.

His two foster daughters and their families continue to live in the White Rock area.

Sware, Ole

March 22, 1902-December 8, 1974

Ole was one who believed in following in his older brother's footsteps. He even went so far as to marry Hilma Winder, a sister to Magnus' wife, and settled on half of Magnus' quarter of land. He later bought a quarter of land in the Tofield-Kingman area where he and his wife moved to farm for a number of years.

In 1934, Ole and his wife adopted a baby girl, Margaret. They later left the farm and moved to Tofield where Ole started a wood-working shop and built a beautiful home. He was kept busy with orders for such items as cabinets and church pews up until illness forced his retirement. Ole passed away on December 8, 1974 and was predeceased by his wife, Hilma, on August 28, 1974.

In 1958, Margaret married Donald Jensen. They had three children, Donald, Linda, and Jeanette. Margaret later separated from her husband. She and her three children continue to live in the family home in Tofield.

Sware, Johnnie and Helen

Johnnie Sware

Johnnie was born and raised on his father's homestead. At the early age of fourteen years, he was grinding feed for the neighbours for \$1.00 a day. He took a course in automotive mechanics but decided that he wanted to farm, making this decision after going to apply for a Mechanic's position and finding he was sixteenth in line. Shortly after launching into his new career he found out how profitable it could be when he loaded two wagons of grain by hand, made two six-mile trips with the team of horses and unloaded at the elevators all for a grand total of fifty cents.

Johnnie and his brother, Hjalmer, bought a threshing machine and for many years they threshed

for surrounding farmers. These farmers formed crews to supply teams and wagons and exchanged work hours with each other. Johnnie bought the home place from his dad plus another one and a half quarters and continued to farm.

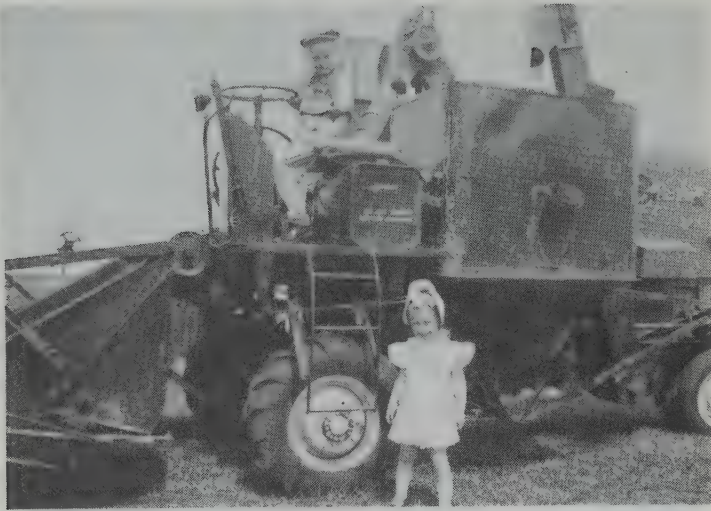
Johnnie married Helen Welda, a local girl, in 1941. Before marrying Johnnie, Helen had worked in Edmonton for a number of years. She played saxophone in jazz bands to supplement the poor wages, and continued playing off-and-on for amusement. In 1955 she received an award from Search for Talent for her efforts.



"Swing Sisters". L. to R.: Lil Erickson, Dina Heckleman, Signe Hafso, Pearl Brent, Helen Welda (Sware), Harriet Hafso. They played in and around Edmonton for \$1.00 per hour per Sister for a little extra money in the 30's when times were bad.

Farming was very rough in the beginning. Johnnie and Helen survived hail storms which struck eight out of ten seasons between 1939 and 1949. Two of those years they received 100% damage claims.

Johnnie farmed with a team of eight horses in tandem. Once in a while he found it necessary to use an air rifle to shake up the lead team when they got lazy. In 1946 he bought his first rubber-tire tractor and for harvesting he rigged up an apparatus so he could sit on the grain binder and drive the tractor at the same time. This enabled him to eliminate the horses but did not eliminate the wear and tear on his own body. In 1949 he bought the first combine in the district. At that time no one believed it was possible to farm without having straw stacks, but balers soon took their place. Another labor-saver he acquired at this time was a power-plant which was used until Calgary Power came through. Although this plant was useful it wasn't very powerful since it could only handle one milker if no other power was being used at the time. In 1959 he bought a hay stack mover which he found to be the ultimate labor saving device at that



The first combine in the district was owned by Johnnie Sware. Leon and Louanne are enjoying their Dad's new purchase.

time. He moved hay stacks for the neighbours, many who lived several miles away. The cost per stack was \$5.00. AND they call this progress?

Johnnie and Helen have three children. Leon was born in 1944, Louanne in 1946, and Marlene in 1953. They all left the district for educational and career purposes.



Johnny Sware Family. L. to R.: Louanne, Helen, Johnny, Marlene and Leon.

Leon received his Degree in Education at the University of Alberta where he met and married Judy Forster. They have two children, Jeffrey Jay (1974)

and Laura Jo (1976). Leon taught school in Edmonton for a number of years and now holds a position in the planning department for Edmonton Public Schools.

Louanne received her nursing Degree at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in 1968 and continued at the University of Alberta for her Bachelor of Science. She nursed for several years before marrying Michael Mann, who is the Administrative Property Manager for "The Canapen Groups" in Edmonton. They have one daughter, Katrina Leigh (1976). Leon and Louanne both settled in Sherwood Park.

After graduating from Hay Lakes High School Marlene pursued a career in banking and after a number of years and several branch banks, she became Assistant Manager in the Royal Bank in Sherwood Park in 1980. She moved to Calgary where she continued with the Royal Bank and later married Terry Rowe, who is a Manager for a Royal Bank there.

Sware, Trygve

April 7, 1912-July 14, 1974

Trygve was a slow easy-going type of fellow. As a youngster, he could always find a way of getting out of doing chores. For example, when it was time to milk cows one could always count on Trygve to smooth the family driveway.

Trygve received his education at the Sulitjelma School. When he had completed his schooling, he



Trygve and Ruth Sware.

bought a quarter of land from his brother Magnus. Here, he later built a house, after marrying Ruth Hovelson on November 19, 1937. Together, they farmed and had one daughter, Faith.

Faith was born on July 26, 1943. She attended and graduated from the Hay Lakes School after which she went to work at the Michener Center in Red Deer. On August 19, 1967, Faith married Serge Pleau. They have two children, Francine (June 11, 1971) and Michael (August 13, 1974). Serge works as a mechanic for Edmonton Transit System and Faith works in a nursing home; they currently reside in Edmonton.

Trygve passed away on July 14, 1974, and was predeceased by his wife, Ruth, on May 26, 1966.

Sware, Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Arntson

Johannes Sware was born on August 1, 1845 at Bodo, Norway. He married Marit Pedersen and born to this union were nine children, Anna, (Mrs. Nordquist); Thora, (Mrs. Abelson); Johanna, (Mrs. Halvor Hansen); Maria, (Mrs. Kristian Sollid); Amanda, (Mrs. Harry Harris); Anton; John; Ole and Hans.

Marit Sware passed away in 1903. Johannes emigrated to Canada with his son Hans, who had returned to Norway to bring back his bride.

Johannes worked for his sons doing various jobs like carpentry, clearing land, et cetera. He passed away on November 17, 1931, aged eighty-six. He was buried at St. Josephs cemetery in the Sulitjelma District.

Ole Johannes Sware was born at Bodo, Norway on April 10, 1883. As a young man he worked in the copper mines (Sulitjelma) along with his brothers.

The work was hard and unhealthy. Besides, there was no future in it. America beckoned with its vast country, so he decided to go there and try to carve out a future for himself. His mother begged him not to leave, but he promised to be back within three years' time to see her. His last remembrance of her was her sitting on the doorstep crying. He never went back as she passed away suddenly before the three years had passed. His brothers Anton, John, Hans and sisters Johanna, Maria and Amanda followed soon after. His sisters, Anna and Thora, remained behind with their families.

Ole left Norway on March 10, 1902 arriving one month later, on April 10, his nineteenth birthday. The trip over here on the cattle boat was anything but pleasant, but he managed to arrive without incident. At Halifax he boarded the train for the West, arriving at Wetaskiwin. From there he made his way to the Volden family which seemed to be the stopping place for many of the immigrants.

He heard of jobs in logging camps in British Columbia so off he went to Cranbrook, British Columbia where he gained employment with the Stapeley Brothers.

When his brothers and sisters arrived the next year, he came back to Alberta. He and his brothers went looking for homesteads. Hay and water were a priority as they planned to raise cattle. Ole decided on NE 14-49-21-W4. In later years more land was added.

In 1904, October 21, he married Elise Petrine Kristensen.

Elise Kristensen, had emigrated to Canada in 1894 at age twelve along with her parents, Olaus and Eakima Kristensen, and a brother Kristian. She often spoke of the hardships and loneliness they encountered here.

Her mother often shed tears for the relatives and friends they had left behind. The only people they saw were the occasional fur buyers or trappers passing through.



Ole Sware Family. L. to R., Standing: Clarence, Alice, Oscar, Mabel, Sigurd, Louise, Julius. Seated: Olga, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Sware, Ida.

They lived at Pretty Hill (Armena area) where she attended school for five weeks, and was also confirmed in the Lutheran faith. The only two confirmants were Elise and Tommy Movald.

They moved to the Czar-Castor area where they ranched for some years before moving to the Sulitjelma district where her brother and dad filed on a homestead in 1903. She lived there with her parents and brother until her marriage in 1904 to Ole Sware.

Ole built a log house with the help of his brother-in-law. Here the newly-weds set up housekeeping. Winters were long and cold but despite this they managed to stay healthy and happy. They worked

long hours clearing land by hand. Oxen were used for the heavy work.

Ole worked in British Columbia during the winters in the logging camps to make some money to help make improvements on the farm. Elise remained on the farm looking after the children and doing the chores.

Oxen wagon were their means of transportation so understandably they didn't travel far afield — to Church on Sundays and an occasional trip to Wetaskiwin for supplies. The latter trip couldn't be made in a day so it meant staying overnight.

As time went by, besides cattle, other animals were added. Horses soon followed which were considered a vast improvement over oxen.

Ole recalled the first hog he had ready for market. It was duly loaded on the wagon and off he went to market. Ole was not familiar with the fact that the hog had to be kept cool on the hot trip, so it died of heat exhaustion half way there.

That was quite a blow as he had visions of the things the revenue would buy to give a few comforts to the home. That was only one of the many setbacks they encountered over the many years to come.

All in all it was a very satisfying life. A great community spirit developed. Everybody was always ready to lend a helping hand whenever and wherever it was needed. Sulitjelma district was settled mainly by Scandinavians, so there was no language barrier.

On Sundays they all attended church. It wasn't unusual to invite a couple of families home for Sunday dinner after the church service. The families being large, it was a big event for the children to have so many relatives and friends to play with.

When the children entered school age, it became imperative to build a school. A site was agreed upon and the schoolhouse went up in the northwest corner of the Fred Miller home quarter-section. It was named the Sware School, after the first settlers — the Sware families. Later the name was changed to Sulitjelma School after the area in Norway they had immigrated from. At first it was a one-roomed school, but later another room was added and included Grades one to eleven. Ole was the Secretary-Treasurer from 1910 until the late 'thirties.

Ole and Elise spent all their lives on the farm where they raised four sons and five daughters who were born on the dates listed:

Oscar, March 6, 1905 — single; Mabel (Mrs. S. Johnson) August 20, 1907; Sigurd July 7, 1910 — single; Clarence February 5, 1912 — single; Olga (Mrs. R. Skaret) September 24, 1913; Julius July 5, 1915 — married; Alice (Mrs. V. Lyseng) May 15, 1917; Ida (Mrs. D. McCoy) February 9, 1919; and Louise (Mrs. G. Hinch) June 22, 1921.

Mabel, (Mrs. S. Johnson) had three children, Ardis (Mrs. V. Johnson), Doreen (Mrs. B. Bergstrom) and Ernie. Ardis had four children: Ronald, married, Ricky married with two daughters Christy and Julie, Lenora, and Sandra, (Mrs. R. Olansky). Doreen has three children: Carrie, Robert and Joanne.

Olga, (Mrs. R. Skaret) had three children, Marjorie (Mrs. R. Christenson), Sandra (Mrs. D. Ross) and Reginald. Marjorie has two children, Corey and Joan. Sandra has two children, Michael and Pamela. Reginald has two daughters, Kristina and Karen.

Julius has two children, Bryan and Jayne, (Mrs. D. Petersen). Bryan has two children, Laurell and Jason. Jayne also has two children, Aaron and Dallas.

Alice, (Mrs. V. Lyseng) had two sons, Nolan and Calvin. Nolan is married with three children, Brent, Shauna and Jason. Calvin is married and has two children, Jeffrey and Sara-Anne.

Ida (Mrs. D. McCoy) has six children, Al, Colin, Muriel, Gregory, Douglas and Clyde. Al is married with three children, Dawn, Dhana and Dean. Colin married and has three children, Cameron, Ward and Keith. Muriel (Mrs. B. Brennan) has three children, Shane, Neil and Sheri-Lynne. Gregory has one child. David. Douglas and Clyde are both single.

Louise (Mrs. G. Hinch) has four children, Glen, Patricia, Anne-Marie and Allen and two stepsons, Norman and Kenneth. Both daughters are married. Patricia has three children, Tracy, Grant and Douglas. Anne-Marie has one daughter, Cheryl.

Ole passed away November 19, 1953 and Elise on July 14, 1955. They were laid to rest in the St. Joseph's cemetery.

Sware, Julius and Evelyn

Julius was born and raised on the farm in the Hay Lakes district. He attended the Sulitjelma school.

In 1940 he married Evelyn Lyseng of Bentley, formerly of Armena. They then moved to their present farm, NE 14-49-21-W4. They purchased this farm from his parents, Ole and Elise Sware who originally homesteaded this farm in 1902.

They are members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church. Julius has been employed at Miquelon Lake Park since 1971 and is also still farming.

They have two children, a son, Bryan, and a daughter, Jayne. Both attended Hay Lakes School.

Bryan married Vivian McCabe. They have two children, a daughter, Laurell, and a son, Jason. They presently live in Surrey, British Columbia.

Jayne married Dwayne Peterson. They have two sons, Aaron and Dallas. they presently reside in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.



Back Row, L. to R.: Jason, Dwayne, Laurell, Bryan, Julius.
Front Row: Vivian, Jayne, Aaron, Dallas, Evelyn.

Thomson, Martin by Loyde Thompson

Martin Thompson, son of Thomas and Andrina Olson (Björnstad) was born in Ystre Toten, Norway, on July 3, 1878. As a young man he worked for a short time in a cheese factory on the shore of Lake Mjosa. Here he earned enough money to buy a ticket to America.

At the age of 18 years, Martin and his brother Toale left Norway bound for North Dakota. Here they learned to read and write English and worked at various jobs. In 1898 Martin married Nina Vigor of Grant County, North Dakota. His brother married Isabella Vigor. Martin and Nina's first child, (Alvin) was born on June 21, 1899 in Fergus Falls, North Dakota. In 1901, the Thompson brothers and their wives and little Alvin packed up their few belongings on a train for Canada. Their first stop was Winnipeg where they changed trains to Calgary, then finally came to Wetaskiwin. Martin and Toale took turns staying with the horses in the box car while Nina and Isabella took care of Alvin. During the first winter in Alberta, Martin worked for a storekeeper in Bittern Lake, feeding cattle and horses and hauling freight from Wetaskiwin. He had applied for a homestead on the east shore of Bittern Lake. In the spring of 1902 this homestead was cancelled due to having poor soil and Martin went looking for a new place.

In 1903, he took a homestead on NW 20-49-21-W4, receiving the title in 1906. During this time he also hauled mail from Wetaskiwin to the original town site of New Sarepta. It has been said that he and his team of Buckskin horses never missed a mail day for eight years. Martin's and Nina's first house was a small log house. Later they built a two-story house which was also of logs and which was still standing in 1971.



Nina Thompson.

In 1922, they hauled lumber by team and wagon from Breton to build a larger house. Cement for the basement was mixed by hand with a shovel. The house was completed in 1924 and is still used.

Martin Thompson served on the School Board for years. Nina Thompson was one of the first ladies in the local Church Women and was a member until she left the district in 1948.

Martin's first tractor was Mogel, a one-cylinder forerunner of the International. His first car was a 1927 Ford Touring. In 1927, he purchased a quarter of school land SW 29-49-21-W4. This was mostly bush. The older sons went to work with axes and later two men were hired for brushing. Martin then traded the Mogel tractor for a Lawson and bought a breaking plow. Some of the stumps were pulled with the



Dwayne and Corrine Shaffrick's wedding — 1973. Back Row, L. to R.: Lloyd Melvin, Rudolph, Noble, Henry and Philip. Middle Row: Dwayne, Corrine, Benny. Bottom — Selma and Alvin Thompson.



Martin Thompson and Percheron stallion.

tractor while others were pulled out with block and tackle and four horses. Hard work in anybody's language! Seventy-two acres were finally ready to be seeded into wheat. In 1930 or so, Martin bought a Case 32 x 54 threshing machine and did custom work for some of the neighbors.

In 1935, a number of neighbors formed a Horse Club. Each member was required to pay a set amount for each mare they entered into the club. This money went to purchase a pure breed Percheron stallion, with no charge to colts born to club member mares. Martin was chosen to travel and keep the stallion which was purchased at Bawlf. After three years, the membership was to be dissolved and Martin then would become the owner. His route took him from home early Monday mornings and he would return late Friday night or Saturday morning, for four months of the year. In 1941, Martin became ill and was no longer able to travel with the horse, so he leased him to a man west of Hay Lakes. Martin died, July 1, 1942. The stallion through carelessness became foundered and died three days after Martin, on a farm northwest of New Sarepta.

Nina stayed on the farm until 1947 when she sold it to one son, Melvin. She then moved to Camrose for two years. Being lonesome for her family, she sold and moved back to Hay Lakes. But due to poor water and fuel supply and many other inconveniences, she sold to Martin Kaulitzke and again moved back to Camrose. In January, 1957, she went to St. Mary's Hospital with a case of the 'flu. In February, 1957, she suffered a stroke and passed away on February 28, 1957.

Both Martin and Nina are buried in the St. Joseph's cemetery, north of Hay lakes. They were parents of ten children: Alvin, Selma, Ben, Melvin, Philip, Nellie, Henry, Rudolph, Noble, and Lloyd.

Alvin was born in 1899. He married Josephine Rominuk and they have one foster child. They reside in Edmonton.

Selma was born in 1904. She married Chris Roth, and they had five children. Selma passed away in June, 1975.

Ben was born in 1906. Ben married Elsie Busenius and they have two sons. They are presently residing in New Sarepta.

Melvin was born in 1908. He married Johanna Schultz. They have five children and are living in Camrose.

Philip was born in 1912 and he married Hazel Dittburner. They have two children and are residing in Edmonton.

Henry was born in 1915. He lives in Athabasca.

Rudolph was born in 1917. He was the sixth son of Martin and Nina Thompson. He took his schooling at the Sulitjelma School, leaving home at an early age to go on his own.

In 1943, Rudolph married Jean Alair Swanson of Trochu, Alta. He served two and a half years in the Army and was stationed in various places on the British Columbia coast. After an honorable discharge he made his home in Richmond, British Columbia. For the next eleven and a half years he worked for Canadian Forest Products, Euburne Sawmills. Getting tired of all the sawdust, he quit the mill and worked for Canadian Pacific Airlines for the next nine years. Again he looked for brighter things so he quit and went back to the mills. This time he went to Bayforest Products, where he has been for sixteen years and will be staying until his retirement.

Rudolph and Jean had three sons. Eugene Bruce was born, June, 1944. Bruce married in 1961. Although this marriage failed, he had two daughters. Dawn Lorene was born in 1962 and Cheryl Lynn was born in 1964. Adres Jean Alair was born in November 1974. Bruce was remarried in 1980 to Cora Montoya and they have one son, Christopher Andrew, born in December 1980. At present Bruce lives in Calgary and has his own recording business called the "Erica."

Kenneth, the second son, was born in October, 1947. Kenneth married in 1964 and had one son, Troy Allan, born June 1965. This marriage also failed. In 1979, he was married to Sheila Cunningham of Lodner, B.C. and they have one daughter Cora Lee, born Sept., 1980.

Their third son, Gordon, born in 1950, married Donna Lee Duncan of Richmond, British Columbia in 1972. They have one son, Michael Rae and one daughter, Shawna Lee. Michael was born on May 1, 1976 and Shawna Lee was born on April 1, 1978.

Ken and Gordon had a glass business in Ladner. Gordon recently opened his own glass business in North Delta, where he has his own home. Ken sold

his business and moved to Coalmont, near Princeton, British Columbia.

Rudolph and Jean will be retiring in the spring of 1982, at 100-Mile House, British Columbia.

Noble, was born in Camrose on January 20, 1922. He was raised in the Hay Lakes area and took his school at Sulitjelma. He worked on the home place until the farm was sold and his mother moved to Camrose. He was then employed by Brager's Transport near Camrose driving a truck. Noble married Martha Tomazewski on June 6, 1953 and they lived in Camrose until 1957. They then moved to Edmonton where Noble operated a bus for the Edmonton Transit System until 1978. They are now semi-retired on a farm near Mackay, Alberta. Four children were born to them: Brian was born in 1954 and is now a St. Albert Fire Fighter. Roger of Edmonton is employed with Batoni-Bowlen Structures. Carol Ann of Edmonton was born in 1957 and is an operator for Alberta Government Telephones. Janet, also of Edmonton was born in 1960 and is employed with Globe Envelopes.

Lloyd married Lily Sock and they have four children. They live at Miquelon Lake.

Nellie, was born in 1910 and passed away at the age of twelve years in 1922.

Thompson, Loyde

I was born on June 15, 1924 and was the youngest son of Martin and Nina Thompson. I started school at the age of seven. Margaret Hanson was my Grade one teacher at the Sulitjelma School. For Grades two to four I had Miss Russely, in Grades five and six I had Raymond Skaret, and Eddie Lindberg for Grade seven and eight. I attended Hay Lakes High School for Grades IX and X when Johnny Lyle was my teacher. I was confirmed at St. Joseph's Lutheran church in 1939 by Pastor Solheim. As a youngster I spent my weekends trapping gophers with the neighbor's son. Sometimes we would use the gophers for batting practice; if the batter missed the gophers got a second chance, but if we didn't, the pitcher as a rule got splattered.

When I was fifteen years of age, I worked on the threshing crew. I had a wagon with the highest wheels I'd ever seen. My team of horses consisted of one of average size and the other one had the longest legs of any horse in Alberta. I had to be nice to him and stroke his nose so he would put his head down to be bridled.

I remember taking care of the stallion that Dad had. I used to take him to the water tank, and while he was drinking I'd crawl on his back. When he was finished drinking I'd take him for a run to give him exercise. It was a lot easier that way than leading him

and running beside him. I almost got cuffed across the ears for doing it, but I always did it again. The horse seemed to enjoy it and so did I.

In January, 1944 I received a letter from the District Agriculturalist to come and see him. I was given a choice to work on one of two farms in the summertime, and the lumber camps during the winter time, or go to the Armed services. I chose the Navy where I served two years on the East Coast. It was an experience I can truly call unforgettable, including the Halifax Riots in May, 1945.

After I was discharged in 1946, I spent sometime at home. In the fall I went to Trochu for harvest, working for Bud Dimmer. When threshing time came we had quite a rodeo. Bud only had one horse so we'd collect another horse wherever we could. Some had been used for bucking horses and others hadn't been used since the last harvest. We had a lot of fun and finally ended up with six bundle teams. In the winter months I worked in the lumber camps until 1948. I then tried my hand at farming, but was hailed out and had to get another job to pay expenses. I took a job shingling houses at Namao, where I soon got into an argument with the contractor and told him where he could shove his shingles. I signed on with Poole Construction; they flew me to Whitehorse, Yukon where I worked for four months. Freeze-up there caused a lay-off and I came home shortly before Christmas. In January 1950 I went to Edmonton and worked with Norwood Foundry. That's when I met Lily Soch, who was employed by the University of Alberta Laundry Staff. We were married in August.



Lloyd and Lily Thompson.

In trying to get ahead I worked at various jobs, until I got employment in the oil fields at Joseph Lake in the spring of 1952. In 1955 I was transferred to Drayton Valley where I looked after Production for four years. In 1958 the company sold out and I was transferred to New Sarepta, where we bought a farm east of town. I was laid off from the oil fields so I tried farming again and working at odd jobs to help along. I sold the farm in 1962 and bought the neighboring farm. Oh, what a headache! I think all the rocks in Alberta were hauled and dumped on that place. We had more rocks than Carter has pills, but we stuck it out for thirteen years, picking rocks, and trying to farm and working out. I drove the school bus for six years, and finally in 1968 I quit driving. I decided that driving the bus was too hard on the nerves. In May of that year I started working for the Provincial Government, Parks Division, at Miquelon Lake. In 1975 I sold the farm and purchased an acreage at Miquelon Lake, where we live at present. I am still employed with Provincial Parks as an equipment operator.

We have four children, Corinne Gail, Perry, Ryan and Kelly. Corinne Gail married Dwayne Schaffrick. They have two children and live in the East Hay Lakes area.

Perry married Cecile Chaulifoux. They have one child and live in the New Sarepta area. Perry is employed in Edmonton and is a welder.

Ryan lives in Edmonton and works for Wire Rope Industries.

Kelly is at home and goes to school in Edmonton.



Ryan, Perry, Kelly and Corrine Thompson.

Thompson, Marvel

Marvel Thompson was born on the home place N.W. 20-49-21-W4 on May 26, 1908. He lived mainly at home until 1934 when he and his brother Benny bought a farm NW 29-49-21-W4 from Mr. Adam Jack.

On November 17, 1938, Marvel married Anne (Schultz) Kaulitzke. They lived on that farm until 1948. Then they bought the home farm from his mother and lived there until their retirement in 1972 when they moved to Camrose. Marvel was the enumerator and returning officer for the Provincial elections from 1948 to 1972. Marvel and Anne were both active members of the East Hay Lake United Farmer's of Alberta.

Marvel attended Sulitjelma School from 1914 to 1923. He had three teachers, Mr. V. Samson, Miss Laueber, and Mr. J. W. Morrison. Anne was a Circle S Club member from 1963 to 1972. She held executive positions in various groups and clubs such as St. Joseph Lutheran Church women, and Ladies Auxiliary to the Boys Scouts and Girl Guides. She was the Treasurer for the St. Joseph Church from 1968 to 1972.



Marvel Thompson Family 1963. Back Row, L. to R.: Wayne, Garry. Front Row, L. to R.: Wendy, Anne, Marvel. Ricky and Bobby missing.

Marvel and Anne had a family of five children. Four of these were born at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose. Garry was born on July 18, 1940 and started school in 1946 at Sulitjelma. He was active in St. Joseph's Luther League. In 1965, he married Barbara Schredeggar. They have two boys, Troy, born in 1967, and Shane, born in 1971. They now live in Lethbridge where Garry has his own construction company.

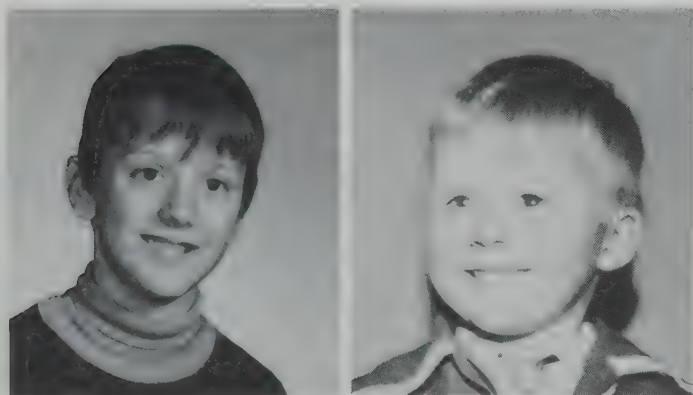
Wayne was born on November 14, 1942 and

started school in Sulitjelma. He was active in curling and softball. On February 28, 1971, he married Josephine Tefeure and they have three boys, Darin, born in 1972; Darcy, born in 1973; and Dale, born in 1975. Wayne passed away September 21, 1978.

Wendy was born on November 27, 1947. She attended Miss Thea (Young) Hendrickson's class for preschoolers every Friday for one year and then started Grade one. But after two weeks at school it was decided she was too young, being only five years old, so she went another year every Friday. She took music lessons from Gala Berry for five years. She was active in Luther League, Girl Guides and Brownies. She married Winston Brett on March 24, 1967. They have two boys and two girls: Ronnie, born in 1970; Ricki, born in 1971; and Russell and Roliex, born in 1973. (twins) They live in Edmonton.

Ricky was born, September 14, 1950 and he attended school at Hay Lakes. He was in Cubs from 1957 to 1961 when he joined the Scouts. He passed away on July 4, 1962.

Robert was born, February 13, 1961. He attended school in Hay Lakes 1967 until 1972 when we moved to Camrose. He now resides in Camrose.



Bobby Thompson 1973, Ricky Thompson 1957.

Wall, Fred and Clara **by Noelle Ramey**

Fred Wall was born in Winnipeg in 1906. He lived in various parts of Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. He was working in Calgary as a mechanic when he met Clara Bakken.

Clara was born on the Mikkil Bakken homestead by Miquelon Lake. She was working in Calgary when she met Fred Wall. They were married in 1933. They lived in Calgary for a while and this is where their first child, Fred Junior, was born.

Fred and Clara moved to the Hay Lakes district and took over the Mikkil Bakken homestead in 1935. Three children were born here: Beverley, Noelle and Byron.

I have countless memories of my growing up

years on the farm. Our farm site had, and still has an unusual amount of natural beauty. The lake, the trees, the dense bush and wild flowers made a lovely picture. I remember the fresh smell of the dew-washed landscape in the summer mornings. The lake would become very grey and dreary on cold rainy days. I can still hear the sound of the coyotes at night and the singing of the birds, especially in the early morning.

We milked several cows and raised chickens and pigs. The cows were sometimes hard to find but the cowbell helped us to locate them.

Haying time was a long tedious stretch of hard work in the hot sun, but as a child I loved being a part of the whole scene! My grandparents and we ourselves did some of our haying up in the Gamble Lake area. What fun to pack the boxes of lunch and smell the coffee brewing in a jam pail! Best of all was the ride home on a load of freshly cut hay with the beautiful stars twinkling in the night sky.

My Dad had a threshing run and I loved this time of the year! In the frosty morning we could hear the wagons arriving to load the stooks and feed the bundles into the threshing machine. To this day I can smell the freshly cut straw and kernels of grain. I loved the excitement that went with the threshing operation.

We had a Star-and-Graham Page automobile. I don't recall the vintage but how can one ever forget towing them up and down the road in the winter trying to get them going. We had blankets on the hood too. They usually did not start!

We cut our own wood for the stoves in the house. To help us with this chore we braided harness from twine and trained yearlings and steers to pull the wood to the house. It really worked quite well.

Part of the history of this district and indeed, part of the landscape was a peddler named (cranky) Charlie Johnson. His unique wagon was filled with everything imaginable! He came regularly and we could hear him in the distance talking to his horses.

Some of my fondest recollections of Hay Lakes centers around Sulitjelma School. Who can forget the carefully initialled potatoes that were roasting on the hot coals in the furnace. They made an exciting addition to our lunch. This furnace used to belch out choking, black coal dust and smoke — but only on the coldest days. Consequently, we had to open windows and freeze. This same furnace behaved admirably when the School Inspector, Mr. Robinson, came calling. Can my schoolmates remember the total effort in tunnelling our way through the snowbank in the ditches from one entrance of the school yard to the other? We also used to have recitation days on certain Fridays of every month. You will all remem-



Fred Wall Family. Back Row: Fred, Freddie, Beverly. Front Row: Noelle, Byron, Clara.

ber Gerhard Forsen's unforgettable rendition of "Once Upon a Time, There Was a Wee Little Humming Bird."

I will always remember the Fairbrothers. They would come with horse and wagon and pick up cream, eggs and shopping lists from the many surrounding farms, including ours. They would take the produce to New Sarepta, shop for us at Wensels and drop off our orders on the return trip. About 1949 they acquired a truck for the job. In 1951 this service was discontinued.

The saddest part of our childhood years was losing our mother in 1945. It was a tough, heartbreaking time for us, especially the two older children who had to take on adult jobs to help out. They did most of the cooking and housework and also helped with many outdoor chores. Byron was only three and a half years old at this time.

We went to our Grandpa and Grandma Bakkens very often, especially at Christmas time. We always looked forward to these visits. They lived about seven miles west of us. In the winter we would heat stones, wrap them in blankets and put them in the sleigh in the straw on the floor. We had a dapple-grey team, Silver and Nigger, and with the merry sound of the harness bells it was really fun. We sang Christmas carols as we went merrily on our way. Our grandparents were very kind to us and we loved them very much.

I left Hay Lakes about twenty-five years ago to stay with my aunt and uncle, Haldis and Art Kendall, in Vancouver. I took Grade XII in West Vancouver and graduated from Vancouver General Hospital School of Nursing in 1961. I worked as a coronary care and intensive care nurse until 1978.

I have three daughters, Leslie, Lauren and Adrienne, all of whom have visited my home at Hay

Lakes. We have travelled to many places in the world: Hawaii, Portugal, England, Rome and Venezuela, to name a few. I live in Mississauga, Ontario, but when I think of "home" it will always be Hay Lakes, Alberta.

My father remarried and resides in Wetaskiwin. Beverley and Jim Culbertson and family reside in Princeton. Fred Junior and Marie Wall reside in Jasper. They have two sons and a daughter, Perry, Gilbert and Shannon. Byron and Doreen Wall reside in Hay Lakes. They have five children, Danny, Carol, Penny, Clara and Michael.

Watland, Jacob and Family by Theol Watland

Jacob Martin Watland along with his wife, Anna, and infant daughter, Florence came from Camrose to the Hay Lakes district in the fall of 1916.

They made their home on the portion of SE 6-50-21-W4 on the east shore of Joseph Lake, raising sheep and cattle for a livelihood.

A second daughter, Jenette, was born in March, 1918 and a son, Theol, was born in December, 1919.

They were members of St. Joseph Lutheran



Mr. Watland, Mrs. Watland, son Theo, daughters Jenette and Florence.

Church where Mr. Watland was active, playing the church organ and also leading the choir.

After he passed away in February, 1923, Anna and the children moved to the Dinant district, north of Camrose.

Webster, George and Louise and Family by three children

George and Louise Webster came to the Sulitjelma district of Hay Lakes in 1924, after buying NW10-49-21-W4, from his father-in-law, Nels S. Lindberg. They arrived in April with two small children, I, Leslie, three and a half years and Evelyn, one

and a half years. The move was made with horses and wagons from the Dorelee district. Eight horses and several head of cattle trailed along on foot. It took three days to make the trip as the roads were very wet and muddy. They made stopovers at some very helpful neighbors along the way.

George Webster was born in Grey County, Ontario. He was the seventh child in a family of thirteen, which included five brothers and seven sisters. Louise Lindberg Webster was born in Sweden and emigrated with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Lindberg, a younger sister Ruth, and brother John in 1904.

When they took over the farm there were approximately sixty acres cleared and farmed. In 1925 our uncle, Thorsten Lindberg cleared brush most of the year, enabling twenty more acres to be cultivated in 1926. This work was done with five horses hooked to a John Deere sixteen-inch-furrow brush-breaker plow. In the winter of 1926 and 1927, they hired three newcomers from Hungary to brush and clear land, some of which consisted of large trees that had to be sawed off at about three feet above the ground, so that the remaining stumps and roots could be pulled out of the ground. In the summer they hired a steam engine to pull the stumps, sometimes resorting to using stumping powder to blast them loose, so that they could be pulled free. They hired Eric Lofgren to plow up some of the land with a tractor, so another thirty acres were added about 1929. In 1930, Dad plowed fifty acres with five horses and a sixteen-inch-cut brush-breaking plow. He always carried a ball-peen hammer and a piece of three-inch square iron about eight inches long to hammer the standing coulter and share of the plow, so they would cut better. He would make nine rounds in the fields each day regardless of the number of hours he put in. Sometimes he lost a great deal of time when his plow caught in the roots, and he had to use an axe to chop it free. The east half

of SW15-49-21-W4 was also purchased from his father-in-law.

After moving to the Hay Lakes district five more children were born to the family: Georgia in July 1925, Williard (Billy) in November 1927, Robert (Bobby) in February 1931, Joan in August 1932, and Marjorie in December 1935, making a total of seven children. We all went to the Sulitjelma school, walking the two and a half miles the first years. When I got old enough to handle a team of horses, we drove by bobsleigh in the winter months, picking up other pupils along the route, from Lofgrens, Grues, and Nordins. Occasionally on our way home it took considerably longer as we would all pile on the tippy side of a drift and tip the rig a couple of times. Our mother was not too pleased when we arrived home late with the quilts sent to keep us warm were covered with snow.

One winter in the mid-1930s, our mother had a severe case of quincy and had to be taken to see the doctor in Camrose. We had to go out to a strawstack and catch the team of horses for the trip. The sleigh was lined with straw, heated rocks and quilts because the temperature was twenty degrees below zero Fahrenheit. That trip to the Camrose hospital took four and a half hours.

In 1947, Dad bought NE 8-49-21-W4, the Hudson Bay quarter of land from John and Ole Sware. Later this land was in the line of producing oil wells in the district. We farmed with horses until about 1947, when we got our first tractor, a used Farmall-M. That year I started renting the land as Dad was not interested in operating power machinery. They continued to live on the farm for several years though not actively engaged in farming. Dad became an avid gardener; his specialty was growing cabbages, usually more than a truckload full.

In 1964, I purchased the farm and they moved to Camrose.

submitted by
Leslie Webster

Our nearest neighbors when we were young were Inga and Magnus Sware, and we were very fond of them. Magnus had many talents, including barbering. He always gave me a hard time when my hair-cut time came. Making a face he'd say, "Don't tell me I have to cut this barbed-wire hair again!"

Sunday morning was a big day as we went to Swares to pick up the Chicago Herald comics, with such treasures as "The Katzenjammer Kids", "Felix the Cat", "Barnie Google", "Boob McNutt", et cetera. There was a wealth of reading for ten cents, and Inga and Magnus passed the rest of it on to Mother and Dad to read when they were done. I also recall the Star Weekly with its accompanying



George Webster Family — 1946. Back Row, L. to R.: Marjorie, Leslie, Georgia, Bobby, Billy. Front Row, L. to R.: Evelyn, George, Louise, Joan.

long novel. When I started reading a story, I couldn't stop. I would read until three o'clock in the morning by the light of a smoky old lantern to finish the story, thus disturbing my sister Evelyn's sleep for we shared a bed. Then when the alarm went off in the morning, Ev would reach over to shut it off saying, "Time to get up". I would groan, roll over and say, "Let's count to a hundred first, you count and I'll sleep". Isabel Grue and I had a terrible habit of giggling in church, while good old sensible Evelyn gave us dirty looks and scowls, which only resulted in more giggles.

In those days, we used to move out into a summer kitchen (in our case a granery) to keep the house cooler and freer from flies. Mother was about to eat breakfast one day, when she discovered she had left her teeth in the house, so she sent our brother Bobby, about five years old, to get them. A long time later he returned minus the teeth saying he had lost them, and even helped to look for them. A few years later, he confessed he had dropped them on the flat rocks below the porch and broken them, so he panicked and buried them in the brush east of the house, and to my knowledge they are still there. Mom seemed to have had quite a time with her teeth. One summer evening she was riding in the back of Magnus Sware's pickup truck coming home from Miquelon Bible Camp. She became motion sick and regurgitated, teeth and all, over the side of the truck. She banged frantically on the cab to get Magnus' attention. He turned the truck around and focused the lights on the tall grass on the shoulder of the road. They were about to give up when they finally found the teeth.

All our visiting between friends was done on foot. Once Mae Gronlund and I attempted to walk to Dinant to a skating party. We got as far as Thor Johnsons, and he took us to Dinant and Roy Forsen took us home. Lillian and Sylvia Naslund and Evelyn and I used to walk to Gruntmans. The twins Alice and Agnes played guitar, and did we sing up a storm! Our "Cattle Call" was really something, harmony, yodelling and all. When I was attending High school in Hay Lakes, I used to cross the field to Naslunds where I was joined by Lil and Sylvia. We set off for Hay Lakes, straight as the crow flies, and in the process crossed seventeen barbed wire fences. (My kids have a hard time believing that one.) In the winter months we stayed at Herman Lechelts, Martin HenKlemans and Magnus Swares, who now lived in town.

During the war, we formed a club called "Cherry Chums". We sent parcels to overseas service men from our district, and had social gatherings, such as weiner roasts, pie socials, and we had a ball diamond in our pasture. I must say our parents were very

understanding about us having friends over, and our home was usually filled like Grand Central Station.

After the war, I graduated from High School, and supervised the Miquelon School for awhile until a regular teacher arrived. Mae Gronlund was now in Vancouver and urged me to join her. We stayed with Margaret (Hanson) Verge. I was employed at the Vancouver Income Tax office.

I returned to Alberta a couple of years later, and in 1948 I married Bernard Selin. We had three children, Daryl, Debbie, and Dale. Daryl is an electrician and works for Electro Construction. Debbie Chromick has two children, Matthew and Tanya. Dale works for Argyl Welding. He married the former Gloria Bobick in 1980. We have spent the past thirty-two years in Camrose, and I am presently employed at Rosehaven, where I have spent the past twenty-two years.

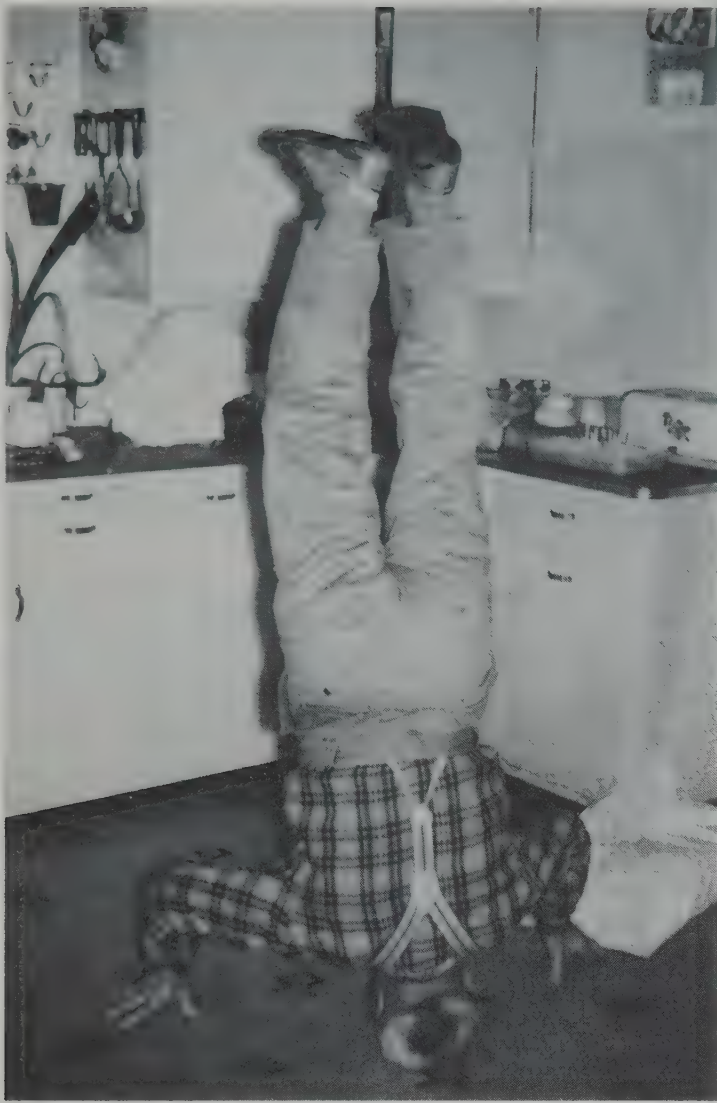
submitted by

Georgia (Webster) Selin

My first recollections as a child was when I was two years old. I contracted polio and spent three months strapped, hand and foot to a board-like stretcher. My brother Leslie tells me this all happened when our mother was in the hospital, and our brother Williard was born. Then when my brother Bob was born, I nearly lost my life when I was operated on for appendicitis that had been ruptured for two days. When Joan was to be born, my parents wondered what next? Luckily my string of misfortune had come to an end.

We had literally nothing to play with as children, but we had some extremely good times. Our play houses in the woods were very clever. We nailed boards to the trees for separate rooms. Blocks of wood served as tables and chairs, leaves were our carpet, and we used discarded broken dishes on which to serve our mud pies. We carved eyes, nose and mouth in a block of wood and wrapped them lovingly in rags for our dolls. We were very near Mae and Jim Gronlund, who lived just a quarter of a mile east of our place. We also made many a trip on foot across the field to the south to play with the Naslund children, and they returned our visits. In the winter time we used to sled down the big hill on which their house was built. In the summer we would drown gophers, ride horseback on old Maud and Romeo, and we really had a good time swimming in a fairly clean slough on Naslund's called "Beaver Slough".

One of the things I admired and still remember about my father was his humor and wit. He loved to crack jokes and make people laugh especially when around Ivar Lofgren, who was a receptive audience. A yearly ritual of his, even after he was eighty years old, was to celebrate his birthday by standing on his



George Webster standing on his head.

head. He loved visiting with people who came to call, but he disliked getting dressed up and going anywhere. He was a real "homebody", and I think perhaps a little of that has rubbed off on me. I like going out, up to a point, but for the most part, not leaving the place for a week or ten days doesn't bother me a bit.

Our mother's greatest pleasure was visiting and going out also although the later part of her life was restricted by arthritis and several operations on her hips. She never gave in though, and had a great deal of spunk. In addition to her arthritic troubles, she got cancer for which she was treated and cured. I can recall her making Swedish flatbread from her wheelchair, wheeling back and forth from the table to the oven.

Our father passed away on June fourth, 1966 at the age of eighty-four. Some of our family were privileged to attend a Webster family reunion at Devils Lake, North Dakota in the summer of 1979. We saw the town of Webster, named after our grandfather, and the farm where our father had been raised. We also visited the only surviving member of a

family of thirteen children, Ida Webster who is ninety-one years old.

Our mother, Louise (Lindberg) Webster spent the five remaining years of her life in the Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose. She passed away on April 6, 1977, two months short of reaching her seventy-eighth birthday.

Our brother Williard (Billy) passed away in the University Hospital, Edmonton, on August 29, 1979 at the age of fifty-one years. Surviving members of the Webster family are Leslie of Hay Lakes, Robert (Bob) of Peers, Georgia Selin of Camrose, Joan Swanlund of Red Deer, and Marjorie Servold and Evelyn Pearson of Hay Lakes.

submitted by
Evelyn (Webster) Pearson

Webster, Leslie and Family

submitted by L. E. Webster

Leslie Webster has lived all his life in the Hay Lakes area. In 1951 he married Christina Shanks-Hodgson. Christina had come with her three small children; Betty, Bill and Jean to the Sulitjelma area in 1947. She taught at Sulitjelma until the school was moved to Hay Lakes. From the time of their marriage to the present Leslie and Christina have lived on the Lindberg homestead. Lois was born in 1952. All four children were educated at the Hay Lakes school.

In 1964 Jean married Kenneth Forsen. The Forsens presently live in Vulcan, Alberta where Ken is



Leslie and Christine Webster 1976.

Trades Superintendent with the Provincial Parks Department. Jean is employed at the Vulcan Treasury Branch. They have two sons, Kevin and Darcy.

Bill married Rita Wenig of Camrose in 1966. After living and working in Camrose for a short time they moved to the former Edgar Grahn farm. As well as farming, Bill works at Dreco in Edmonton as the purchasing agent. Bill and Rita have three children: Cheryl, David and Glen.

After completing her High school, Lois attended the University of Alberta where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree and teaching certificate. Lois had taught in Queensland, Australia; Silver Valley, Alberta; and Frobisher Bay, Northwest Territories. Presently she is working for Chemex Labs (Alberta) Limited.

In 1965, Betty married Jim Sickles. Betty and Jim are living in Calgary where Betty works for Chemex Labs (Alberta) Limited.

Over the years Leslie has been actively involved in several community organizations including: Uniform, Alberta Wheat Pool, Northern Alberta Dairy Pool, NorthWestern Utilities Limited, and the Hay Lakes District Senior Citizens Club. Christina has served as a substitute teacher in Hay Lakes and New Sarepta, as well as serving for many years on the Board of the Camrose and District Thrift Shop. Both Leslie and Christina have been involved with the St. Joseph Lutheran Church congregation.

Winder, Glen

Glen and Marian Winder, son Bradley born in 1973 and daughter, Jody, born in 1976 moved to the Hay Lakes area in the summer of 1978 from St. Albert. They purchased NE 22-49-21-W4 previously owned by Art and Ida Grahn along the Miquelon Lake Highway.

Glen was born in 1944 and raised in the Spilstead area where his parents, Eric and Louisa, homesteaded after living briefly in the Wilhilmena area east of Hay Lakes. Glen recalls that "Grandpa (LARS) Winder offered to build the log house for my parents if my Dad would haul all the hay for the cattle that winter. Grandpa hued out the logs and put them together in wall sections which they later hauled to our homestead and erected.

I was one of nine children raised by my parents, Elsie, Vernon, Ethel, Hazel, Kenneth, Conrad,

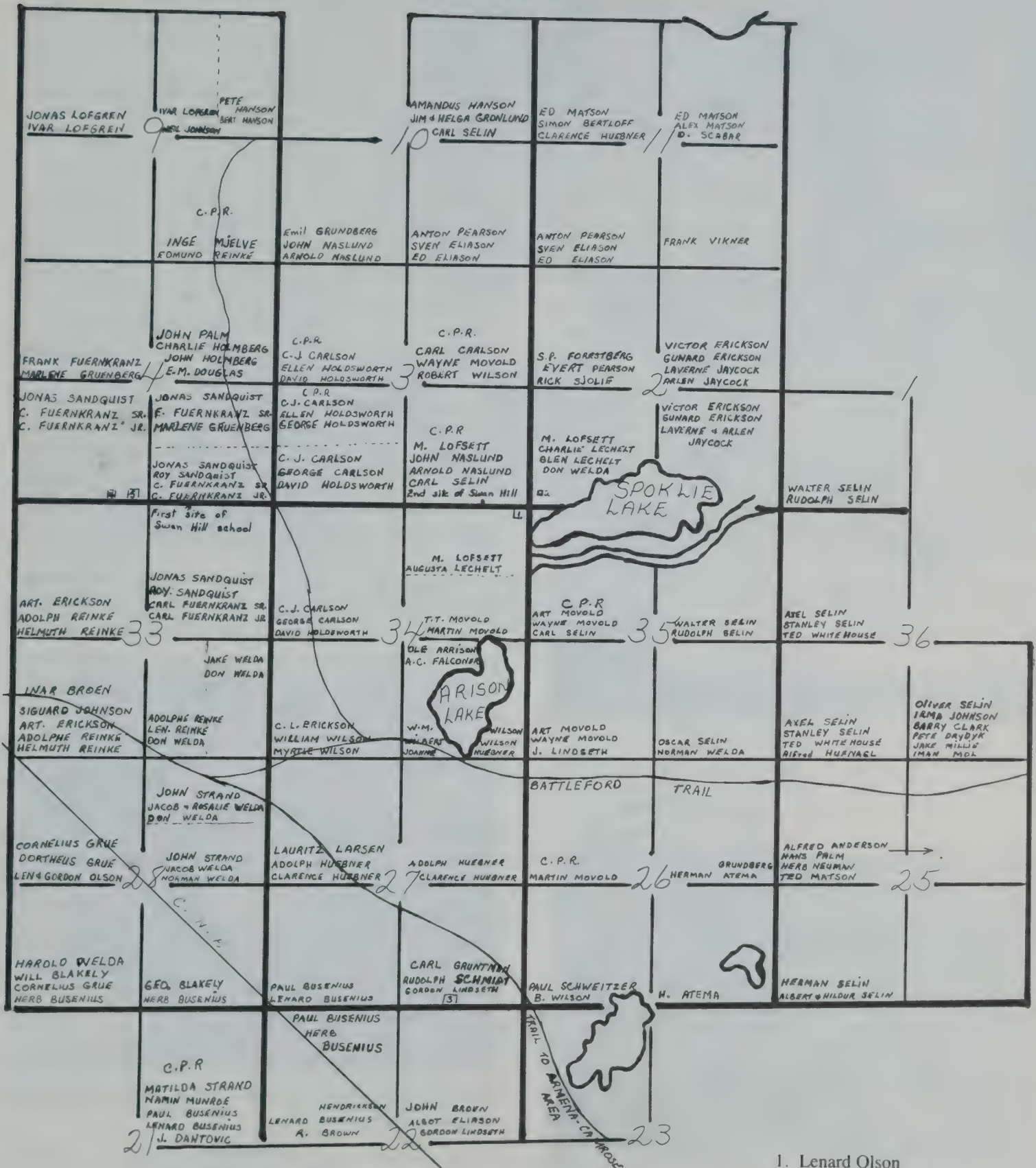
Glen, Brian, and Larry. Life must have been pretty rough at times because I remember Mother telling that my oldest brother, Vernon, bit the end off his nipple at five months and they didn't have the five cents to buy another one so he immediately had to graduate to drinking from a cup.

We milked cows for a living. For many years the "cream man" delivered our cream to New Sarepta. He took along our grocery and hardware list. He would then exchange the cream cheque for goods at Wensell's General Store in New Sarepta. Home would come our empty cream cans and Mother's order. Mother said she got most of her goods from Wensell's for many years before she actually got to see the store in person."

All the Winder children went to the Spilstead School and were taught for many years by Mrs. Helen (Haugen) Torger whose two daughters reside in the Hay Lakes area (Mrs. Shirley Miller and Mrs. Sophie Busenius).

Marian born in 1947 is the only daughter of Jack and Inga Hardy of Tofield. Inga was one of two daughters born to Marie and Ulrik Syvrud who homesteaded in the west Kingman area. The Syvrud family travelled by democrat through the narrows of the two lakes at Miquelon on many occasions to visit with the Ole Sware family of this region. Marian received her post-secondary education at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, graduating in Medical Laboratory Technology. She worked for the following eight years in the University Hospital Hematology Laboratory before family-life took over as a career.

Glen is the accountant and part-owner of C and G Oilwell Services Limited, a company which does much of the oilwell servicing in this area. Glen, Marian and their young family intend to do mix-farming on their land. Both parents are keenly interested in all sports and outdoor activities. Glen spent many years playing baseball in the Alberta Major Baseball League, twice being chosen to fill pitching rosters on Alberta clubs participating in the Canadian baseball championships. Glen currently is a playing coach for the Tofield senior baseball club. Marian and Glen are members of the local curling club and are active in the congregation of St. Joseph's Lutheran Church. Bradley is a First grader and Jody attends Playschool in Hay Lakes.



1. Lenard Olson
2. Bob Klappstein
3. Keith Olson
4. Victor Mearon
5. Barry Clark

Swan Hill School District No. 1665

The Swan Hill School District was formed in 1908 and work on the school-house was started shortly after. The school was opened for classes in 1909, with Miss Jorgine Hendrickson as teacher. In 1911, when survey work was going ahead in connection with the Canadian National Railway, the survey crews discovered that the Swan Hill School was constructed on the road allowance. In 1912 or 1913 it was decided to move the school house a few rods north to the proper ground; arrangements were made with Jonas Sandquist for a small plot of land in Legal Sub Division 3 4-49-21-W4th. (this site is still visible). About 1921 the following land was withdrawn from Swan Hill School District and added to the newly formed Hay Lakes School District: Sections 29 and 32 of 48-21-W4, Sections 5 and 6, and the south half



Swan Hill School.

Swan Hill School District
Seal N. 1665.



of Sections 7 and 8 in 49-21-W4. Land that was added to the east side of Swan Hill School District was the west half of Section 25 and 36 in 48-21-W4, the SW 1-48-21-W4, and the north half of sections 9, 10 and 11 in 49-21-W4. The re-alignment of the land put the Swan Hill School on the west side of the district. At a meeting in the fall of 1921, it was decided to move the school house to a more central location. In November 1921, the sum of \$340 plus \$460 was borrowed for the purpose of fencing and

clearing a three-acre site. In 1922, the school house was moved to the new location, Legal Sub Division 2 of Section 3-49-21-W4, about a mile east "as the crow flies". As there was no road between the two points, it was decided to put skids under the building and skid it on the ice of the sloughs as much as possible, as there was a series of sloughs running in a south-easterly direction, then on the old trail for a short way crossing over some higher ground to another series of sloughs running in a northerly direction, and then east. By proceeding over the sloughs, they maintained movement on the level. Eight teams of horses furnished the power. By this round-about way they hauled it about two miles and had Stoney Creek to contend with as there were no bridges.

Oscar Selin was hired as helper and relates that tragedy almost struck when they were putting the school house on its foundation; the chimney had not been removed from the roof and a crack had developed at the roof line during the process of moving. When they were attempting to put the building on its foundation, the school house tipped slightly and dislodged the weakened chimney which came tumbling down to the ground and just missed hitting W. M. Wilson. Ole Olafson was hired as mason to replace the upper part of the damaged chimney with Oscar being brick and mortar man. During the chimney building process, Oscar spotted a hole in the mortar. He persuaded Ole to remove a few rows of brick and plug the hole so that if there was a chimney fire, it would not set fire to the building.

Some of the homesteaders that were involved in the formation of the Swan Hill School District were: Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Welda, Anton Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Carlson, Cornelius Grue, W. M. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Erickson, George Blakely, Mr. and Mrs. John Palm and Mr. and Mrs. M. Lofsett.

In 1923, the NW 10-49-21-W4 was withdrawn and added to the Sulitjelma School District. On December 6, 1927 SE 36-48-21-W4 was added to Swan Hill School District. Still more land was added in 1941 when NE 21, the North half of 22, and NW 23-48-21-W4 was included. Swan Hill closed its doors on June 30, 1950, as the children were then bussed to Hay Lakes for the 1951 school term. The Swan Hill school house was sold to Charlie Lechelt and was torn down.

Teachers

Swan Hill School

1909-1910	Miss Jorgine Hendrickson
1910-1911	Miss Bowles
1911-1912	Mr. McCormick
1912-1913	Miss E. Pehsen
1913-1914	Mr. C. H. Tookay
1914-1915	Miss Jorgine Hendrickson
1915-1916	Mr. Carl Hendrickson



Picture taken by Mr. Young the teacher of Swan Hill school around 1918. Back Row: Violet Blakely, Rosalie Blakely, Lars Grue, Gilbert Movold, Mabel Wilson, Elna Lofsett, Olga Grue and Olga Holmberg. Front Row: Wilbert Wilson, August Sandquist, Robert Blakely, Roy Blakely, George Carlson, John Holmberg, Thorsten Lofsett, and Albin Sandquist.



Class of 1930-31 Swan Hill.

1916-1917	Miss A. Rogers Miss Helen De Selva Miss W. Thornley
1917-1918	Mrs. James D. McLeod
1918-1919	Miss Minnie Goodwin
1919-1920	Mr. C. S. Young Miss Gwen Russel
1920-1921	Miss Minnie Goodwin
1921-1922	Miss A. McAllister

1922-1923	Mrs. Matilda Munroe
1923-1924	Mrs. Mathilda Munroe Mr. C. Rovang Mrs. A. T. Broen Mr. T. Davidson
1924-1925	Miss M. Hillaby
1925-1926	Miss G. Anderson
1926-1927	Miss Olga Holmberg



Swan Hill Class of 1947 or 48 (Not all students present) Mrs. Thelma Movold — Teacher. Front Row: Melvin Movold, Ronald Eliason, Frank Fuernkranz, Eddie Holdsworth. Second Row: Lillian Huebner, Grace Eliason, Maxine Movold, Joyce Movold, Ruby Selin, Joyce Peterson, Joyce Selin. Third Row: Glen Lechelt, Mrs. Movold, Eddie Eliason, Hilbert Gruntman, George Holdsworth, Clarence Huebner, Lawrence Gruntman, and Rodney Movold.

TAX STATEMENTS

Equalized Assessment set by Asst. Com. \$1,734,565.00									
	Municipal	Supplementry Revenue	Educational	Wild Lands	Total Provincial	Hail Insurance			
Assessed Valuation for each tax (net)	1,816,015.00	1,736,565.00	45,200.00	5000.00					
Rate of Taxation (mills on the dollar)	13	2	3	10					
Current Levy under each Tax Heading	23,610.37	3,472.00	135.60	50.00	3657.60				
Uncollected December 31, 1934, Including Costs	39,607.90	8,137.79	262.55	2134.00	10534.34				
Penalties and Costs Added in 1935	1,741.44	389.67	14.95	88.80	493.42				
TOTAL DUE	64,959.71	11,999.46	413.10	2272.80	14685.36				
Collections in 1935 Including Costs	20,819.18	3,182.31	123.37	91.27	3396.95				
Cancellations Authorized in 1935	595.48	66.48		392.60	459.08				
Discounts on Taxes in 1935	716.60	136.28	4.98	3.48	144.74				
UNCOLLECTED TAXES, DECEMBER 31, 1935	42,828.45	8,614.39	284.75	1785.45	10684.59				
Collected in 1935 (see above)		3,182.31	123.37	91.27	3396.95				
TOTAL DUE (Accounted for below)		3,182.31	123.37	91.27	3396.95				
Paid in 1935 to Provincial Government and Hail Board		3,182.31	123.37	91.27	3396.95				
		3,182.31	123.37	91.27	3396.95				

Name of S.D.	Assessed Valuation	Current Tax	Uncollected Dec. 31 1934	Penalties Added 1935	Total Due	Collected in 1935	Cancelled	Discounts on Taxes, 1935	Total Paid S.D.'s in 1935	Commissions Retained	Collections Owning S.D.'s Dec. 31, 1935
Anderson, 434	62,250.	747.00	1184.50	85.76	2017.26	608.51			1384.45	800.00	
Brandland, 1797	59,900.	299.50	635.58	36.97	972.05	345.64			611.93	560.00	
Coal Hill 1514	36,400.	546.00	214.80	9.34	770.14	496.34			255.25	330.00	
Cooking Lake, 2625	64,890.	325.34	3112.09	99.26	3536.69	514.70			3011.63	412.00	
Farmington, 750	95,480.	477.40	1509.80	101.35	2088.55	618.23			1428.36	900.00	
Grand Forks, 737	58,400.	292.00	777.95	57.15	1127.10	310.24			806.32	410.00	
Hastings Lake, 2939	63,230.	632.30	6119.46	252.24	7004.00	753.81	13.75		6215.63	900.00	21.22
Ingram, 376	42,820.	214.10	298.10	22.15	534.35	175.20			352.43	321.00	
Ketchamoot, 1415	152,890.	764.45	2665.40	189.34	3619.19	982.19			2604.98	1100.00	
Lake Shore, 937	119,800.	599.00	1762.07	116.69	2477.76	653.00			1800.78	1600.00	
Lindbrook, 1835	111,940.	783.58	741.86	56.47	1581.91	539.80			1018.78	950.00	
Looma Vista, 1724	14,850.	148.50	1296.69	13.42	1458.61	463.55	436.70		536.85	228.00	
Ministik, 1796	56,380.	282.67	2121.65	133.93	2538.25	614.02	50.35		1800.69	1040.00	
Miquelon, 3067	59,350.	415.45	1550.93	100.70	2067.08	441.27			1608.36	700.00	
McKenzie, 234	120,190.	1802.85	2022.47	137.19	3962.51	1369.96			2546.79	2000.00	
New Sarepta, 1548	28,300.	198.10	380.80	23.85	602.75	208.20			388.75	165.00	
Pretty Hill, 1422	25,250.	126.25	956.95	37.12	1120.32	254.12			810.40	225.00	
Ross Creek, 521	8,700.	43.50	120.80	3.90	168.20	155.89			120.00	120.00	
Summer, 1668	58,150.	290.75	683.11	34.60	1008.46	484.57			514.82	625.00	
Sultjelma, 1611	95,200.	1428.00	1274.95	90.78	2793.73	718.36			2050.38	1200.00	
Swan Hill, 1665	32,550.	162.75	476.15	32.11	671.01	224.49			442.70	351.00	
Weslake, 3593	53,540.	803.10	742.88	35.77	1581.75	760.24			797.57	700.00	
Woodlawn, 1987	55,250.	276.25	2224.16	124.25	2624.66	474.40			2134.54	600.00	
Total Rural S.D.'s	1,475,710.	11658.84	32873.15	1794.34	46326.33	12167.73	500.80	535.41	33122.39	16237.00	21.22
											9710.96

REPORTING SCHOOLS

Name of S.D.	Taxes Reported T.R. Act	Sec. 3	Sec. 10	Penalties Added	Total Due	Collected in 1935	Cancelled	Discounts on Taxes, 1935	Total Paid S.D.'s in 1935	Commissions Retained	Collections Owning S.D.'s Dec. 31, 1935
Franklin, 1690	60.15			3.75	63.90	30.50			33.40	1.50	
Kingman, 2867	504.62			89.21	2168.48	918.94	34.25	29.80	1185.49	45.94	nil
Tofield, 1939	672.06			68.61	1902.95	613.57	42.50	21.10	1225.78	30.67	nil
Hay Lakes, 3876				9.30	122.65				122.65		nil
Total Reporting S.D.'s	1236.83			170.87	4257.98	1563.01	76.75	50.90	2567.32	78.11	nil

Tax Statement 1935.

A Penalty of 5 per cent. is added to all unpaid taxes on the first of January and 5 per cent. is added on the first of July each year following the year in which they are levied.

ORIGINAL

(RURAL)

Swan Hill

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. *1052*

No. *12*

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

\$ *23.16*

Date *Nov 24* 19*23*

TAX RECEIPT

RECEIVED from

C. J. Carlson

the sum of

Twenty Three

16 / *100* DOLLARS

To be applied in payment of Taxes as follows:

Plan No.		Lot	Block	Sub.Div.	Taxes		Arrears and	Total	Years	Total
Part of Sec.	Sec.	Tp.	Rg.	Mer.	Current		Interest	Due	Paid	Paid
<i>SW</i> <i>1/4</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>16</i>			<i>1923</i>	<i>23 16</i>

Adrian Arrison
Secretary-Treasurer.

School Tax receipt for 1923.

1927-1928	Miss K. Tinkler
1928-1929	Miss K. Tinkler
1929-1930	Miss Monica Gesshe
1930-1931	Miss Thelma Kjorlien
1931-1932	Miss Thelma Kjorlien
1932-1933	Miss Thelma Kjorlien
1933-1934	Miss Ina Lofgren
1934-1935	Miss Ina Lofgren
1935-1936	Miss Ina Lofgren
1936-1937	Miss Mary Lofgren
1937-1938	Miss Mary Lofgren
1938-1939	Mr. Sten Gunderson
1939-1940	Mr. Sten Gunderson
1940-1941	Mr. Sten Gunderson
1941-1942	Mrs. Mary (Lofgren) Grue
1942-1943	Miss M. McCormick
1943-1944	Miss Mary Suca
1944-1945	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold
1945-1946	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold
1946-1947	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold
1947-1948	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold
1948-1949	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold
1949-1950	Mrs. Thelma (Kjorlien) Movold

Arrison, Ole

Ole Arrison had a shack on SE35-48-21-W4. During the survey in the early 1900's it was discovered that he was on Canadian Pacific Railroad land, so his only alternative was to file on a homestead. Upon checking out what homestead land was

available in the area, he found a quarter one mile west, SE 34-48-21-W4, and he filed on it in August 1902, receiving the title to it in July, 1908.

Ole built his home not far from well L.S.D.1-SE34-48-21-W4, just east of the small lake, that is locally known as Arrison Lake.



Ole Arrison's log cabin.

Ole ran a fairly large herd of cattle. He would cut hay in sloughs on wild Canadian Pacific Railroad land for his cattle, and put it up in small stacks with a

team of horses and a buck rake. His cattle fed on these small stacks all winter. When it was time to move to the next slough he would just call and the cattle would follow him.

There is a legend that he possessed a large number of gold coins. However, this could not be substantiated.

He sold his homestead to W. M. Wilson around 1917 and retired to Hay Lakes for a few years. He passed away in March of 1922 at the age of seventy-six years and is buried at the Swanhill Cemetery, East Hay Lakes.

Bertloff, Simon

Simon Bertloff came to Canada from Germany in the late 1920's where he worked in the steel mills. He left his native Romania after World War I and went to Germany to work, leaving behind two daughters and his property which was an orchard and a fruit and tree nursery.

He came to Western Canada from Germany. In the New Sarepta district he worked for about one year before coming to the East Hay Lake-Kingman area to work. He would take any kind of job. He cleared land with an axe and a special bush axe made by Mr. R. Fisher, then a blacksmith in Hay Lakes.

When Simon came to Canada he was able to speak some English as he had worked in Eastern United States in the steel mill in Cleveland before World War I. He had gone back for a visit when the war broke out and was conscripted by the Romanian Army.

During the Depression years of the 1930's he brushed and cut firewood for people in the area. When the snow got too deep to be in the woods for brushing he would get a job splitting wood for the people. If there was a lot of work he would split a pile of wood in short order. If work was slow he'd make it last longer.

His main objective was to make sure he had some place to stay. The custom in the district was to supply room and board for the workers on the place.

When Simon was not working at a regular job he seemed to make his home at Mrs. Turnquist's where he would help with the chores and other small jobs needed around the farm. There he had a small plot of land on which he had some fruit and ornamental trees planted. Simon's work covered a large area where in the summer and fall he would help with the harvest and haying.

Simon Bertloff or Simon as everyone knew him bought NW 11-49-21-W4 from the Hay Lakes Drainage District for between six and seven hundred dollars. The farm was nearly all trees and sloughs except

for eleven acres which was farmed. This he rented to his neighbours to farm for a few years. He continued working out for a few more years but jobs such as brushing were getting scarce and further major clearing was done by machinery.

Simon built a small house and cleared a small area of land near his house where he grew flowers, small fruit trees as well as mountain ash and honeysuckle. He specialized in peonies and grew several different varieties. He sold his flowers, shrubs and trees in the district usually delivering them on his bicycle. He would always tell you how to plant and care for them and the plants would grow if you followed his instructions. He was always concerned about the hardiness of the plants he grew for sale.

Simon's only method of transportation was his bicycle and he covered many miles on his bike, often riding to Camrose, a distance of over twenty miles.

A few years after getting his farm Simon bought a few head of cattle and a team of horses, some haying equipment and quit working out. He would first cut his hay then rake it into small piles in the field called haycocks which he topped off to shed any rain so as to finish curing. After all his hay was cocked he would start hauling it home and stack it in a long stack separating the better quality hay from the poorer hay. This hay was kept in a corral near where he put his cattle in the wintertime. Using a stick with a hook to pull the hay from each stack he would proportionately mix the poorer quality hay with the better quality hay to feed his cattle.

Simon Bertloff was an extremely thrifty man. He spent very little on food which was mostly on flour, salt and fat pork. He made himself pancakes using the fat pork for lard. He kept a few chickens for eggs and milked a cow for his own use. The chickens were kept in a dugout in a sidehill. He had lived in this dugout while building his house. He knew how to make use of wild plants for food. One time while I helped him hay he made a salad of dandelion which was quite tasty.

Simon would shoot rabbits for his chickens and dog. He would not eat rabbit as he was afraid they might be sick. His dog, Susie, was his constant companion. She would follow him wherever he went walking but never followed him when he rode his bicycle.

Simon's house was divided into two parts. In one part he used to store the grain he got when he had his land rented. He lived in the other part which was about fourteen feet by ten or twelve feet wide. In it he had a cook stove, his bed, a small table and two chairs.

Simon believed in "waste not, want not," so he saved everything that came his way. Soon his room



Brown bear shot at Simon Bertloff's in 1955 or 1956.

was filled with newspapers and other things but he always knew where to find things. He was also fond of nature. Once he set up an old stump to be used by a tree duck for nesting. She used this same stump for many years. He would set out cans for wrens to nest in and I remember one time asking if he had seen any wrens as it was past the date they generally arrived.

I remember one time when Simon was brushing at Fred Miller's he received a letter from his daughter informing him that he was a grandfather. She had sent a picture of her and the new grandson. He was so happy when he showed me the picture that his eyes were filled with tears.

Simon worked hard and never asked for a handout. He never spent any money on himself except for the bare necessities so many people called him a miser. I later learned that much of his wages while working and after was sent to Romania to his families over there to be used to help them keep the property he had there.

During the Second World War a daughter and family moved to Germany. She had four sons, and Simon eventually brought three of them to Canada. Johann, the first one to arrive, came to Canada in 1952.

Johann was so disappointed when he saw Simon's home that I think he would have taken the next plane back to Germany. He would come over to our place quite often but conversation was limited as he spoke no English and I no German. He would ride with me on the combine that spring for hours. Johann stayed at Simon's about three months helping him to hay, then went to Edmonton where he got a job with Fekette Construction, working his way up in the company to be one of the foremen.

A couple of years later Simon brought two more grandsons to Canada. One stayed only a month in Canada, then went back to Germany. Simon, the other grandson, stayed and worked as a mechanic at the Industrial Airport in Edmonton. These boys never came to Simon's farm to live but lived with their brother, Johann, in Edmonton.

Simon heard his grandson in Romania needed medicine which was not available there, so he contacted the Red Cross and made arrangements with them and the Royal Bank and a local doctor to have the medicine sent to his grandson in Romania.

Simon liked fresh fruit so after he received his old age pension he would always buy some of his favorite which were grapefruit, bananas, peaches and pears.

Simon would go to Hay Lakes every Saturday and go into the café to have coffee, coca cola and an ice cream cone, eating and drinking at the same time.

Early in June about 1955 or '56, Simon came over about nine-thirty in the morning all excited as there was a strange animal bothering his cows. He was milking when it came and scared the cattle. He had gone to the house for his twenty-two rifle and shot at it, but to no avail since he had only short shells. He asked me to bring my rifle. Seeing he was really nervous and upset I took my automatic twenty-two rifle with long rifle shells thinking it must be just a stray dog. When we got to his corrals where he kept his cattle I saw a Brown bear which started to come towards us. I was very lucky — downing it with the twenty-two rifle shooting at its eyes and ears. The shots that Simon had fired earlier we found just under the skin in its skull.

Simon visited very often at the Sidney Matson home and with my parents, the Websters. Dad would walk over to Simon's every day which was rather fortunate for Simon because if anything went wrong Dad would have me go and help Simon.

One cold winter day Dad made his daily visit to Simon's and found him trying to make a fire in his stove. He saw that Simon was quite sick. His cookstove had finally burnt out. He had an airtight heater on the top of his old cookstove. Then I went there to find Simon with no fire and sick. His hands were frozen with the thumb on one hand all swollen.

His feet were also frozen. I convinced Simon to come home with me as he was in no condition to look after himself.

I then phoned his grandson in Edmonton telling him about Simon's condition and wondering what to do. Johann made arrangements with his doctor to bring Simon to Edmonton's General Hospital. He spent sometime in the hospital and when he was well enough to leave he went to live in the Nursing Home in St. Albert.

While Simon was in the hospital I fed his cattle. He then asked us to sell the cattle for him. We brought the cattle to our place to load them except his old milk cow which refused to leave Simon's farm. She stayed at the farm the rest of the winter. We let her into the haystack and the next summer she stayed in the pasture raising a calf. Finally the following winter she went to Sidney Matson's. Sidney then corralled the cow and her calf and sold them for Simon.

Simon's dog, Susie, disappeared from the farm shortly after Simon left. The last time I saw her was at the slaughter house near Hay Lakes.

While Simon was at the Nursing Home in St. Albert he would come to Hay Lakes to visit. The first time he came out was in the spring after he was in the hospital. Out on his farm he found that someone had been there and found his rifle, bicycle and some other things which had disappeared. Later the same spring Simon and his grandson came to his farm to get some flowers and shrubs and most of them were also gone.

Simon spent a little over two years in the St. Albert Nursing Home before he died.

Clarence Huebner bought Simon's farm.

Blakely, William and Hope **written by daughter Marigold Nutt**

As early pioneers the Blakelys arrived in Hay Lakes before the year 1900. I believe it was either 1896 or 1897 as I was born there on March 11, 1900 at the location of the old Telegraph Office. This Telegraph Office was mentioned in issue of the Edmonton Bulletin to the effect there was no Easter news owing to the Telegraph having broken down. I believe that after the years its location was on Simon Grue's farm.

I was one year of age when my parents moved to Bittern Lake for better and more convenient pasture as my father ran an extensive ranching spread in the early days.

George Blakely filed claim for a homestead on SE 28-48-21-W4. Albert Neil Kelstad and his wife Margaret lived there for a period of time with our mother after they were married.

At George Blakely's death William Blakely acquired the land, Hope Blakely owned it and trans-



Emma and Basil Blakely.

ferred it and also the Southwest quarter as a gift to Margaret. She owned it until she sold it to Herbert Busenius. There was an old log house on it that George Blakely had built. He never married and he and his mother, Alvina Blakely, lived there until her death in 1923. George himself died in the early 1930's. There were two children born in the house, my son Brian, and Mrs. Daisy Russel, his niece, gave birth to her first child, Stanley, there.

Budd Blakely also homesteaded about one and a half miles from Hay Lakes. His grandmother, Nancy Brown, lived with him and also his mother, Alvina Blakely, for some years before his marriage. Mrs. Brown died in 1907 at ninety-three years of age and is buried in the Armena cemetery. Later her daughter Alvina died at the age of eighty-three and is buried there. William, George, Budd and Newton Blakely are buried there also.

Newton Blakely bought a farm at Bittern Lake about 1908. My father, William, also had land there, but spent the last years before his death at George's house at Hay Lakes.

In those early years there were no schools. My mother arranged to have a live-in teacher for us children, three of us and three of the neighbour's children. In 1909 I was sent to Edmonton to school. With the incoming United Farmers of Alberta Government, schools were opening very fast and in 1912 I returned to the farm and attended at Ellswick school. We drove a buggy or rode horseback. After Big Hay Lake school opened I went there, it being only about three miles away, half the distance to Ellswick. After that for a period of time I was back in Edmonton at school.

There were hardships even then, but no one worried about it. The very early settlers worked hard and did not expect too much.

The immigrants started coming in large numbers

after the Railway was built, surveying was done and roads were starting to be built. Before that we just took off as the crow flies, the fastest, closest way between two points. I remember my father took his axe and showed me the way to cut down trees, to make a road of sorts to get to the Hay Lakes school.

When my parents arrived at Hay Lakes, there was not a town there yet. Mr. Poulett Elliott kept a Post Office at his farm and was a marvelous gardener. After his death his widow and daughter moved to Camrose to live, about 1920.

A family named McKenzie lived near Hay Lakes. His name was David. He went to Edmonton with a team of horses and a lumber wagon. Mrs. McKenzie, while he was away, took the dog to bring the cows home for milking. She got lost and was gone three days until they found her over at Rock Lake, between Big Hay Lake and Bittern Lake. The dog had left her and returned home, then led the searchers to her. They and the Elliots, it seems, were my mother's only neighbours.

My mother was born in England and came to America with her parents at five years of age. They had spent six weeks at sea.

My Grandfather on Dad's side was born in Canada, in Ontario, but left to join in one of the American Wars, the Civil war I presume. He came back north with an army buddy to Vermont, and married Grandmother there. They did not return to Canada until 1885 as a family; my oldest sister was then maybe six months old. They remained west of Calgary for a time.

Grandfather Robert Blakely started the Lime Kiln at Kananaskis, but turned it over to his son-in-law, Edwin Loder, who developed it into a big business. He was married to Ella May Blakely. There are some laughable things told of those days. Dad said he had no decent shoes, so he married in a borrowed pair. At any rate he died a millionaire and was decorated by King George V for services to the Empire beyond the bounds of duty. He received his medal on his death bed.

Editor's note:

We were saddened to hear that Mrs. Marigold Nutt, shortly after submitting this article for our history book, was killed when hit by a car on her way home from church in Penticton, British Columbia.

Herbert and Mabel (Harke) Busenius

I was born in 1916, in the Rabbit Hill area just south of Edmonton, being son of Paul and Marrianna Busenius. I came with them to the Hay Lakes district in 1918 at the age of two years to settle with them on SW 27-48-21-W4, about three miles southeast of Hay Lakes.

I received my education at the Swan Hill School, my first teacher being Mrs. Broen.

After my Grade eight education, I decided to stay on the farm with my parents and help them since my father's health was not the best. I did so until November 1943, when I married Mabel Harke of New Sarepta and then moved just half a mile west from the home place to the south half of Section 28-48-21-W4.

Mabel was born in New Sarepta in 1920, to Martin and Olga Harke and received her education at the New Sarepta School. She lived on the farm with her parents until her marriage which took her to the farm at Hay Lakes.

We were blessed with four children: Judith or Judy was the first to arrive in May of 1945. Carol came along in February, 1947, and Elaine in November 1949. After a period of six years, in March 1955, our only son appeared in our home. They all attended school in Hay Lakes. There were many happy moments in our home as the family grew up, and music played a dominant role. Everyone could play one or more instruments except Carol. She did the singing for us, and those are moments one can never forget.

The children are all married now and live away from home. Judy married Ken Eckert and they lived in Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan and finally bought a farm four miles west of Hay Lakes where they now reside. They have two daughters: Sheila and Annette.

Carol married Ernest Davie and after living in Edmonton for some time, they bought a mobile home and live on a farm a few miles east of Edmonton. They also have two daughters: Josie and Yvonne.

Elaine married Doug Ross who is with the Canadian Armed Forces. After their marriage, they lived



Back Row: Elaine, Judy and Carol. Front: Mabel, Ivan and Herbert.

in Edmonton for a few years and then went out to live in Lahr, West Germany for five years where we had the privilege of visiting them in the summer of 1976. After their return, they went to Chilliwack, British Columbia and made their home where he is still with the Armed Forces. They also have two children: Tanya and Randy.

Ivan married Sherry Wickstorm and they make their home in Red Deer, where they are both employed.

Mabel passed away in August 1968, and is buried in the Camrose Cemetery.

After being alone for some time, I married Adina Lemke in September 1975. At present we are still active in some farming but live in Camrose.

Growing up on the farm was rather exciting for me. One incident of the many which really stand out in my mind was when my father while harrowing laid down the reins and tried to strike a gopher with the whip. His action set the horses going down the field getting close to the road fence-line and scattering harrows and pieces of drawbar as they went along. It was lucky for my oldest sister who tried to stop them when they finally got hung up on a big willow bush. The rest of the day was spent gathering up the harrows and making a new drawbar.

Going to school was also a big chore, especially in the winter and many days were missed. When I was real young, I went on foot over the snow drifts and later with a horse and cutter. After a big blizzard, the horse would get bogged down in a big drift and had to be unhitched and the cutter pulled back out. After the horse was hitched again, the fence was pulled down and Movold's field became our road for the rest of the winter. The change to more modern ways made it so much easier for my children to get to school. I sometimes wonder if they appreciated it, or if it wasn't just a bit boring.

It was hard work for my parents to try to make a living out of the land. The land was cleared by axe, grub hoe, and a team of horses. It was broke with three horses hitched to a walking plow and father hanging onto the handles to make the plow go straight and stay in the ground. Most of the roots were picked by mother. Harvest time wasn't much easier. The cutting was done with three horses hitched to a six-foot Frost-and Wood Binder. It was put in stooks and then stacked into stacks. The threshing was mostly done after everyone was finished stacking and sometimes it was really cold with lots of snow on the ground. This system graduated into the bundle racks and the big steamer. It was amazing to see all the wood and coal that outfit would consume within twenty-four hours to keep the power up. The gas power used later was so much more convenient. With

the modern equipment of today, one man can do the same amount of work in one day as a crew of eight or more did in years past and with less hard work.

Sometimes I think I came into this world thirty or forty years too soon, but then life has really been good to me and I have no regrets.

Paul and Marrianna Busenius by Herbert Busenius

Paul Busenius was born in Russia in 1888, in the district of Holanoski near Valinia. In 1912, he was



Paul Busenius.



Marianna Busenius and granddaughter Mavis.

united in marriage to Marrianna Huebner in the Shitomir area near Kiev, Ukraine. At that time he was training in the army. He did not like the army, nor did he like the way of life in Russia, so upon his release from the army, he sold what little possessions he had and made plans to leave for Canada, where he already had an Uncle and an Aunt.

In June of 1913, they received permission to leave Russia and arrived in Quebec on August 13. From there they travelled by train to Edmonton and made their home in the Heimtal or Rabbit Hill area just south of Edmonton.

While living there, Paul worked for surrounding farmers, and it was there that four of the children were born: Hulda, Reinhold, Herbert and Leonard.

While living there they became acquainted with the Moravian Church and became members. It was also there that Paul found a friend who loaned him enough money to make a down payment for a farm and they decided to settle on SW 27-48-21-W4 about three and a half miles southeast of Hay Lakes, in the year 1918.

The only building on the farm was a grain bin, so they moved into a house just across the road until enough renovations could be made to the granary to make it habitable. It was added onto, to make more room for the family and later rebuilt and is still being lived in.

There were few improvements on the farm and, of course, there were also very few idle moments, I can still picture in my mind all the log barns, the chicken house with the sod roof was warm enough for hens to supply us with eggs even in the winter-time.

It was on this farm that the other two children in the family were born: Alma and Edna, with a Mrs. Hendrickson of the Armena district being the attending nurse. She also spent many days in our home nursing the children back to health when they got seriously ill.

It does not take very long before children are old enough to go to school. When it is three miles distant it creates a problem for the small ones and also for the parents. Therefore the oldest did not get started to school when she should have, but finally there was a teacher by the name of Mrs. Munroe who went by our route and had a horse. My dad had the buggy so that provided transportation for the two.

The children all received their education at the Swan Hill School and upon completion the three boys stayed in the district and became farmers. The girls married, and have all left the Hay Lakes district.

Hulda married Albert Sommer of New Sarepta. They lived there until 1948, when they sold their farming operation and moved to Chilliwack, British

Columbia, to own and operate a dairy farm. They have a son, Raymond, who is with the Royal Canadian Air Force. He is married and they have three children, Liana, Paul and Dwayne. Also, they have a daughter, Ruth, who married Bruno Lange, and they have two children: Mark and Karen.

Hulda passed away in 1963, and is buried in the Chilliwack cemetery.

Alma married George Carlson of Hay Lakes and after farming a number of years just two miles east of Hay Lakes, they moved to Grinrod, British Columbia, then on to Kamloops, for a few years and finally settled in Surrey, British Columbia. Born to them were three children: a son, Dennis is still at home; a daughter, Vera, is married to Bruno Falk and they have two children: David and Janice. Another daughter, May is married to Franz Perner, and they also have two children, Franzi and Martin.

George (Alma's husband) passed away in November, 1976 and is buried in Surrey.

Edna married Wesley Harke of New Sarepta, and they have four children: Ruby, Brian, Mavis and Myron.

Ruby married Cliff Ness and they have a daughter Melissa. Brian married Fay Dalmer and have one son Tyler. Mavis and Myron are still at home.

Paul Busenius passed away in 1942 and Marrianna passed away in 1976, and they are buried at the New Sarepta Moravian Cemetery.

C. J. Carlson Family

Carl Johan Carlson was born December 14, 1868. Elin Augusta Blomander was born December 10, 1877. They were married March 16, 1894, in Sweden. They emigrated from Österjöländ, Sweden in 1903, to Fargo, North Dakota and rented a large farm between Litsville and Marion for a few years.

The early frost of 1906 and severe winter that followed in 1906-1907 left little to be desired. It was impossible to get coal for heating, as the railways were blocked by huge drifts of snow. The trains did not arrive until May and several families froze to death. The Carlsons fared slightly better; there was a straw barn on the property, with oak rails and flax straw in the walls. They were forced to saw the rails for fuel; the flax straw was twisted up tight and used during the day for fuel and cooking. After this experience, they decided to emigrate to Canada, arriving in Camrose in 1907.

They lived in the Camrose area for a time and in 1909 rented a farm in the Lundemo district while looking for a homestead. They looked at NW 34-48-21-W4 and several other quarters north of here. NW 34 had several large sloughs that were full

of water and was considered a poor quarter on this account. NW 34 had been filed on by William Erdtsnow on May 1, 1906, but was not proved up; in June, 1907 a Henry Kartz had filed on it, and had built a shack on the property. In 1909 it became available for homesteading again, and on June 10, C. J. Carlson filed on NW 34-48-21-W4. On March 12, 1914 he was informed that a patent had been granted to him and that a title would be issued.

Carlson proceeded to clear land and dig ditches to drain the sloughs. There is evidence today of the work that went into those ditches as they were dug with horses and slip scraper; at times the ground was so hard it had to be ploughed with a walking plow and then removed with a scraper, sometimes to a depth of ten feet or more. The last two feet were usually dug with a spade. There is a big slough just east of the buildings with no outlet, which was full to the banks; they used to get their water for washing, etcetra here. Road grades have now diverted water from the North and West from entering this slough and it does not get as high as in the early days. There is evidence that some years it would overflow its banks, allowing fish to enter the slough which would have about ten feet of water in it and the possibility of fish wintering over. To lend weight to this theory are the numerous Indian artifacts found here. There is also evidence that some cultivation of crops was practised by the Indians, as numerous stone hoes have been picked up in this area.



C. J. Carlson's home built around 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson on step.

During the First World War, times were good and C. J. Carlsons built a new home. This house is still standing. It was moved from its original location in 1967 to a new location one hundred yards to the southwest when we built a new home on the same spot. Mr. Carlson also built a hip roof barn about thirty by sixty feet at the same time. This barn was struck by lightning and several horses stabled in the barn were injured. It was torn down in the early

1940s, as a new round roof barn was built in 1939 with Ole Olafson as the carpenter.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlson went back to Sweden in 1928 for a visit. My mother and dad (M. C. Holdsworth) rented the farm for a year while they were away. I still have a copy of the lease dated March 1, 1928 (see listing of livestock and equipment). Mr. Carlson bought a half section from the Canadian Pacific Railroad across the road (north) sometime in the 1920s. My brother, George, and I now own his land.

In 1952, oil was discovered on the property and eleven wells were drilled and two batteries established. In 1967 when the field was unitized, Legal Sub Division 11 on 3-49-21-W4 became the main battery. A huge compressor was installed to force the gas back in the field. 1980 also showed some expansion with the water line from Coal Lake to water flood the oil field.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Carlson moved out to Grinrod, B.C. in the early 1950s. In 1955 Mr. Carlson passed away and Mrs. Carlson died in 1958. Both are buried at Enderby, B.C. The Carlson's had five children: Ella Alfrieda, born June 14, 1896; Carl Isadore, born Dec. 14, 1899; Theodore John, born Nov. 1901; Eric Oliver, born July 17, 1906; and Gustave George, born May 10, 1912.

George and Alma Carlson rented the farm in the late 1940s and in the mid-fifties received possession of the homestead and eighty acres of the Canadian Pacific Railroad land, with my mother receiving the remainder. I rented this farm from my Uncle George for a number of years and then bought it in 1962. We are the third generation to farm this land.

Lease

Between:

Carl John Carlson, of Hay Lakes, and Charles Holdsworth of Hay Lakes.

Horses

One black Gelding, six years old, weight 1600 lbs., white strip on face.

One black Mare, five years old, weight 1600 lbs., white strip on face.

One roan Mare, ten years old, weight 1500 lbs.

One roan Gelding, eleven year old, weight 1700 lbs.

One black Mare, fourteen years old, weight 1300 lbs.

One roan Gelding, bald face, twelve years old, weight 1150 lbs.

One roan Gelding, bald face, twelve years old, weight 1150 lbs.

One roan Gelding, small strip on face, coming four years old, weight 1300 lbs.

Cattle

Two black Cows.

Two brown Cows.

Two roan and white Heifers.
Five roan and white Steers.

Sheep

Six Ewes.
One Ram.

Machinery

One 15-45 H.P. Case threshing engine.
One Case Separator.
One six foot Deering Binder, with truck.
One McCormack Mower.
One McCormack Hay Rake.
One Magnola wagon,
One Western farm truck.
One 3½ inch wagon.
One old disc and one new disc.
One Bradley gang plow.
One stubble plow.
One Drill.
Two sets sleighs.
One democrat.
One Cutter.
One wagon box.
Two Hay Racks.
One three section drag harrows.
One Twin City fanning mill.

This is a sample of a portion of the total lease, dated and signed 1928.



The Currie Family 1981. Donna and Kevin, Kelly and Kimberly.

Currie, Kevin and Family

by Kevin Currie

My wife, Donna, and I were married on June 22, 1974. We moved to the Hay Lakes area in November, 1976.

Donna was born and raised just south of Camrose, where her mother and father still farm.

I was born in the Coal Branch region of Alberta where I lived until the age of three when my family moved to Edmonton. I first came to the Camrose area in 1971.

After moving to the Hay Lakes area we lived in a mobile home. Two years later, in 1979, we built the house in which we presently live.

Our first daughter, Kimberly, was born to us on August 3, 1977. Kimberly is presently enrolled in the Hay Lakes Playschool.

Our second daughter, Kelly, was born to us on October 25, 1979.

The acreage where we live was once occupied by Mr. Alex Matson.

Douglas, Mac and Family

Mac Douglas was born in London, Ontario in 1920. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Douglas. He with his three brothers was raised on a farm in Thamesford district. He moved out west by rail to the Vulcan district, January 28, 1929.

Mac went to school east of Vulcan at the Reid Hill school.

Mac and his two brothers helped their dad farm two and a half sections of land with two twelve-horse outfits and two six-horse outfits.

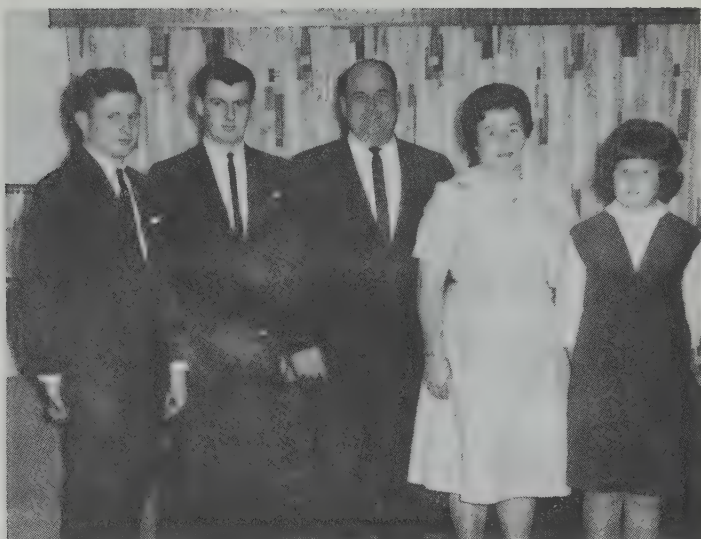
Mac moved to High River in 1937 and started working for the High River Creamery, delivering milk.

In 1942, Mac married the former Ann Pauquette and moved to Calgary, where he drove for Speedway Cartage, hauling freight from Calgary to Vulcan, Vulcan Airport and Drumheller.

On April 19, 1943 Mac enlisted in the Canadian Army and was discharged four months later with a broken arch. He moved back to High River in 1944, and took over a service station and a truck business. In 1950, he sold out and moved to Edmonton, where he started a truck outfit in the oilfield. He sold out his trucking business in 1966 and worked with the Teamsters Union and helped build the Gulf Refinery and Imperial Oil Refinery in Edmonton.

On October 4, 1969 he bought the farm NE 4-49-21-W4 from Edith Holmberg in the Swan Hill district, where he still lives.

Mac and Ann have three children, James, Ronald and Alice. James married the former Dorothy McHarque of Edmonton and has three girls, Tammy,



L. to R.: Ronald, Jim, Mac, Ann and Alice.

Shelly and Tracy. Ronald married the former Donna McNally of Sherwood Park and has two boys, Matthew and Chadwick. Alice married Clarence Herzog of Hay Lakes and has one boy, Jeremy.

Eliason, Edward

I was born in January, 1936 at Hay Lakes. Shortly afterwards my parents, Sven and Karen Eliason, moved to a farm south of the village of Bawlf. My brother, Ronald, and I were to start school in Normana, a country school, but it burned down before school started so we went to Rosalind. We must have ridden on the first school bus in Alberta. All it was, was a wooden box attached on the back of an old half-ton truck with a screen door in the back. The ride to school was as rough as the appearance of the "bus".

After moving with my parents to the East Hay Lakes district I attended Swan Hill School to Grade eight and then completed my High School in Hay



Gertie and Ed Eliason.

Lakes. For several years my brother, Ronald, and I played baseball and hockey on the local teams.

After completing High school I left for Edmonton and obtained a job with the Toronto Dominion Bank. I remained with the bank for seven years. During those years I had pretty well travelled up and down the province. Being a single man I was often transferred to different centers where the bank had a branch. I worked as far south as Calgary and as far north as the town of Peace River.

In 1965, when my mother died, I came back to East Hay Lakes district to farm with my dad.

On October 22, 1965, Gertie Wahl and I were married. Gertie was born and grew up in the Hay Lakes district; she also received her education at the Hay Lakes school. For approximately seven years before we were married she worked as a telephone operator for Alberta Government Telephones in Wetaskiwin.

Gertie and I are still farming and enjoying the company of our relatives and friends.

Eliason, Sven

by Ed Eliason

Sven was born on September 30, 1904. Like his brother, Al, before him he came to Canada from Vilhelmina, Sweden in 1928. His ship docked in



Karen and Swen Eliason — 1959.

Quebec City and from there he proceeded by train to Hay Lakes where he met his brother, Al. They set out to Peers to work in the log camps for the winter. From then on Sven worked for various farmers in the Hay Lakes and Bawlf areas.

In 1935, he married Karen Hanson of Hay Lakes and shortly after started farming south of Bawlf. To this union were born four children, Ed, Ron, Grace and a baby who died in infancy.

Farming in the Bawlf area had its ups and downs in those years, especially in 1942-1943 when the crop couldn't be threshed in the fall for snow and in the spring it had to finally be burned because heavy spring rains caused the grain in the stooks to start growing. In 1944 they purchased the farm from Anton Pearson, (SE 10-49-21-W4 and SW 11-49-21-W4) and then moved from Bawlf in the late fall of that year. They continued to farm here until 1964 when Karen died on February third. I then came home to help my dad on the farm.

Dad finally made a return trip to his home in Sweden in 1968 after having been gone for forty years, and he went again in 1970. He passed away on February 22, 1972.



Grace, Ed and Ron — 1942.

Ronald: Ron was born in December, 1936, at Bawlf. He attended school at Rosalind, Swan Hills and graduated from Hay Lakes High School. He then started work in Edmonton with the Imperial Bank of Canada. He later moved to the Provincial Treasury Branch.

Ron married Elizabeth Selin in June, 1965. She is the daughter of Oliver and Irma Selin.

They have moved to numerous places in Alberta where Ron was a Bank Manager. They now reside in Ponoka where he is a Senior Inspector for the bank and Liz also works for the bank.

Grace: Grace was born in June, 1938 at Bawlf. She started her schooling at Swan Hills and finished in Hay Lakes. After graduating from High school she obtained a job with the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Edmonton.

Grace married Lloyd Dahl in November, 1964. They have a family of two boys. Dale, born in 1965, will be graduating from High school this year. Douglas was born in 1970 — he is an enthusiastic hockey player.

Lloyd grew up in the Brandland School District and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Dahl. Lloyd was first employed at Port Radium, North West Territories and has just completed twenty-five years with Sherritt Gordon Mines in Fort Saskatchewan. Grace is employed at the Toronto Dominion Bank in Edmonton where they reside.

Erickson, Arthur

In 1924 Arthur Erickson came to Hay Lakes from Tresund, Sweden. The following year his wife Tilda and children, Iris and Enar, joined him. Iris attended the Swan Hill School. In 1928 another son, Arne, was born. They farmed here until 1930 when they moved to a homestead near Enilda, Alberta. Another daughter, Lorraine, was born there.

In 1935 Iris returned to Hay Lakes where she married Vincent Berg of the Kingman district. They had three children, Berdine, Arne and Norma.

Berdine married Vern Businius. They have four children, Brian, Bruce and Brenda (twins), and Cathy. They live in Hay Lakes.

Arne married Hollis McLaughlin. They have one daughter, Angela. They live in Camrose.

Norma married Larry Tollefson and they have two children, Dennis and Tara. Their home is in Sherwood Park.

Vincent passed away in 1976 and Iris continues to live in their home in Hay Lakes.

Erickson, Eric Victor and Family by Arlen P. Jaycock

Eric Victor was born in Vilhelmina, Sweden on

February 22, 1868 and his wife, Ulrika, was born in Dorethia, Sweden in 1871. They were married in Vilhelina in 1890. Born to them in Sweden were Ingrid, Annie, Victor, John, Margeret and Signe.

They had corresponded with friends here in the Lundemo district for some time, and in the spring of 1903 they emigrated to Canada. They settled and homesteaded on NE 2-49-21-W4. In 1905 they took SE 2-49-21-W4 and in later years bought the Canadian Pacific Railway SW 1-49-21-W4.



Sitting in cutter — J. I. Berglund, Eric Victor Erickson, Bill Movold, Einar Lindberg, Harold Person, and Erick Petter Kristofferson.

In the fall of 1905 my mother, Hannah, was born, later Gunhard and Elinor; one child died in infancy. Eric Victor was well respected and hard working. He was stern in his ways and what he said, he meant! He cleared trees and built a log house and barn; he broke and ditched most of the land himself, but was willing to give a helping hand as most settlers did. Many times when breaking sod with oxen the heel flies would come and the oxen would take off for the slough, and stay there for hours; nobody could do anything with them.

Mrs. Erickson and the oldest children did the chores and the household duties. They would print butter in one-pound molds which they would sell or trade for groceries. They took their wheat to Bittern Lake to be ground into flour which took several days.

In 1908 the first church meeting was held in their home. In 1912 Annie married Ole Olson (a Canadian Pacific Railroad Engineer) in Wetaskiwin. Later they moved to Calgary.

When the war started in 1914, Little Victor (as he was known) was drafted and served until the end, although he was severely gassed in the war theater. In 1938, he died from the effects.

Margeret married Bill Pearson of Daysland and to them were born two girls, Anita (Mrs. Elfert Johnson, R.R. #2, Camrose), and Vernice, (Mrs. Lyle Grosland, of Holden). Margeret's husband



John and Margaret Erikson.

passed away and later she married Carl Ingelson of Calgary, and one son, Edgar, was born.

Signe married T. A. Liden and to them were born four children: Vera (died in infancy), Clare of Edmonton, Audrey (Mrs. Harold Giebelhaus) of Sherwood Park, and Ardis (Mrs. Gordon Hafso) of Edmonton.

Hannah was married to Eric Jaycock of Calgary, and two boys were born, LaVern and Arlen.

The Erickson family were very musically inclined. Annie Olson was the organist and choir leader in Calgary, and also in the Wilhelmina Church for many years, and was praised by many for her leadership and her church choir.

John worked in various parts in British Columbia and Alberta as a welder and photographer. He took many family wedding pictures and community pictures.

Gunhard, although handicapped by polio early in life, farmed the homestead until he passed away. He was a radio hobbyist and he played in many orchestras and was well liked in the community.

Falconer, Charles and Elizabeth

Mr. A. C. Falconer, "Charley", as he was fondly known, was born in Scotland, twelve miles from Elgin, in a place called Rothes, on January 20, 1877. He was raised in Glasgow and educated in Edinburgh.

He came to Canada as a young man about 1894, to be with an older brother in Sault St. Marie, Ontario. When the Klondike Gold Rush in 1898 became the rage, he got the urge to try it out, but not for too many months, as it was not his "cup of tea." He went back to Vancouver where he worked as a steward on a steamship up and down the seacoast, as he always wanted to be near food. He also worked in Hotel dining rooms and cafes in Victoria, Vancouver and Nelson, as well as owning a cafe in Merrit, British Columbia. While working in Nelson he met and married Elizabeth Olson in 1906.



Mr. and Mrs. Falconer in front of their home in Camrose — 1936.

Elizabeth was in 1884 in Jämtland, Sweden and came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Olson, to Canada in 1901. They settled in the Kingman district. She was a very warm and friendly person besides being an excellent cook.

Later, they moved to Vancouver. In 1913, Charley went to Prescott, Ontario to see his failing mother. While there he got a job in the Chateau Laurier, in Ottawa. Meanwhile his wife and daughter Helen were living with Mr. and Mrs. Olson on the farm at Kingman.

When World War I broke out he paid the family a visit and then was off to war for full-time service. He was detained in the hospital in England suffering from poison gas. Later he helped in the influenza wards.

Following his overseas service he came back to SE 34-48-21-W4 in the Swan Hill district, bringing his wife "Lizzie", as she was fondly known, and daughter Helen. They settled on a small acreage and started a poultry farm. In 1921 a son, Arthur, arrived.



Helen Falconer Miller and Jim.



1925 — Arthur Falconer, just fed the chickens.

Charley was very interested and active in community affairs and for years served on the school board and was instrumental in the Swan Hill school being moved to a more central location.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Falconer were insatiable readers, all about local and public affairs to religious and political matters. There were many hours spent around the table in discussion of all "the pros and cons." Both were torch bearers for the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation movement at its inception and later for the New Democratic Party. An oak table was placed in the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation house in Edmonton, in memory of A. C. Falconer, on November 13, 1949.

They left the farm in 1933 or 1934 due to poor health, and lived with their daughter and son-in-law, Jim and Helen Miller in Jarrow, Alberta for a year or so. They then resided in Camrose where they lived until July, 1949 when they moved back to their daughter's, who now lived in Yubou, British Columbia on Vancouver Island.

Arthur married Hilda Crofts and live in Camrose, later moving to Victoria, British Columbia where they now reside with their daughter, Lloy.

Charles passed away November 13, 1949 and Mrs. Falconer passed away November 30, 1962.

The Fuernkranz Story by Angela (Fuernkranz) Bergquist

Carl Fuernkranz, our Dad, was born at Mailberg, Austria, on January 25, 1905, son of Rudolph and Franziska Fuernkranz, farmers in that community. In Austria Dad was a butcher by trade. He emigrated from there, arrived in Canada on May 10, 1928, and took up residence at Hay Lakes on May 24, 1928. He was employed by local farmers William Henschell, Joe Kreamer and Martin Henkelman before he bought his own farm. His starting salary was \$30 per month in summer and fifty cents per day in winter. Hours were 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In the fall of 1929 Dad bought a quarter section farm from Mrs. Sandquist, S.W. 4-49-21-W4. (This section now has two acreages.) Total price of the quarter section was \$4,450. The downpayment was \$500. On this first farm Dad started with one cow, twelve chickens, and some pigs. He dug two wells with a spade on that farm, one sixty feet deep and another eighty feet. A few minutes of meditation in the mornings saved him one day from being in the well when it caved in. Dad also dug a well for Adolph Huebner, Adolph Reinke, Gus Wahl, Adolf Moir, and Martin Henkelman.

Marie Fuernkranz, our mother, was born in Nappersdorf, Austria on September 7, 1908, daughter of Klemens and Maria Brückner who operated a black-

smith shop there. Mother emigrated to Canada arriving at Hay Lakes in May, 1932. If she had not married Dad within thirty days, the \$300 cash deposit he had borrowed and placed in trust with the government would have been used to send her back to Austria. They were married June 7, 1932 at the Moravian Church on Eighty-third Avenue and Ninety-ninth Street in Edmonton. There were times when Dad walked home from Edmonton, but on this occasion they were driven there to be married, had their picture taken and enjoyed a wedding dinner at the Hudson Bay. In the evening when they arrived home the band from the New Sarepta Moravian Church was waiting to chivaree them. Mom served them bacon and eggs before the good-wishers departed.

Their first home was a ten foot by fourteen foot uninsulated building moved out to the farm from Hay Lakes. It was furnished with a stove, table, bed, and washstand. Mother tells about the cold winter mornings when the water was frozen in kettles on the stove. A coal shed attached to the building was converted into a kitchen in the summer.

The harvest in the fall of their first year of married life was good, but the price of grain had fallen to a dismal low. Dad had bought seed wheat in the spring at \$1.00 per bushel — the crop sold at seventeen per bushel. With the harvest income Dad and Mother were able to buy a wagon box and wagon.

Seven children were born into the family: Mary, born April 10, 1933 (is now at Bittern Lake); Frances, born June 30, 1934 (Hay Lakes); Christina, born October 30, 1935 (Hay Lakes); Rudolph, born December 23, 1936 (Hay Lakes); Carl Anton, born June 14, 1938 (Hay Lakes); Angela, born August 9, 1940 (Czar); and Marleen, born May 23, 1947 (Sherwood Park).



Carl Fuernkranz Sr. Family — 1952. Back Row: Carl, Rudolph, Christina, Angela, Frances, Mary. Front Row: Carl Fuernkranz, Marleen and Marie.

Dad bought another quarter section, N.E. 33-48-21-W4, in 1938, and a third one, S.E. 4-49-21-W4, in 1941, (presently the homesite of Carl and Sharon Fuernkranz). The original site of the Swan Hill School was on this third quarter.

The house on the new farm was a three-bedroom two-storey frame building. In the kitchen there was a wood and coal stove, a homemade table with a linoleum covering, a bench, wooden chairs, a wash stand, a portable cupboard, a woodbox beside the stove, and later, a battery-operated radio. Every Saturday night the kitchen was converted into a bathroom for the weekly bath.

For light we used coal oil and gas lamps. Lighting the gas lamp was a ritual in itself; any occasion was made that much more special when Dad lit it up.

Off the kitchen was a pantry, a cool storage place for baking and food staples. A trap door from the living room led to a dirt cellar where preserves were kept.

For vegetable storage Dad dug a root cellar thirty feet into the side of a hill. This cellar is still in use today. Dairy products and meat were stored in an ice house. During the winter many pails of water were hauled into the building. The thick layer of ice was covered with sawdust and served as a refrigerator all summer.

Besides the usual farm buildings, there was on our farm a cook house or "summer house" as it was called. It was used for canning and food preparation on hot summer days so that the other house could be kept cool.

The first tractor we bought had skeleton wheels. It was bought in 1941, during wartime when there was a scarcity of rubber. A threshing machine was purchased shortly after. Dad managed the threshing operations and was machine operator. His brother, Frank, and Adolph Huebner and his sons threshed with him. What a great time of the year it was for us kids! When we were young we would help our mother take afternoon coffee to the crew. As we grew older we had our turns shovelling grain in the bins and soon Rudolph and Carl had bundle teams of their own.

Dad worked hard, but at the same time he was community-minded and had time for his neighbours. He assisted regularly with school picnics and Christmas concerts at the Swan Hill School. He was successful in his bid to build the lean-to on the barn in the Swan Hill schoolyard for \$27. He supplied the materials.

Dad's reputation for home-made sausage was unrivalled. He butchered and made sausages for neighbours on many occasions. Our school lunches were popular; the sausage was in constant demand in exchange for flat bread brought by the Swedish children.

Our mother, like other women in the community, accomplished an amazing number of tasks on the farm. She helped do the chores regularly, carried water and wood, picked roots, spent whole days with the family to rake and stack hay, stooked grain, picked berries, canned meat, vegetables, and fruits beside the regular household work. Winter months were reserved for knitting socks and mittens, patching, embroidering, and making feather ticks with the family. She entertained a lot; most of our Sundays were spent with neighbours.

It was important to Dad and Mother to preserve some of their Austrian heritage. This tradition is most evident in Mother's cooking. Besides the sweet breads, there were apricot dumplings and the favourite of all, I think, "Apple Strudel." The kids stretched an elastic-like dough, paper thin, to cover an entire table. On this were spread bread crumbs, sliced apples, grapes or raisins, cinnamon, sugar, and cream. It was rolled up and baked.

Until 1941 when Mother and Dad bought their first car the means of transportation was the horse and buggy. Generally we walked the mile to school, but in the cold winter months we got to ride in Uncle Frank's covered cutter.

In September, 1948, Mother and Dad moved to the farm at Hay Lakes (where Rudolph and Bonnie Fuernkranz presently live), and lived there for seventeen years.

We attended church regularly at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes. All of the children were baptized and confirmed there. Dad was very active in the church council, often having the job as treasurer and frequently serving as the delegate to Synod conventions. Mother was a member of the Lutheran Church Women and also helped to supply the lunches we partook of on occasions such as Mission Festivals. When Our Savior Lutheran Church was being built in 1962, Dad was one of the steady workers there. The church was built by volunteer help to such an extent that it only cost \$25,000 to build.

A familiar sight to many people was the buttermilk tank and tractor hauling the buttermilk from the creamery home for the pigs. It was a special treat for young children to have a ride on the tank. Since we lived close to the town, numerous people found it convenient to purchase milk, cream, and eggs from us.

The family was very active in the curling club. During bonspiels, Mother and Dad often did the chores while the boys were curling. We also supplied cream and milk to the curling club.

The garage on the farm served a dual purpose. When thoroughly scrubbed, it served as a banquet

room for two weddings, Mary's and Frances', as well as Mom and Dad's Silver Wedding anniversary.

Mother's flower garden was a joy to view. It was enjoyed by people who drove past it to the extent that a picture of it was placed in the *Camrose Canadian*. Being a large family, we also had a very large vegetable garden to supply our produce.

In July, 1965, Mother and Dad retired and moved to Edmonton where they are presently residing. Even now they manage to keep very busy. Dad curls during the winter and they both bowl. They have also had the time to do some travelling, something there was little time for while they lived on the farm. However, their love of the farm has not been lost. Even today they enjoy a drive in the country to view the grain growing in the fields.

Bergquist, Angela (Fuernkranz)

I was born at Hay Lakes on August 9, 1940, daughter of Carl and Marie Fuernkranz.

As a young child, I'm told, I had a habit of wandering away from the house. Once after a desperate search, I was found asleep in a tunnel we had dug through the hayloft in the barn. On another occasion, anxious to go to school like the older kids, I was found a half mile from home, heading in the wrong direction.

As a Grade one student at the Swan Hill School, my desire to go beyond the confines of the neighbouring community led to one of the most talked-about cases of truancy on record in that school. My friend and I, reportedly having left home for school, were found after a half-day search, heading towards Hay Lakes with a bag of tomatoes we hoped would be sufficient food for the two day excursion we had planned.

I completed Grade two at the Swan Hill School. Until that time my life was characterized by the security that goes with little or no change. Mechanization of farms in the surrounding district, however, was underway and was gaining momentum. I recall the purchase of our first battery-operated radio and our first treadle sewing machine, but before five more years passed we already had purchased our first car, tractor and threshing machine.

As did mechanization, so did centralization drastically change the rural way of life. If I had been born three years later, the multiple grade classroom (1-8), the pot-bellied stove in the classroom, the frozen ink on cold winter mornings, the ride to school in a cutter, the well-rehearsed Christmas concerts, these and everything else I experienced at the Swan Hill School would not have been part of my life.

Our family moved to Hay Lakes in 1948. What I

believed at the time to be normal progress in the decade that followed, was in reality a period of unprecedented growth in Hay Lakes. The outdoor "biffies" disappeared when centralization of schools occurred, and so did the earthenware crocks that held our drinking water. More teachers were hired and the curriculum was broadened.

Even more significant in accelerating growth and change was the discovery of oil in the Hay Lakes vicinity. Population increased to the point where the local cinema, where I was employed as an usherette, drew a crowd four nights a week.

I attended Sunday School and church services regularly at St. Lukes Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes. I was confirmed in 1954.

I completed my eleventh and twelfth year of school at Camrose High School. Then I took a one-year Junior Elementary Program in Education at the University of Alberta. I continued studying at the same time as I pursued my teaching career and have now completed five years of university education. I have taught school for seventeen years. My present teaching assignment is at the Central High School in Hughenden, Alberta.

In 1959 I married Ralph Bergquist from Bawlf, Alberta. Ralph is also a teacher, presently employed as the principal of Czar School.

We have three children, Linda, born April 20, 1962; Grant, born November 27, 1963; and Lester, born December 11, 1971. Linda is in first year Business Administration and Commerce at the University of Alberta, Grant is in Grade twelve and Lester is in Grade four.

Marleen (Fuernkranz) Gruenberg

I was born on May 23, 1947 in Camrose, Alberta. Arriving almost seven years after my youngest sister, I was the youngest of seven children born to Carl and Marie Fuernkranz. I was also the only one of their children to be born in a hospital.

My parents took me to my first home, a farm two and one-half miles east of Hay Lakes, on S.E. 4-49-21-W4. There I spent the first year of my life.

During the summer of 1948, my family moved "next door" to the village of Hay Lakes, SE 6-49-21-W4. Since it was less than a quarter of a mile to the village, I was able to experience all of the advantages and disadvantages of both rural and urban living.

As a young child, I would often tag along with my older sisters and brothers. They enjoyed swinging on the slings in the hayloft. One fateful day, I rolled rather than walked down the hayloft steps and happened to split my head open on a hook at the bottom of the steps. Luckily community spirit prevailed. As my parents were out working in the field,

my brother Rudolph raced there to call my mother. When she saw me, my mother called Mr. Reinhold Mittelstadt, a village businessman, to drive me to the doctor in Camrose for stitches. Being a "brave girl" at that time earned me a shiny nickel from the doctor.

I seemed to have a knack for falling down from the hayloft. At age five, I was the proud flower girl for my sister Mary's wedding. The wedding dance was held in the hayloft. As it had rained for days before her wedding, the yard was muddy and the steps going to the loft were slippery. I fell off close to the bottom and fortunately no harm came to me, but my beautiful long pink dress was torn and muddy.

I started school in 1953 and spent the first few years of school in some old school houses that had been moved into the village. I was in Grade four when we had moved into the new school — the one presently being used. Memories of my school years consist of things such as playing with many village children who loved to come to the farm and help with my chores, travelling to Camrose on Saturdays for music lessons, racing back to school at noon to play softball, having my sister, Christina, as my Grade four teacher, attending Girl Guides, being a majorette with the county band, playing on the high school volleyball team, attending Teen Town, and singing in Search for Talent.

My family attended church at St. Lukes Lutheran Church. I went to Sunday School and church there, but for special occasions we went to St. Stephens Lutheran Church which was two and a half miles west of town. Most children loved to sit in the balcony there. One Sunday Sharon Leicht and I were sitting there visiting, unaware that we were being heard below and oblivious to the fact that my father had left his place below and was on his way up the stairs. I seldom sat in the balcony after that. I was confirmed at St. Stephens church by Pastor Querengesser in 1961, one of a class of three girls and five boys. I taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, went to Luther League, sang in the church choir directed by Mrs. Otto Frank, and occasionally played the organ at St. Lukes Church, and then later in the new church, Our Savior Lutheran Church.

In 1964, I went to Camrose Lutheran College for Grade XII. I also took my first year at Education in the Junior College there. I graduated with a Bachelor of Education in June, 1969. That same summer on July 26, I married Dieter Gruenberg, son of John and Elizabeth Gruenberg of Chilliwack, British Columbia. (I had met Dieter at Camrose Lutheran College.)

We now live in Sherwood Park, but both teach for the Edmonton Public School Board. Dieter teaches drafting at Harry Ainlay Composite High School and I am presently teaching music at Hazeldean Elemen-

tary School. We have two children, Angela, born March 28, 1972 (now in Grade III) and Steven, born December 18, 1977.

Since most of my sisters and brothers still live in the Hay Lakes area, I have been back in Hay Lakes on numerous occasions. In the fall of 1980, my husband and I bought the Frank Fuernkranz farm two miles east of Hay Lakes, NW4-49-21-W4. I will now be able to pass on some of the memories I have of the area to my children. They will even be able to sleep in a house, a part of which their grandparents once lived in.

Fuernkranz, Carl and Sharon and Family

Carl Anton Fuernkranz is the second son of Carl and Marie Fuernkranz, pioneers of the East Hay Lakes area. Carl was born June 14, 1938 at the first family home, being located on SW4-49-21-W4. When Carl was less than one year old, Carl Senior moved his family to a new home one half mile, on SE 4-49-21-W4, formerly known as the Sandquist place. Carl attended the Swan Hill for four years, of which he has fond memories of Christmas concerts and school picnics.

When Carl was ten, the Fuernkranz family again expanded their farming operation, purchasing the Herman Lechelt farm, SE 6-49-21-W4, adjoining the east boundary of Hay Lakes. Carl finished his



Back Row: Curtis, Sharon and Carl. Front Row: Ann Marie and Clay.

schooling at Hay Lakes School and then went farming with his father on the family farm. In 1960 Carl moved back to the Sandquist place to start his own farming operation. The log house first had to be taken down, and a home was moved in.

After Carl decided to start farming, he found that it was possible to turn his hand to other short term jobs. Among these were times spent working at the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool Creamery in Hay Lakes, and the Woodland Dairy, New Sarepta. Part of two summers were spent in carpentry work. It was while he was employed in this type of work that he met Sharon Ann Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Johnson of Edberg, Alberta, and they were married on June 13, 1964.

A family of two sons and one daughter were born to them. Curtis Carl, the elder son was born October 5, 1965; Clay Gordon, the younger son was born August 28, 1969; and Ann-Marie Karen, the daughter was born September 17, 1977. The boys are attending school in Hay Lakes and Ann-Marie is anxiously awaiting the day when she can take the bus with them.

At present most of the family's attention is needed to care for the grain and dairy operations which have become a major part of their farming activities. Curtis and Clay besides their school work, assist with the farm chores and are keenly interested in sports, especially Curling and Hockey.

Carl is very much involved in Hockey, playing with, probably the finest team that Hay Lakes ever had. They have won several District Tournaments and soundly beat the Camrose Maroons. He also has a large collection of Curling trophies and friends which attest to his success and enjoyment in many bonspiels and playdowns, over an extensive area. Carl was instrumental in bringing artificial ice to Hay Lakes while he was President of the local Curling Club. Other community endeavors include five years as Chairman of the Hay Lakes Drainage District No. 11, and Carl is a Charter member of the newly formed Hay Lakes and District Lions' Club.

As is the case in most farming operations there has been little time for holidays, but Carl and Sharon have found satisfaction in their family and neighborhood relationships. They enjoy the life of farming and feel that Hay Lakes is a fine community in which to live.

Fuernkranz, Frank

Frank Fuernkranz was born in Mailbert, Austria in 1910, one of eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Fuernkranz. He grew up on the family farm and left home at the age of fourteen years to apprentice at a bakery in Vienna. There was no pay for the

first years and Frank survived on tips from bread deliveries and financial help from his parents.

Frank was always dreaming of going to another country and since his brother Carl had already settled in Canada at Hay Lakes, Frank in 1930 decided to come here too. He worked for farmers in the area until 1932 and then homesteaded at Flatbush, Alberta for the summer. However he found life too lonesome in the bush and it was difficult to make progress on the homestead. Also it was no place to bring a woman! One of the main attractions at that time was watching the train which went through Flatbush twice a week.

Frank came back to Hay Lakes in the fall of 1932 and worked with the Martin Henkelman threshing crew during the daytime. In the evening he went to stook for Eric and John Lofgren. Pay was twenty cents an acre for stooking and did not include any room and board. In the fall of 1932 he rented the Kringen farm in Armena and farmed there for five years.



Frank and Klementine Fuernkranz and Frank Jr. 1943.

In the spring of 1937 Frank sent for a friend he had known as a youngster in Austria, Klementine Brukner. She was a sister to Carl's wife, Marie. Frank and Klementine were married at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes on June 16, 1937 by Pastor Lenz. A supper and reception was held at the farm home of his brother Carl. That week the couple were overwhelmed when three hundred and thirty-four people, nearly all Scandinavians, came to meet the bride and shower them with gifts. An abundance of food had been brought and tables and chairs were soon set up throughout the farm yard. This was a real welcome for the new bride who couldn't speak a word of English.

In the spring of 1938 Frank purchased a farm from Adolph Mohr which was located in the Hay Lakes District, NW4-49-21-W4. He enjoyed mixed farming and progressed very well.

On January 31, 1939 their only child, Frank, was born. Frank Junior attended Swan Hills school for five years and when schools were centralized, he went to Hay Lakes school for five years, then on to Camrose Lutheran College for two years. After college Frank worked in the Royal Bank at Didsbury, then Edmonton and Drayton Valley. He decided to go to university and became a chartered accountant, articling with Price and Waterhouse in Winnipeg. In 1965 he married Sandra McLean of Winnipeg and that same year they moved to Venezuela. They remained there until their first child was born, Frank Collin who is now fourteen years of age. Their two daughters, Alana, twelve years, and Heata, eleven years of age were born in Canada. The family is presently residing at Mississauga, Ontario.

In 1956 Frank and Klementine moved to Camrose. Frank's widowed sister, Mrs. Franzisca Lewich and her three children emigrated from Austria and took over the farm. For fourteen years Frank worked as a carpenter in Camrose, retiring in 1970. He and his wife continue to enjoy good health and often visit Hay Lakes.

Gronlund, Erhard

Erhard Gronlund came to Canada as a young man from the Wilhelmina district in Sweden, arriving in Canada some time before World War I.

He took part in the young people's activities such as singing in the church choir, among other things.

Erhard worked at various jobs in the area. He contracted the digging of ditches to drain the sloughs so people could put up their supply of hay. Several of these ditches are still in use today. He used a six tine fork and a shovel to do the digging. Many of the ditches were quite deep, one being about five feet deep and two hundred feet long.

Erhard married Helga Hanson and farmed in the Brandland area. Later they moved to the Swan Hill district farming the NE 10-49-21-W4. They had four children: Mae, Jim, Marie and Alton. When Erhard and Helga separated, Erhard kept the two eldest children, Mae and Jim, who attended Swan Hill school.

When Erhard quit farming he rented out his land and did carpenter work.

He was a man who loved to hunt and trap. During the depression years he used to hunt coyotes with hounds, and team and sleigh travelling many miles in pursuit of these animals. His favorite hunting team of horses were Topsy and Dick. Very seldom he missed a season going out big game hunting until his health and eyesight failed him. It was very few times that he came home without a moose. The latter years of hunting was done south west of Robb, in the Erith River area. He had many different companion hunters in his lifetime. On one of these hunting expeditions, he and his partners had the permission to use one of the bunk shacks at the local mill. These shacks had a water boiler built on top of the stove so there always would be hot water for washing etc. They had just finished supper and were sitting talking when three R.C.M.P. officers paid them a visit. While two were conversing with the hunters, the third Mountie proceeded to clean his service revolver when it accidentally discharged, putting a hole in the water boiler and sending everyone scurrying. When the smoke had cleared, Erhard wasted no time giving the Mountie a lecture on the safe handling of fire-arms.

When his eyesight prevented him from getting his driver's license he used his tractor, a W4 International, for transportation. In the late fall and spring he would take his traps and tractor to hunt as he would get a permit to trap wherever there were beavers and muskrats. He built a large box on the hitch of his tractor where he carried his equipment. It was also a place for his dog to ride.

People called on Erhard when they had sick animals, as most people couldn't afford a veterinarian. He spent a lot of time each spring helping farmers dehorn, vaccinate, castrate, brand cattle, and fix horses' teeth among many other jobs related to livestock. He would always try to do the dehorning and castrating a few days after the full or new moon. One spring he was kept very busy treating horses for sleeping sickness. This he learned from a fellow in the Beaumont area. He was credited with saving the lives of many horses around the country.

Erhard Gronlund was very fond of dogs. He had a white terrier that he taught to dance when he hummed a tune; it would growl when asked to speak Norwegian; when told to speak Swedish it would bark

and when asked to sing it would howl. He also had a big black retriever that he had trained to keep his wood box filled. When Erhard was taken to hospital the last time, his dog disappeared a couple of days later and was never seen again.

Erhard suffered a stroke and passed away in St. Mary's Hospital. He was in his seventies.

Gronlund, Helga **by Helga Gronlund**

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amandus Hanson emigrated from Wilhelmina, Sweden in May, 1905. Tragedy struck after only eight months in Canada, when my father was injured by an exploding shell as he was loading his gun. He died five days later. Two years later when I was five years old, my mother died. I was raised by the Amandus Johnson family. The things I remember about those days were that there were no fences, no roads, no communication, in fact very little of anything. I really give those early pioneers a lot of credit for coping as well as they did.



Helga Gronlund with a granddaughter.

In 1922, I married Erhard Gronlund and we had four children, Mae, Jim, Alton, and Marie. Mae married Ralph Goodmurphy and they now live in Connecticut, U.S.A., and they have three children. Jim married Anne Goodmurphy, and they have five children. They live at Coquitlam, British Columbia. Marie married Daniel Vinge. They were missionaries in Japan for six years, and are now at La Crosse, Wisconsin. They have four children. Daniel is a Chaplain and counselor in a Lutheran hospital, and Marie is a supervisory nurse at the same hospital. Alton now lives at Edberg.

I have resided at the Wild Rose Villa apartment in Camrose for the past four years. I am now eighty years of age and am looking forward to a trip to Hawaii with my daughters at the end of January, 1982.

Grue, Cornelius **by Olga (Grue) Olson**

Cornelius was born at Røros, Norway, April 21, 1863. He came with his parents and three sisters to Ottertail County, Minnesota in the year of 1868. His only brother Thore stayed another year in Norway to complete his confirmation instructions.

The trip across the ocean was very rough with just one light at the top of the mast in a small sail boat. It took several weeks to come across on account of bad weather. Cornelius was only five years old and his baby sister was three weeks old when all the children became ill with the measles. There were no bathroom facilities on the boat, so it made it very hard for the parents with four small children. Cornelius' Mother said she nearly dropped him in the ocean when holding him over the edge of the boat.

Cornelius took his schooling at Ottertail County and finished at Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree. He became a Public school teacher, and also helped his father with farming until the fall of 1893. Then he left Minnesota to travel west to Silvana, Washington. There his married sister, Kirsti Prestlien, lived on a farm close to Silvana. He had been in ill health for some time and under doctor's care, becoming somewhat improved. He purchased a parcel of land next to his sister's land near Silvana.

Larsina Brekhus, born May 18, 1866 at Drøsdal, Sonfjord, Norway, came with her brother, Rev. Edward Brekhus, to America in the year 1890 to Utsalady, Washington, Seattle, and other places. Martha Langland, her married sister, lived on Whitby Island near a small town called Oak Harbour, Washington. In the year 1896, Larsina accompanied Rev. Edward Brekhus and Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Tollefson to Minneapolis, Minnesota where she kept house for her

brother Edward till the year 1899. Then she went back to Washington and was united in marriage with Cornelius Grue on the twelfth of May by Pastor B. A. Borwick. They settled on the piece of land that Cornelius had purchased near Silvana.

There was a lot of work to be done before they could build a house. Trees had to be cleared and made into logs for the house and money was very scarce those days. On October 5, 1901, a son named Selmer was born. In the spring of 1903 they emigrated to Canada where they filed on homestead land, near where Hay Lakes became a village of few years later.

A small one-room shack was built of horizontal slabs, and plastered together with horse manure and clay. This was their home for a few years, until they could get enough logs cut and hewn.

They then built on a two-storey log house with a big bedroom upstairs for the children, and a living room downstairs. They also added another room made of slabs on the side which became the kitchen and the first room became the main bedroom. In the fall of 1903 another son was born, named Dortheus Olaf. The year 1904, a daughter was born named



Cornelius Grue homestead log house after siding and paint added — 1932.

Olga Caroline. Another son, Lars, was born in March 1906, followed by Nels who was born in September, 1907, but who died three weeks later.

On June 21, 1904 the Skandia Lutheran Church was underway and completed in 1905 with Cornelius as carpenter and volunteer labour was provided by the members of the congregation. It was built by the cemetery on Section 2-48-21-W4, being about three quarters of a mile south-west of the village of Ar-



Back Row: Selmer, Cornelius, Olga, Larsina, Lars, Dortheus and Grandma Grue.

mena. In 1908, the church was moved to a new location, three quarters of a mile north of Armena, where a second cemetery was established. The church was then lengthened and a steeple was added.

In 1909 the Swan Hill School was built, and Cornelius was the first secretary-treasurer for the district, and remained so for many years. About 1910 a community brass band was organized called The Maple Leaf Band with Cornelius as leader. It was engaged to play at the picnics in the community and also at weddings.

As there were no undertakers in the district and no manufactured coffins to get, Cornelius was called upon to make coffins for many neighbours, relatives and friends who had passed away, and also for his Mother and three of his children. The coffins were simple, but they served the purpose. Cornelius was also the first person to make crystal radio sets with the help of Chris Langbell, who provided him with the material. It became a hobby with him and he provided radios for neighbours and relatives. For a few years he was also the local Rawleigh salesman.

Larsina was quite active in the Ladies' Aid purchasing materials for quilt-making to sell at the church bazaars. She also had a knitting machine that she used to knit articles for members of the community. Along with the many duties of a pioneer wife and mother she was a charter member of the Lutheran Church Women.

Selmer attended Swan Hill School and spent one year at Camrose Lutheran College. He passed away in 1919 at eighteen years of age.

Dortheus attended Swan Hill School and also a few months at Camrose Lutheran College. He spent most of his life on the farm, brushing and clearing land with his brothers. He took over the farm after his father passed away. He continued to farm until his death in 1966.

Lars attended Swan Hill School and a few months at Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Being a lover of music, he was the choir leader at St. Joseph's Church for a period of a year and a half, and put on a concert at the Hay Lakes Hall the 25th of March, 1932. About three weeks later he became ill with the 'flu and had complications and died April 19, 1932.

The only daughter, Olga, was united in marriage to Anton Olson, son of the late Ole Olson in 1933. They have seven children named Leonard, Gladys, Ordin, Delores, Gordon, Carol, and Karen.

Memories of the Past

by Jenny Grundberg (nee Selin)

After travelling by boat, train, and wagon, my parents Axel and Agatha Selin and family arrived in

Alberta. It had taken us over two months to come from Ronnes, Wilhelmina, Sweden. At the time I was two and a half years old. My three brothers, Oscar aged seven, Walter five, and Herman, only a few weeks old made up our family. Accompanying us were relatives — Dad's brother, Peter Selin, his wife Hulda, and their two children, Hildur and Einer, also Dad's sister, Minna Danielson.

We arrived in Wetaskiwin on August 8, 1903. There we were met by Jacob Lunde who took us by horse and wagon to his home north of Armena (now the Anders Lyseng farm). We stayed there until Dad built a log house for us. Dad did the farming there for three years. He filed for a homestead on NW 36-48-21-W4 and there he built a log house. It was on this land that many settlers stayed until they were able to establish places of their own. After three years on the Lunde place Dad decided to move to the homestead. The log house was taken apart and rebuilt. In the meantime our family had grown. Oliver was born and later, at the homestead, Albert and Stanley arrived. My parents lived here for the rest of their lives. As my brothers grew older they established farms of their own nearby. Stanley remained on the family farm until just recently.

The church and congregation were an important part of my parent's life. They found the time for serving in many ways. They helped in establishing the early church. Mother had her turn as Ladies' Aid president and treasurer and Dad held various offices. He also was church organist for many years.

Our family were early members of the Fridhem Lutheran Church until Wilhelmina Church was organized in 1908. I remember well a Christmas program on December 26, 1908 at the Anton Pearson home. It was organized by Mrs. Carl Anderson, Senior from Fridhem. The spruce tree was decorated with strings of popcorn and doughnut balls covered with foil. Sunday School and services were held in the homes before Wilhelmina Church was built. Mrs. Inga Lunde was the teacher. She also organized a Young Girls' Society, an active group that helped with the church activities. Vacation Bible School was held in our log house. Christina Eriksson, a missionary (to India) was the teacher. She was a sister to Pastor Axel Eriksson.

The first confirmation class of Wilhelmina Church was instructed by Pastor Olof Lindgren. On May 24, 1914 the following students were confirmed.

Boys: Einar Lindberg, Nestor Johnson, Walter Selin, Carl Carlson, August Anderson, and Emil Hallgren.

Girls: Hildegard (Danielson) Johnson, Ellen (Carlson) Norlander — Holdsworth, Hanny (Hanson) Collin, Louisa Paulina (Lindberg) Webster, Nan-

nie (Grundberg) Grahn, Olga (Grundberg) Larson, Anna (Johnson) Murnane, Esther (Lindberg) Erickson — Dyer, Martha Louisa (Johnson) Olson, Hogda (Johnson) Gunderson, Hildur (Selin) Anderson, and Jenny (Selin) Grundberg.

A Luther League was organized and we met in the various homes. We had programs and fellowship. We held basket, and cup and saucer socials, etcetra, to help with furnishings for the church. The early church choir was conducted by Mr. Jacob Welda and later by Barney Welda. We all enjoyed singing and the congregation loved and praised our choir.

I was nine years old before the Brandland school was built. My brothers and I walked along trails for about three miles to get there. Our first teacher was very good and very strict. He had quite a time as none of us spoke a word of English. He made a rule that we were to speak only English in the school yard. Trying to outsmart him, we would creep through the fence and chatter away in Swedish. Miss Alice Roofe, a very kind and conscientious teacher, taught at Brandland for many years.

When I was about fourteen years old I remember a near tragedy that happened to my younger brother. It was a Sunday afternoon and my parents were visiting the E. P. Nordins. Some children were playing near the haystacking fork. Herman was underneath and the fork penetrated his skull. Oscar and Johan Anderson were present and after washing the wound with cold water, took him by horse and buggy to the Camrose Hospital where he was treated by Dr. Nordbye.

In 1915 Pastor Leonard Heiner came to serve the congregation. He devoted himself to ministering and caring for the sick. The Spanish influenza was spreading throughout the country. Pastor Heiner contacted it and died in 1918. Many other homes were stricken with the dread disease. We had to wear masks when we went to public places. World War I was on and our family was saddened when my brother Oscar was drafted and sent Overseas. It was especially hard on my parents. We were fortunate that Oscar came back safely. What a joy to us all!

Our home was a busy place. With six boys in the family and with extra men employed there was always lots to do. Dad took on extra work. He was busy with building, sawing lumber, threshing, and brushing as well as farming. Being the only girl, I became Mother's little helper at an early age. We were constantly busy preparing meals, washing, cleaning as well as helping with the outside chores, milking cows and feeding the pigs and chickens. Mother baked her own bread, churned the butter, made cheese and tended the garden. She also was busy with sewing, carding wool, spinning, knitting, quilting, weaving,

etcetra. We did not get to the stores very often but then we had lots of good food right at home. On the farm we had fresh milk, butter, eggs and vegetables. My parents always did their own butchering and cured their own meat. Flour was brought home from the Camrose Flour Mill in exchange for wheat. There were different grades of flour, some light and some dark as well as breakfast cereal and Sunny Boy. The mail order catalogues from Eatons and Simpsons were welcomed and used for ordering clothes and material.

Dad built our new house and we moved in the fall of 1918. On June 30, 1920 I married Jonas Grundberg. My folks gave us a big wedding. We were married in the Wilhelmina Church and the reception was at my home, an all day celebration. I



Jonas and Jenny Grundberg's Wedding Day.

had always enjoyed the Hay Lake's "First of July" picnic so of course we had to attend that before we went on our honeymoon. Jonas and I settled on the farm he had purchased from his Dad at Dinant. We lived there until 1955 when we moved to Camrose. We have a family of two girls and three boys. Gladys lives at New Westminster, British Columbia, Lorraine in Edmonton, Vernon on the home farm, and Harvey and Morley are in Edmonton.

Last summer we had the pleasure of attending the Hay Lakes' Homecoming. We were impressed with all the excellent planning and work that made this event so successful. It was a celebration we would not have missed!

Gruntman, Karl

Shortly after the turn of the century, Karl Gruntman left his family and native land, Russia, to emigrate to America. On arriving he accepted work in an iron foundry in Benton Harbor, Michigan, U.S.A. Here he also started learning the English language. Not being quite satisfied with what he had there, he moved on and arrived in Edmonton, Alberta. Here he worked for Swift's Packing Company and developed fine skill as a meat cutter and butcher generally.

Another immigrant, Bertha Arndt, also from Russia, lived in Edmonton at this time. Soon after they met, love started to blossom and in 1914 they married. The two pooled their monetary assets and started a farming project four and a half miles south-east of Hay Lakes. Here they lived for the rest of their lives.

Born to them were thirteen children:

Ervin married Irma Schlauch. They had one daughter, Elsie Marie.

Elsie married Adolf Werner. They have five children, Henry, Adeline, Oris, Harvey and Diane.

Hedwig married Rudolph Schmidt and had four children, Alva, Elwood, Lois and Delores.

Martha married Cyril Harke and had two children, Heather and Gregg.

Arthur married Kay Campbell. Four children, Louise, Dale, Carleen and Barry were born to them.

Henry married Evelyn Sikstrom and had two children, Duane and Jerry.

Frieda remained single.

Hilbert married Betty Björnson and had four children, Denise, Deryl, Twylene and Kari.

Lawrence married Evyon Pierce and they have four children, Darcy, Kevin, Lori and the other child died in infancy.

Alice married Don Best and they have four children, Jamey, Robby, Bryan and Rick.

Agnes married Glenn Saby. Three children, Gail, Anita and Glendine were born to them.

Karl and Bertha had two other children who died in infancy.

This family attended Sunday School and worship services at St. Stephen's Lutheran church, three miles west of Hay Lakes. It was a long trip because travel by horse and buggy was still in wide-spread use then. Many years later when the church at Hay Lakes was established, they attended there. All the children went to school at Swan Hill.

Some of the Gruntman's neighbors were, Adolf Huebner, Paul Busenius, John Broen, the Wilsons and the Falconers.

Medical services were to be had at Camrose at that time already. There was St. Mary's Hospital as well as Doctors Nordbye, Krause, Neville, Smith and others. Mrs. Dan Schweitzer, Mrs. Paul Huebner and Mrs. Hendrickson served as midwives at many childbirths in the district in the early days.

Life for the Gruntmans did not go along without its joys but not without its sorrows either. Ervin passed away in 1972, eleven years later Irma died. Henry died in 1973; in 1972 Henry and Evelyn's son, Gerry, died. Frieda died in 1977, aged forty-seven. Bertha passed away in 1960, aged forty-seven also.

Bertha's brother, Albert, came to Canada in 1924. Soon after his arrival he started to work in a coal mine in Dinant. In the meantime he prepared to start farming too. He started his project on land four miles south-east of Hay Lakes but luck was just not on his side. He became beset with illness and by 1926 he had to have one leg amputated. He left his farming endeavor and carried on the best he could but his illness persisted and by 1934 he had his other leg amputated. Because of the compassion Bertha and Karl had for him, they brought him to their place where a little house was built and so he made his home in the yard with them. He was generous and kind to his nieces and nephews and they enjoyed having him there, especially when he would talk about the olden days before they were born. One of the stories he told involves the closeness that sometimes develops between the farm family and the livestock. Where there are several members in the family the attention of the livestock is somewhat divided but in a case like his, being the only human there, he got all the attention. One Sunday afternoon he decided to visit a neighbor, about a mile away. The livestock, seeing him go and realizing they would have to spend the afternoon alone, decided they just wouldn't stand for that. So there they were, all of them, the cow, the hog, the dog and cat and all the chickens, following him. A strange story? Yes, but it's true.

In 1951 Karl decided to retire. All his family, except Lawrence had grown up and gone away so farming was no longer of interest to him. After selling his farm, SE 27-48-21-W4, to Rudolph and Hedwig he had an auction sale of livestock and equipment and moved to Mystery Lake to live in a place he owned there. At Mystery Lake Lawrence finished school and accepted employment away from home. With Rudolph and Hedwig now owning the place, Albert continued to make his home there. After Lawrence left, Karl found life rather lonesome. After much coaxing from Rudolph and Hedwig, Karl finally consented to establish himself again on his former home place, so he let them help him move in and he lived in the house with them for the rest of his life. He died in 1960, aged seventy-two.

When Rudolph and Hedwig decided to dispose of the farming operation in 1962, Hilbert and Betty assisted Albert to move his house to the yard of their New Norway farm to make his home with them. In 1969 Albert moved to Bethany Home in Camrose, because medical facilities he needed so badly by now, would be more readily available to him there. This was his last home.

He died in 1971 at the age of seventy-four.

Hanson, Amandus and Family

by Hanny (Hanson) Collin

When my father, Amandus Hanson, left Sweden in May, 1905, how little he knew of the trials that were to meet him and his family in the new land, thousands of miles across the sea.

Although I was only a little girl six years old, certain events made a lasting impression on my young mind.

Our comfortable home in northern Sweden failed to keep my father from succumbing to what we called "America Fever." To help him fulfill his dream, my mother reluctantly consented to venture out to the new land with him. At that time they thought it would mean leaving their parents, sisters and brothers for about a five-year period, as surely by then they would have made their fortunes. How wonderful it would be to get free land and so much of it by just filing on a homestead.

One day in the latter part of April, 1905, my father took his family and in the company of his brothers, Erik and Peter, as well as a cousin, left for the port city of Trondheim, Norway. Erik and the cousin brought their families as well, but Peter was single. From the seaport, they set sail for the promised land. We arrived in Wetaskiwin in May and, as I recall, the weather was pleasant as it often is in Alberta at that time of year. We were met by some

acquaintances of my parents. Travelling by horse and wagon, we got to our destination in the Lundemo district. The men went out to look for land; my father's brother and cousin located close to Miquelon Lake, whereas my father chose NE 10-49-21-W4, closer to what was to become Hay Lakes. They then each paid \$10 and filed a claim on the land they had chosen as homesteads.

Being good woodsmen from Sweden, they started building a house; made of logs the house consisted of one room down and another one up. My father stayed with a neighbor, Nils Lindberg, when he started building our home; he got as far as up to the windows of the house when tragedy struck. My father loved the outdoors and hunting. One morning while hunting ducks, his gun which he had brought from Sweden did not fire. He returned to the house. To put new caps into the shell. As he was pounding the cap into place with the iron back of a knife, the shell exploded and the knife flew into his eye. Medical help was very limited, but a doctor in Camrose took my father into his home where he cared for him. Despite this, my father died after five days.

When our family came to this country my father joined the Fridhem Church, and volunteered to help with the building of the church. At one time he had



Amandus Hanson children: Hanny, Helga, Erik, seated Gerda.

said, "I wonder who will be the first one to be laid to rest here?" Sad to say, he was the first.

Mother was now left with four children in a new land. She was not accustomed to the hardships she was to encounter. My uncles and kind neighbors finished building our house; they also built a small barn where my mother kept a few cows and a little Indian pony. Some of the neighbors got her this pony, the first one was blind so it was returned. In its place we got a little bay mare whom we named Nancy. My mother would drive her to the little country store at John Waldum's in Lundemo. Mr. Waldum drove to Wetaskiwin for supplies so the new settlers could get groceries.

It was a very difficult time for my mother; she got some money from her father in Sweden to help buy groceries and in this way she struggled on until 1907. That year the winter was very severe and Mother's health failed. She was ill all winter and on a beautiful warm day in May she passed away.

Now we were four orphans. As children, we did not worry about anything as long as Mother was with us. Now we missed her very much. We had to be separated — our relatives found homes for us. Gerda, my older sister, and brother Erik, who was just four years old, were given a good home with Mr. and Mrs. Waldum, God bless their memory; they were so good to first my mother when she was widowed and then to us children when we were orphaned. I was brought up by my aunt and uncle, the Erik Hansons where I had a good home. My younger sister, Helga, got a home at "Mannie" Johnson's. They had several small children in the family, so Helga, although only six years old, helped care for them. It was a lot of hard work for families to survive in those days, but God gave them strength and courage to keep on.

All these old-timers have found rest in the new land. They had a lot of courage and were thankful for what they were able to acquire.

With oxen, the pioneers broke some land and sowed a little wheat. I remember the first wheat they threshed; it was done on ice, they pounded it and the wind blew the chaff away. The wheat was then scooped into bags which were to be taken to the grinding mill not far away. Here the wheat was ground into flour. A few kernels of wheat were sent in a letter to Sweden to show what could be grown in Canada.

In the early years there were no fences to keep the cattle from wandering away when they were turned out to pasture and finding them at milking time was at times quite difficult.

Butter was churned and put into wooden tubs that were strapped on their backs for walking the trails for five miles to Waldum's store. This butter was exchanged for groceries.

When I was growing up, the men hunted muskrats by the hundreds; at times they had as much as seven hundred pelts, the price of which was not very high. My uncle, Erik Hanson, chopped and trimmed fence posts which he hauled by oxen to Camrose; there he sold them for two and one-half cents a post. This trip took him two days so the farm chores at this time had to be done by his wife. Homesteading was not an easy life.

People in the surrounding area were Swedish and Norwegian settlers who were good neighbors and friends. In spring time a group of men went fishing in northern lakes and brought home a lot of fish (mostly suckers). The fish were then cleaned and salted down in barrels. One time the men came home with some bear meat, they then invited the neighbors for Sunday dinner and prepared to have a feast. They were disappointed as the meat did not taste the same as the bear meat in Sweden, however, they had a good visit despite the disappointment of the meal. Our diet consisted of a lot of rabbit and fish. On many moonlit nights I carried a lantern and went with my aunt while she gathered rabbits around the haystacks. Like everyone else, we picked berries, saskatoons and low-bush cranberries. The cranberries were similar to the Swedish lingonberry; in spite of the flat stone in the Canadian berry we surely enjoyed them.

At Christmas time we always gathered at someone's home where there were candies, as well as other goodies for the children, and we always had a little program. I remember when as kids we were invited to our Aunt Hilda's and Uncle Peter Hanson's home to get the tree out; this was called "twenty-day Knut Jula ut" and always fell on January 13th.

Time went on and some schools were built. My sister Helga and I attended Sulitjelma school, to it we walked the three and one-half miles over trails. The grass and pea-vine were so high that in the morning we were soaking wet from the dew. Our lunch, carried in a syrup pail, consisted of bread and butter, a boiled egg and some milk, often some children had less than that. Our education was limited and school was open six months over the summer. We all spoke Scandinavian in our home, so we did not learn to speak and understand the English language very quickly.

In the early years, church services were held in homes. When the people gathered to discuss the building of a church there was a split decision as to its location. The Swedish people who lived further west felt the distance too great when it was decided to build the church on land donated by Alfred Forsen where the Wilhelmina Church still stands.

Our first pastor was the Reverend Lindgren from Czar; he came once each month and usually stayed a few days. With the help of his daughter, a Sunday

School was organized. Inga Lunde and Mrs. Victor Erickson taught Sunday School in the Swedish language which was also used in the church.

Life went on and we children grew up. My oldest sister, Gerda, clerked at Pithouse's Store in Hay Lakes. She stayed at the Pithouse's home and often walked to visit her uncle and aunt, the Peter Hansons. Gerda married Gustav Erikson and settled in the Czar district. When they got married, Gustav joked about a honeymoon — Gerda took the passenger train to Czar while he went with a cattle car in company of some stock which Gerda owned. Gustav having immigrated from Minnesota, was the son of a missionary who had spent many years in India; we heard many tales of their experiences in that far-away land. Gustav and Gerda farmed and raised three children, Louise, Luther and Vincent. All of them are now married and living in Camrose. Helga married Erhart Gronlund and they lived on my father's homestead. They had four children, Mae, James, Alton and Marie, also married. Helga's daughter, Anne, was born after she left Hay Lakes. Helga now lives in Camrose. My brother, Erik, died when he was nineteen years old.

I married Knut Collin and lived in the Donalda district on a farm. During the depression years we raised a family of three girls and two boys. They have all done well in spite of hard times. Doris, our eldest daughter and her husband, Norman Radke, farm in the Donalda district. Robert lives in Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. Margaret lives in Alaska while Florence and her husband farm at Meeting Creek. Harry and his wife operate the home farm in Donalda.

My father and mother had a very short life in this land, but we, as their children, saw the beginning of building up a land that is so rich in every way.

My sister Helga and I are the only ones left of the original Amandus Hanson family. We are in our sunset years of life and we had a good life. There were times when the going was rough but we were never hungry. We can truly say, "Thank You, Lord" for all the good things we have had here. I am very thankful of what I got out of life.

Gerda Hanson from her diary

The family had arrived at the Axel Selin place from Vilhelmina, Sweden in May, 1905. Immediately Gerda's parents, Amandus and Lovisa Hanson, proceeded to take NE 10-49-21-W4 as their homestead. In November that year, Amandus was accidentally hit by a shell back-firing in an old gun and died a few days later. Lovisa died in May, 1907 after a month's sickness. She had become exhausted after coping alone with the heavy work on the farm-

stead in the deep snow during that particularly long, hard winter. Four children, Gerda, Hanny, Helga and Erik August were thus bereft of parental love and care.

Gerda, at the age of eleven, and her four-year-old brother Erik were taken by the Waldums into their home at Lundemo. This Norwegian couple from U.S.A. had been very kind to the parents after their arrival from Sweden, and especially so to Lovisa during her short widowhood. Gerda lived in Lundemo for the next ten years, then attended High School in Camrose one year before working in homes around Armena. Her story and that of her parents are written in the Armena history book.

Early in 1917, Gerda began working in the Pithouse store and Postoffice in Hay Lakes. Her friend, Petra Kringen, was working in Larson's store at the same time. On their days off from work, the two sometimes walked to visit in country homes nearby. Gerda spent most of her holiday time in the home of her uncle Peter Hanson who lived two miles from town. Occasionally he loaned her driving conveyance to visit her uncle Erik who lived by Mi-quelon Lake. Or she would care for her little cousins, Margot and Karin, or do chores for their parents when they drove with horses to visit friends in the neighborhood.

We quote some excerpts from Gerda's diary at this time: "Uncle received a 'war-card' with twenty-four questions that every man from sixteen to sixty-five years of age should answer for the government" (January, 1917). "Today we got the last sugar that can be obtained now for some time. Flour goes up dreadfully. It is now eight dollars for one hundred pounds" (May 11, 1917). "The church ladies gather in different country homes for sewing meetings. Sick people consult Dr. Nordbye in Camrose by telephone from Hay Lakes. 'Old Lyseng', of Armena, died, leaving seventy-two grandchildren and forty-two great grandchildren to remember him." "Uncle Erik and Rev. Heiner travelled to Saskatchewan to a Lutheran Church Canada Conference meeting" (March, 1918). "This day marks thirteen years since we bade farewell to Vilhelmina, Sweden" (May 1st, 1918). "This Pentecost Day brother Erik was confirmed in the Wilhelmina Lutheran church" (May 19, 1918). "All women and men should register to work in the country, Canada, and all young boys are being taken into the war so many mothers come into the store weeping" (May 9, 1918).

In July, 1918, Gerda stopped working in the store and Post-office in order to help her uncle Peter do the haying on her parents' estate. In September she helped in a Sware home where the wife and mother was sick.

At the end of October, 1918 Gerda's uncle Erik and some neighbours took their cattle to market in Edmonton. When they returned, her uncle had become sick. Dr. Nordbye diagnosed the illness to be the prevalent Spanish influenza. Just eight days later, November 7, 1918, Erik Hanson died.

Gerda received the news by telephone from their neighbour. She went immediately to her uncle's home because her sister and young cousins were there. She found the entire household bedridden with the 'flu. Some minutes later, Dr. Nordbye drove into the yard with his automobile. Upon examining the occupants, he found that the hired man and two cousins, Helge and Gulle, were the most seriously ill. He gave Gerda a list of treatments which differed for the adults and children. Windows had to be open and the wrapped children carried into the sunshine

outside every day. Fortunately the November weather was summery that year. After a few days the hired man was able to get up and return home. Gerda's sister became strong enough to help with the outside chores. But Helge, thirteen years old, and Gulle, who was younger, battled with fever of one hundred and seven to one hundred and eight degrees for twelve days. Then the crisis came for each of them. Helge, who was just "skin and bones", lay as if dead. But when Gerda lifted the covers, she saw the pulse in his neck move and heard a faint rattling in his chest. Finally the fever broke. How thankful to God Gerda was when their recovery was on the way. Forgotten were the miles of steps and sleepless nights of vigilance during the children's fretful fever. Dr. Nordbye now allowed them to be given more substantial nourishment.

When winter came and the 'flu epidemic had subsided in the district, two memorial services were held, one for Gerda's uncle and the other for Rev. Heiner who had died from the 'flu a few days after Erik.

Gerda now took time to prepare for her marriage to Gustav Magnus Eriksson in the Wilhelmina Church on February 12, 1919. The ceremony was conducted by the bridegroom's father, Rev. Erik Magnus Eriksson, who was on a year's assignment from U.S.A. to the Augustana Lutheran Mission in Edmonton. After visiting and bidding farewell to her relatives and friends, Gerda arrived with her husband at Czar on March 1, 1919 to spend the remainder of her life on their farm. Their story is written in the book, *Echoes Along the Ribstone*.

Holdsworth, David and Doris

My world began on my grandparents' homestead in October, 1928, when my mother and father were renting the farm for a year while my grandparents had returned to Sweden for a visit. I have the honor of saying that I am the only descendant that was born on the C. J. Carlson homestead and it would seem fitting that I should own and have the privilege to farm this parcel of land. Both Doris and I enjoy living here and have been reasonably rewarded for our efforts.

In 1929, my parents moved to SW 20-49-20-W4 and rented it for a few years, then in 1932 they bought NE 17-49-20-W4 from the Canadian Pacific Railway and it was here I spent my childhood. Some of our neighbors were the Andersons, Holens, Coykendalls and Lickochs and in 1935 J. U. Erickson moved in just across the road. They have a daughter, Barbara Jeanne, about the same age as Irene and Gladys, my younger sisters. There was no phone but they didn't need one as I can still hear Barbara Jeanne calling, "Come over and play". Silence! Then the replay



The wedding of Gerda Hanson to Gustav Eriksson. February 12, 1919.



Doris and David Holdsworth.

came, "I will ask Mom". Silence! Then in a moment or two, "We can come over". Our family was deeply saddened when Barbara Jeanne passed away at twelve years of age, in 1943 from pneumonia.

I recall one time my sisters, Irene and Gladys, went over to the Coykendalls to play with Bonnie, and I tagged along. Mrs. Coykendall was just leaving to pick saskatoons and gave Leslie and me strict orders to look after the girls, but as soon as she was out of sight, we went in the other direction to shoot gophers. We stayed longer than expected and when we got back the girls were having a whale of a time as they had spilled about a gallon of goose oil on the floor upstairs and were sliding in it. Boy! was the stuff slippery. I think one can see the footprints on the stairs to this day. Many a time, we stopped in at the Coykendalls on our way home from school to warm our fingers and feet. Sometimes, Mrs. Coykendall was just pulling homebaked bread from the oven when we arrived and she would cut each of us a slice with lots of butter and honey. It was a real treat.

I recall my first trip to Hay Lakes, in the mid-thirties, when I was about seven years old. My eldest sister was taking cream and eggs to town with wagon

and horses. After about five miles of vibrating on a high wheeled wagon with no springs, one's tonsils would have been shook loose if it were not for the only shock absorber (the fleshy part of one's bum). We were just past the George Webster farm when my sister pointed out the elevators at Hay Lakes, five miles away. They looked like giant men with broad shoulders, standing guard on the horizon. I just vaguely remember the town, but on the way home we went on the township line, east of town. We had gone about two miles when I was pointed out a new round-roofed barn on the Sandquist farm, one of the first such barns in this area. Between 1935 and 1955 barn building in the east Hay Lakes area flourished. By the end of that era, there was scarcely a farm that didn't have a round-roofed barn sitting in its yard. In 1939, lumber could be had and set down on the building site for twenty dollars a thousand.

To save the necessity of weekly trips to town with produce, a cream route was started north of Miquelon Lake and pretty well followed the rabbit run east and south of the lake and west to the range line past Wilhelmina Church. By the time the driver got to our farm the truck was to a great extent full of egg crates and cream cans. The produce was usually hauled to Camrose. The trucker would buy groceries or anything else one might need and deliver them when he brought back the empty cans in the evening. Some of the cream haulers were: Per and Eric Wind-er, Ivan Broen, and Halmer Anderson. What an excellent service was provided by these people.

We had about three miles to go to Brandland school and were very thankful when someone picked us up and gave us a ride. On one rare occasion Charlie, the peddler, gave some of us "kids" a ride, but he wouldn't let my brother into his caboose and figured he could walk. As soon as Charlie started, Harold (King) climbed on the back of the caboose and shouted "I am the King". Charlie stopped the horse, grabbed his whip, ran around to the back of the caboose where Harold was perched, but Harold quickly jumped off his throne before the whip reached him. Charlie, who was a Syrian, started peddling in 1917 and continued until 1943, when he got sick and died. Nobody knows how big an area he covered, but Hay Lakes, Kingman, north of Miquelon Lake, Round Hill and Viking were some of the places. He peddled clothing of all sorts; it was like a department store on wheels making his rounds every two months. He would stay overnight at whatever farm he came to at supper time, that would stable and feed his horses for the night. Many a farmer's wife was dressed in her very best with outfits from Charlie the peddler or Charlie Johnson as he was sometimes called.

Dick Gellert also had a meat peddling business in the Miquelon Lake-Brandland area around 1935. Live animals were bought and butchered on the farms, usually in the evenings. The animal was quartered and hung in a van-type vehicle, a re-modelled car with a box built on the back. This served as a meat wagon and was equipped with a scale and the necessary tools for cutting the meat. Farmers' wives would tell the peddler what type of cut of meat they desired and he would try to accommodate them, not always to their satisfaction. Carsten Davidson acquired the meat business from Dick and worked at it until about 1939, when it was discontinued.

I remember one morning when we came to school, the "kids" were yelling and screaming as Alver Person had snared a big jack rabbit and was scaring the girls (they pretended to be scared). Alver had snared the rabbit with intentions of mounting it. He had it stored under the steps for fear of spoilage, as it was about ten below zero fahrenheit outside. He would get the beautiful specimen out every recess and look it over as he was so proud of it. But just before the last recess Sture Johnson drove by with his horse and cutter and a pair of coyote hounds which found a free meal in Alver's rabbit and were running down the path to the road when Alver spotted the hound with his rabbit. He stood up in his desk and looked out the window unable to believe his eyes.

In the early seventies, we phased out the cattle operation and went into the production of high quality hay for dairy producers. This served two purposes: it stopped erosion and gives a higher return on investment. I recall on one occasion I was over at one of the neighbors who was stacking hay that had been rained on for several weeks. I started to give a lecture on the advantages of putting up high quality hay when he remarked he couldn't see any advantage

in quality as by spring it would be all cows — anyway.

On March 1, 1946, I moved with other members of our family to SW 3-49-21-W4. Five years later we moved and rented NW 34-48-21-W4, my grandfather's homestead. In 1955, I married Doris Holland of Aneroid, Saskatchewan and in 1956 our daughter, Sarah, was born. In 1962 we bought NW 34-48-21-W4 and the eighty acres across the road. Power was put in and a new home built in 1967. In 1980, as a Centennial project, several hundred evergreen trees were planted on banks throughout the farm. Also in 1980, we were given an award by Wilhelmina Lutheran Church honoring families that continued to farm the homestead. We are the third generation to farm this land.

In 1976, our daughter, Sarah, married Mike Ryan of Daysland who is employed by the Treasury Branch in Stettler, and Sarah is presently working for the Credit Union. They are expecting their first child in April, 1982.

Doris and I are semi-retired and enjoy camping, skiing and golfing, especially beating my sister-in-law on the golf course, even if I have to bank the ball off the trees!

Holdsworth, (Norlander) Ellen Alfrieda

Ellen Carlson was born in Österjöländ, Sweden, June 14, 1896 to Carl and Elin Carlson. In 1903, at the age of seven, Ellen emigrated along with her parents and younger brother, Carl, to North Dakota. Conditions in the new country were very severe; the winter of 1906-1907 saw many people freeze to death and the Carlson family barely coped through the harsh winter by burning material from the straw barn as fuel. After this experience they and another family, the Edins, decided to try their luck homesteading in Canada, arriving in the Camrose area in 1907. After a few years, the Edins returned to U.S.A., where some of their descendants still live. The Carlsons rented land in the Lundemo district for a year or so. In the meantime they filed on NW 34-48-21-W4 for a homestead, later proving it up and receiving title to same in 1914. As time passed by more brothers, Eric, Ted and George were born. Being the eldest, Ellen was needed at home during the summer months to herd and round up cattle as there were no fences and the cattle could roam far and wide.

Ellen attended Swan Hill school for two years when it was situated on Section 4-49-21-W4. She and her brother, Carl, were members of the first confirmation class at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church, held in 1915, and conducted by Pastor Lindgren. They had to walk five miles each way for instruction, mostly along cow trails.



Oxen trained for Centennial Year by David Holdsworth. L. to R.: David, Darlene and Debbie Lofgren and Sarah Holdsworth.

On November 3, 1915, Ellen married Edwald Norlander. Since work took him to several places, they travelled a great deal. Ellen helped support the family by cooking for a railway work crew. They lived in Jasper, Hudley, and in Hay Lakes where Edwald was a water hauler for the steam shovel during the construction of the Hay Lakes drainage ditch, and he also operated a saw mill for a time near Miquelon Lake. During this time Edwald and Ellen had five children, Helen born in December, 1916, Betty in September, 1918, Ada in April, 1920, Albin in July, 1922 and Harold in May, 1924. Their last home was in Red Deer, where Edwald passed away September 27, 1924 from typhoid fever.



Edwald Norlander with wife Ellen and daughters; Ada (seated) Betty and Helen.

On February 14, 1928, Ellen married Maurice Charles Holdsworth, a veteran of World War I, being a bachelor thirty-eight years of age. Maurice now had himself a big job in suddenly becoming the father to five children. Soon after their marriage, Ellen's parents left for a holiday to Sweden and the Holdsworths rented the home place for a year. Their next home was close to Miquelon Lake, where they rented a

quarter until 1932 when the farm was sold by the owner. They then purchased NE 17-49-20-W4.

By now times were very hard, as they were in the midst of the "hungry thirties". Ellen learned to make ends meet by washing, carding and spinning wool for yarn to make socks and mitts which she sold for twenty-five cents a pair.



Back Row, L. to R.: Ada Huebner, Helen Barnes, Harold Norlander, Al Norlander, Betty Collingwood, George Holdsworth. Front Row: Ed Holdsworth, David Holdsworth, Irene Huebner, Gladys Heggart.

Over the years, another five children came along, David born in October, 1928, Irene in August, 1931, Gladys in October, 1933, George in November, 1934 and Eddie in August, 1937. It was a full time job for Ellen just packing school lunches for over thirty years and keeping mischievous children out of serious trouble. Ellen, like most mothers, kept herself and the children busy with a big garden and berry picking (some fifty quarts of wild strawberries one year) during the summer months. In the early forties, Ellen had to spend several weeks in the hospital because of a serious infection in her hand, caused by a thistle which left one finger badly crippled. To add to her worries Albin and Harold enlisted in the Armed Forces and both were sent overseas; Albin served in the army and fought in Africa, Italy, Sicily and Holland and Harold served on the Corvette H.M.C.S. Camrose. Luckily both returned safely home in 1945.

In 1946, Ellen and her family made their final move to SW 3-49-21-W4. By this time some of the older children were married and had homes of their own.

Maurice (his story elsewhere) suffered a stroke in 1949 and had to be hospitalized at Government House in Edmonton on a permanent basis where he passed away in October, 1961. Ellen continued to reside on the farm. In 1964, she purchased a house in

Edmonton and had it transported to the farm. This was the first time she had the convenience of running water. She got great pleasure from her newly planted fruit trees and landscaped yard. Ellen was a great lover of flowers and houseplants, which thrived under her tender loving care. One plant, (a Christmas Cactus, originally belonging to Gramma Carlson, is now owned by Ellen's daughter, Irene Huebner) is a "third generation plant"!! Her home was a constant beehive of activity for her many grandchildren (thirty-six) during the summer months; lots of mouths were fed with her delicious cooking, lots of fights to referee and little ones to comfort, and there were the trees to protect against the young lumberjacks from the cities.

In 1966, Ellen had a mastectomy and came through it with flying colors. By the late 1960's, she was suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis and she finally had to say goodbye to farm life and move into the Bethany Home, Camrose. This was a hard move for her to make, but she adjusted well, and was fortunate to have two daughters working there. Also there was hardly a day that passed without some family member or friend dropping in for a visit. She resided here until her death in November, 1975.

Holdsworth, Maurice Charles

Maurice Charles Holdsworth was born in New Liskerd, Ontario, on October 2, 1890. At the age of twenty in August 1910, and as quoted from an article entitled "Holdsworth Comes West", in "Communique" a Government House newspaper, 1952, "I headed for the wide open spaces, arriving at my uncle's farm in Saltcoats, Saskatchewan.

In the spring of 1911, I headed for Alberta to the Sedgewick area where I worked for Cameron Brothers (who owned two big J. I. Case plowing engines), as a water monkey and fireman.

At the end of two years I went to Red Deer to have my examination before the Boiler Inspector and I came away with a steam engineer's ticket. Upon my return I was put in charge of one of the plowing engines, breaking prairie land for the Canadian Pacific Railroad". End of quotation.

In October 1916, Charlie enlisted in the 187th. Infantry Battalion, serving in Canada, England, France and Belgium; he was wounded twice; and also suffered from poisonous mustard gas. Upon his return he went gold mining in British Columbia and worked at various jobs both there and in Alberta.

Quoting again from an article in "Communique" called "Reminiscence of the Hungry Thirties" Charlie had this to say:

I am writing about the depression and feeding



Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Holdsworth.

and clothing a family of five throughout the hungry thirties. That was no easy job.

I got married in 1928 to Ellen Norlander and rented my father-in-law's farm while he took a trip to Europe for the summer. That was fine, and I did very well, but upon his return my wife and I had to find a place to live elsewhere. I finally located a little place not far from Miquelon Lake. We moved in and lived there until 1932 when I was told by the owner that he had sold the property and that I would have to move off. This was about the first of October. So I came to the conclusion I would have to buy a quarter section of land — and I only had \$160.00! That would be a \$1.00 an acre down payment. There was a quarter section (NE17-49-20-W4) of Canadian Pacific Railroad land close to where we were living and that was the place I wanted. It had a small house on it, was fenced, had a good well and lots of wild hay in season, lots of poplar timber and seven acres broken.

Armed with the \$160.00 I went to see the Canadian Pacific Railroad land agent for our district to buy this quarter section of land. Upon arriving at his office I was told I could have the land at my own terms but would have to pay \$1.00 an acre as a down payment. This was all the money I had in the world. Then I asked the agent if I could move on the land but this he refused saying I would have to wait for per-

mission from the Calgary office and notice as to whether or not my application had been accepted. All I could do then was go home and wait. We had a good garden on the place where we were living, so I dug the potatoes and took in the rest of the vegetables.

To get a day's work for money was impossible. I got a dozen animal traps and started to trap weasels and skunks or any other furbearing animal I could get my hands on not too far from home, and I did get some.

About the tenth of December I got a letter from Canadian Pacific Railroad Land Office saying that I could move on the land but first I must pay one year's taxes in advance, that would be \$26.00. When my wife read the letter about the taxes she almost fainted. All she could say was, "We have no money to pay with and if you sell the fur and use that money we will have nothing for Christmas." But — the only thing I could do was to pack up my little bit of fur and sell it. So, the next day I went to town to sell the fur and raise the money to pay the taxes. I got \$26.80 for the fur leaving seventy cents after buying the money order and postage to send it away to pay the taxes.

The following day we moved to our new home and after about two weeks hard work we had the place in order. Another week was spent cutting wood for the winter. There was only seventy cents to spend for Christmas which was not far off. I had married a widow with five small children so the seventy cents would work out to ten cents each. I needed more money than that. We had five sacks of potatoes to sell and the price was \$3.20 a sack. I sold all five and got around \$16.00. That was a lot of money in those days! I also had a few bushels of wheat on my father-in-law's place so I loaded it into the wagon and went to Camrose to the flour mill and had it ground into flour with enough wheat left over to pay for the grinding. I got six hundred pounds of flour. While in Camrose I bought a few extras for Christmas. This included two boxes of .22 cartridges and one box of 30.30 cartridges for my carbine. I was a good shot with the rifle and if the worst came to the worst, I could go into the bush and hunt our meat — wolf stew with a little savoury added is a dish not to be despised — if one is hungry enough.

The day before Christmas came and I asked the little woman if we had enough groceries. She said she had enough of everything that she needed and she would cook a dinner good enough for a king. And she did. We felt so secure in our new home and I believe it was the happiest time of our lives.

The day after Christmas I took my trusty rifle and went over my trap line and I found I had caught three weasels. To add to my good fortune, on my way home I shot a coyote. At that time a coyote was worth

as much as a three-year-old steer, that is, \$9.00. The three weasels were equal in value to a two hundred pound pig or about \$4.00. Our neighbors took up a collection and gave us a cow. With the cow, we had all the cream and butter we could use. I had put up a lot of hay the summer before so I traded one stack for a horse and I still had enough left for a cow and horse for the winter. I traded my 30.30 rifle for a set of harness. I also cut willow fence posts and sold them to my neighbors for \$50.00. I had to have more money to put in a crop in the spring so I got a permit to trap muskrats and bought a dozen more traps, and also lots of cartridges for my .22 rifle. The muskrats were plentiful that spring, so when the right time came, I started off to hunt and trap. When the ice went off the sloughs I would shoot until my rifle got hot. Then I would shove it into the cold water to cool, and then I would start shooting again. In this way I got enough money to feed my family and put in my crop.

I seeded the seven acres to wheat and in the fall I harvested a crop that averaged forty bushels to the acre and graded No. 1 Northern. That was top grade and the price paid in our district was eighteen a bushel. If I sold the two hundred and eighty bushels I would have less than \$50.00 to go through the winter. It would not be enough to buy even the cheapest clothing for seven people. I managed to get on a threshing rig and earned about \$50.00 in this way. As soon after the threshing season as the fur was in prime condition, I started trapping again and made \$75.00 from the sale of the pelts. With this money I bought clothing. This purchase included twenty bags of flour from the Camrose bakery. In addition, I had forty bushels of wheat ground into flour, giving us fifteen hundred pounds, enough to supply our needs for over a year, this with vegetables we raised kept us in food. However, we did need meat, so I went over to a neighbor and bought a nice sheep for \$1.50. I took the sheep home, clipped the wool off it and then killed the sheep for meat. My wife prepared the wool for yarn and made socks and mitts. The mitts and socks were fine but when we came to the meat, it was so tough we could hardly stick our forks into the gravy.

Something had to be done to provide meat for the family, so I went to Camrose and bought a second hand 30.30 carbine. It looked to be in good condition but when I got it home and shot at a target the bullets seemed to go everywhere except to the target. I examined it carefully and found the barrel to be slightly ball-shaped at the end. I got a hack saw and cut a quarter of an inch off the barrel. I tried a few shots at a target and made three bull's eyes at one hundred and fifty yards. By this time I was like a wild man and I

wanted wild meat so I decided to go out into the tall timbers and hunt deer and moose. My neighbor had a truck and some fish nets. We decided to go together, he fishing and I hunting. After a week's absence, we came home with a quantity of white fish, a deer and a moose. I thought we would be on easy street for the rest of the winter until I got home and saw what the coyotes had done to the few turkeys my wife raised. They had killed everyone and never left a feather! I made up my mind then and there those coyotes would pay for those turkeys with interest — and they did. I started in to shoot, trap and snare coyotes and in a month I caught twelve. The price of skins went up and I made over \$100.00. The turkeys were worth about \$18.00 so the coyotes did me a good turn by eating the turkeys. I gave my wife \$50.00 of this money and bought a small radio for myself so that I could listen for the grain prices. That winter the price of wheat went up to \$1.13 a bushel — and I had sold two hundred bushels for \$226.00.

I had thirty tons of hay to sell after taking care of my own needs; the price was \$3.00 a ton. The following summer I broke seven acres of new land and the little woman raised more turkeys. The coyotes started to kill them again. I went after the coyotes and caught ten more — the rest left the country, they would not show themselves within a five-mile radius of our place.

At the end of the depression the children were all healthy and almost grown up and able to take care of themselves.

This is the way my family and I came through the depression.

Holmberg, Karl

Karl (Charles) Holmberg was born in Hellefors, Sweden on November 22, 1878. He came to Winnipeg in November, 1903 and there met Miss Brita Palm. Brita and Charles were married in November of 1907. They had three children: Olga Elenora Holmberg was born December 1, 1908, Verna Dorothy Holmberg was born January 13, 1911 and died shortly after on August 18, 1912. John Arvie Holmberg who was born on November 9, 1912, passed away on July 14, 1969.

The family came to Hay Lakes in July, 1913 and later bought the Johan Palm homestead, where they lived almost fifty years. In 1960 Karl and Brita moved to Camrose. Brita passed away in 1964 and Charles in 1974.

John Holmberg married Edith Sware in 1941. In 1944 they purchased the "home farm", thus becoming the third generation owners of the old Palm homestead. When John died in 1969, his wife moved to Camrose. The farm was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Mac Douglas.



Mrs. Britha Holmberg, Olga and Johnny.

Adolph and Martha Huebner and Family

Adolph was born on May 15, 1897, in Olchofka, Russia, the fourth son of Julius and Christina Huebner. As a young man he apprenticed as a Wheelwright (woodworker). During World War I he was sent to the Ornburg District to work as a repairman for a large grain carting company. At the close of the war he returned to his home village. In 1921, he met a young woman who had just returned to her home in a neighboring village. This woman was Martha Kruger.

Martha was one of eight children born to Ludwig and Theopelia Kruger. In 1915, when the fighting drew nearer, Martha and several members of her family were forced to leave their home in Federofka. The family spent nine weeks travelling by covered wagon, followed by three weeks in a crowded boxcar until they reached their destination, Tashkent, hundreds of miles from home.

Approximately six months after their arrival, tragedy struck. While caring for 'flu victims, Martha's parents were stricken with the disease and died within twenty-four hours of each other. This left Martha, who was eighteen, to care for a fourteen-year-old brother and two younger sisters. To support

the family she found work on farms, picked cotton, cut wood and worked on the railroad.

In the fall of 1920 a friend who had also worked on the railroad, acquired a railroad boxcar. This boxcar, shunted from one train to another was to be home for several months on their return journey to Federofka. After many delays and much hardships they arrived at the town of Korostin, approximately forty kilometers from home. Fighting between Bolshovic and Polish soldiers in the area made it impossible to continue by train to Federofka and refuge by a very bewildered group was taken in a near-by field. A local woman befriended the group and took them into her home for the night. That night a battle ensued between the two armies and as the fighting drew nearer the frightened group hid in a root cellar. Several days later, when the fighting ceased, Martha and her friends thanked the lady and continued their homeward trek. They were appalled to discover that the location they had vacated several nights ago had been the scene of a battle. Bandages, blood stained ground and abandoned weapons were everywhere.

The group was forced to walk the remainder of the way to Federofka, as they were unable to obtain further transportation. On their trek they saw many dead horses and other visible signs of battles which were fought ahead of them. When they finally arrived back home in Federofka, they were greeted by the people of the village who were surprised and delighted at their safe return.

On June 1, 1921 Adolph Huebner married Martha Kruger. They resided on his mother's farm at Olchofka where Adolph sawed logs and built their first home. When the political situation became too unbearable, the young couple decided to emigrate to Canada. The house, which was sold, provided the main source of revenue for their emigration.

On August 10, 1926, Adolph, Martha, their son Arnold, daughter Helene, and infant son Bernard along with Adolph's brother Paul, his family and Grandmother Christina left Olchofka. They travelled by train to Moscow and then on to Riga, Finland, where Paul's family was quarantined because of chicken pox. The remainder of the group continued by ship to South Hampton, England. There it was discovered during health inspection that young Helene had ringworm and had to be quarantined. As a result Adolph remained at South Hampton to tend Helene while Martha, Grandma Christina and the other two children went ahead on the Canadian Pacific Railroad ship Minidosa to Canada. The following month, when the ship returned, Adolph and Helene resumed their journey.

Meanwhile Martha, Grandma Christina and the

children landed in Quebec and then travelled by train to Hay Lakes. While waiting for Adolph and Helen to arrive, they stayed with Adolph's sister, Maria and her husband Paul Busenius.

Upon his arrival in Hay Lakes, Adolph found work for the winter helping Martin Henkleman bale hay. An old log house was provided as living quarters. Martha mixed clay, straw and water in order to chink the holes and shut out the cold winter winds. Maria and Paul gave Grandma a cow which provided milk for the family. Through their stay at the Henkleman farm, the family became associated with the Moravian Church in New Sarepta.

In December 1926 they, along with brother Paul bought N27-48-21-W4 from Mr. Larson, the storekeeper. In 1928 Adolph bought Paul's share of the farm. Martha worked along with Adolph clearing land, planting and stooking as well as caring for the home and family. Despite the depression, with much work and personal sacrifice, the family managed to clear the land and build up the homestead. By 1939 they were able to build a new and larger house to accommodate their growing family. Two years later their old log barn burned down and a larger barn was built.

In 1954 Adolph and his sons built a house in Camrose. Leaving the farm in the care of their two youngest sons, Adolph and Martha retired to their home in Camrose after the harvest in 1955. During the ensuing summers, Adolph and Martha returned frequently to the farm to garden, raise poultry and do general maintenance. Then, in 1961, Clarence and his wife Joanne, took over permanent operation of the farm.

Adolph and Martha Huebner continue to live in Camrose where they both enjoy good health. Martha spends her summers raising a huge garden, and her winters crocheting and spinning wool to knit homespun socks and mitts for their many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Adolph continues to keep occupied making furniture for the members of his family. All the children and most of the grandchildren have furnished their homes with tables, chairs, bedroom suites, all hand crafted by Adolph. On June 1, 1981, Adolph and Martha celebrated their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.

The Children of Adolph and Martha Huebner

Arnold returned from the airforce to marry war widow Ada (Norlander) Davidson, who had two children Shirley and Delmar. They farmed in New Sarepta until Shirley and her husband took over the farm. Arnold and Ada now live in Tofield. Their children are; Jarrett, now residing in Leduc, Annabelle (Mrs.



Adolph and Martha Huebner Family 1942. Back Row: Bernard, Arnold, Eric. Middle Row: Clarence, Adeline, Robert (Bob). Front Row: Elsa, Adolph, Lillian, Martha and Helen.

R. Heinz), Clarence and Terrance all live in Hay Lakes and Robert living at home.

Helene (Mrs. Robert Bell) died in 1971.

Bernard married Irene Holdsworth and lives in Camrose. They had four children; Wendy (Mrs. Dan Pope) of Regina, Ross of Fort McMurray, Randolph and Pamela both in Edmonton. One of Bernie's teachers at Swan Hills was Ina Lofgren (Djuve). Ina also taught Bernie's children Wendy and Ross in Camrose.

Eric and Hilda farm at Hay Lakes. Their son Raymond lives in Edmonton. Donna (Mrs. Rudy Kneller) lives in Rollyview, Debbie, (Mrs. Klein) of Fort St. John, Jean (Mrs. Reg Matson) of Hay Lakes, and Kathy (Mrs. Vern Ansorger) resides in Rollyview.

Elsa lives in Calgary.

Bob married Jessie MacDonald. They live in Grande Prairie. Their three children, Melodie, Angie and Lisa all live at home.

Adeline (Mrs. Jack McKay) lives in Drumheller, Jack died in 1979. They had five children; Kevin, married with one child, Kim (Mrs. Art Forbes), and Scott all live in Calgary. Bradley was killed in a skidoo accident in February 1975. Shawn lives at home.

Clarence lives on the home farm. He married Joanne Lofgren and have two children, Claranne and Darren both living at home.

Lillian married Mait Snell of Camrose. They have three children; Jay attending University of Alberta, Edmonton, Brett and Sherri at home.

Huebner, Clarence and Joanne and Family

My husband, Clarence A. Huebner, the youngest son of Adolph and Martha Huebner, was born in a

small house on the farm where we now live. He took his first eight years of schooling at Swan Hills School, and the final years at Hay Lakes. He was in High school just as the oil boom reached this area, so he went to the "rigs" for his first job. Six years were spent working on rigs throughout central and Northern Alberta and British Columbia.

On August 26, 1960 we were married at St. Josephs Lutheran Church. I (Joanne) was born in Edmonton, the eldest child of John and Frieda Lofgren. My first five years of schooling were received at Sulitjelma. For Grades six to eleven I rode the school bus to Hay Lakes school. Grade twelve was taken at Camrose Lutheran College. My teaching certificate was received at The University of Alberta, Edmonton. The final three years towards my Bachelor of Education degree were taken through summer sessions and evening credit courses at the University of Alberta and Camrose Lutheran College. Full time teaching has been done in Kingman and New Sarepta (where I am presently employed).

On April 1, 1961 we moved to Clarence's parents farm N27-48-21-W4 upon their retirement. In 1966 we also purchased Simon Bertloff quarter section NW 11-49-21-W4. We spent many days there clearing land; picking roots and rocks. Although our children were still young they also helped, carrying small roots and sticks to make bon-fires for the daily wiener roasts. Later they would nap beside the truck or run off to play on the hills and in the bushes, while we worked.

Clarence has also rented land from Martin Movold, Wilburt and Myrtle Wilson and more recently from Dad (John Lofgren). In 1980 Wilburt Wilson sold us the SE 34-48-21-W4 which adjoins our farm.

Both our children were born in St. Mary's hospital, Camrose. Clar-anne is now in Grade twelve at Hay Lakes High School. She intends to begin her first year of University at Camrose Lutheran College in September, 1981. She has always been an animal lover, and used to spend a great deal of time helping her dad with cattle. Now she mainly confines her attentions to the four horses she has managed to sneak onto the farm.

Darren took Grades one to eight at Hay Lakes school. This year he has been taking the first year of a three-year course at W. P. Wagner High School in Edmonton. Darren will be concentrating on mechanics. We hope he will continue at The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology when his High school is finished. Although he is adept with animals, his main interests have always been mechanics and machinery.

We have led a very quiet, rather uneventful life.



L. to R.: Darren, Clarence, and Joanne. Seated: Clar-anne.

Our interests have mainly revolved around the family, farm and school. For short periods of time we were involved with Brownies, Cub scouts, 4H and sporting events, but these were of rather short duration.

Christina Huebner

Christina Nightingale was born in Poland near the capital of Warsaw. When Christina was three years old she emigrated to Russia with her parents. They eventually settled in Olchofka where Christina grew up and married Julius Huebner.

Christina and Julius had twelve children, six of whom were boys. Julius died during the 'flu epidemic of 1916 along with four daughters, Pauline, Lydia, Martha and Caroline and a son, Gustav. Another son, Reinhold, died as a child. Christopher remained in Russia, and died in the 1930's. Paul and Adolph came to Canada in 1926 and August emigrated to Canada in 1948. Maria married Paul Busenius and emigrated to Canada in 1912. Katherine resides in Germany.

In 1926 Christina once again emigrated. This time she accompanied her sons Paul and Adolph and their families to Canada. She lived with Adolph and Martha on their farm. She had her own cabin, cows, poultry and garden to care for, so lived a very independent life. Her Grandchildren still reminisce about climbing on Grandma's chicken house or swiping her raspberries and strawberries. For such actions they would received a good German tongue lashing. Helping with a chore, on the other hand, led to an invitation to share her delicious sweet rolls.

Christina Heubner died in 1943 and is buried at the Moravian cemetery in new Sarepta.

Johnson, O. Charley

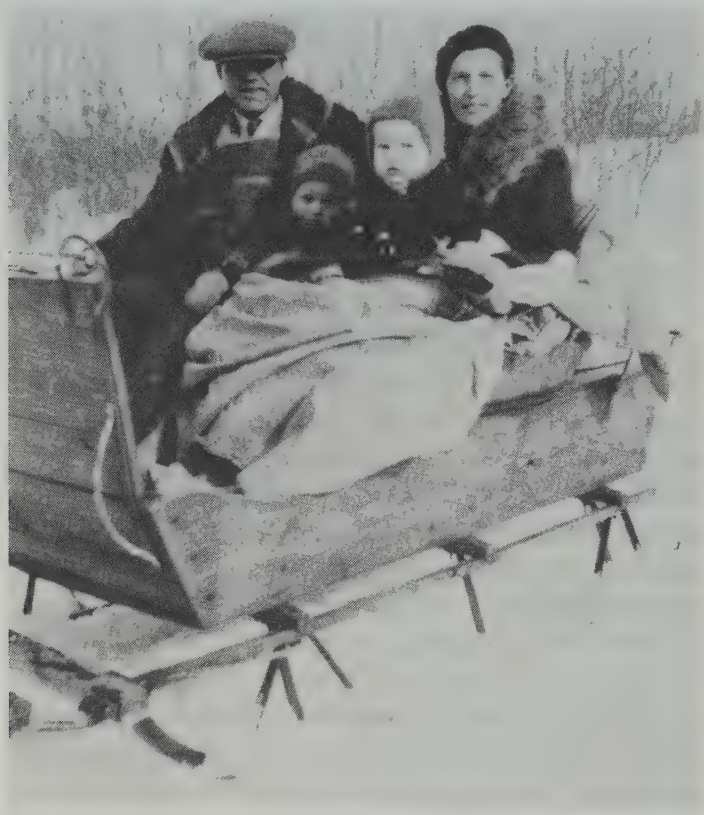
by Julia Johnson

In the fall of 1934, the Johnson family moved to



Christina Huebner on her 80th birthday and some of her descendents.

the Hay Lakes district and rented a farm owned by John Carlson — two and one-half miles east of the town of Hay Lakes. They had left their land and homestead which they had farmed since the year 1911 in the Monitor district, east of Coronation. They had suffered four years of drought and then the depression of the 1930's set in.



Charley Johnson Family. L. to R.: Charley, Doreen, Garry, and Julia.

They were a family of four; Charley, his wife Julia, two children, Doreen, aged two years, and Garry, five months old. They shared the house here with the Carlson family which was a two-storey building. The Carlsons occupied the living room, a bedroom, and one room upstairs. The Johnsons occupied the kitchen, one bedroom and one room upstairs. A pantry was also shared by the two families and a cellar where the vegetables and canned fruit were stored.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlson and their son, George, were very kind to the Johnson family. They shared their woodpiles for fuel which was all sawed and split, their vegetables, and also feed and hay for their livestock during the winter of 1934-'35. The grain and feed was repaid from the first crop which the Johnsons harvested and threshed in the fall of 1935. During the three years that they rented the Carlson farm they made many friends with kind neighbors and, forty years later, they are still keeping in touch and enjoying meeting and visiting with them time

and again. Many of their neighbors have passed away through the years including Mr. and Mrs. Carlson and George, but the memory of each one of these friends still lingers. There will someday be a great reunion of loved ones and friends in Glory Land with Jesus, our Lord and Savior. The church which the Johnsons attended was St. Joseph Lutheran church. At that time it was situated east of the Lars Grue farm and north of the John Lofgren buildings.

In the fall of 1937, the Johnsons moved off the Carlson farm and during the winter months lived on a farm owned by Magnus Sware, north of Miquelon Lake.

In the spring of 1938, the Johnsons moved onto a farm which they purchased, situated three miles south of Hastings Lake and twelve miles west of Tofield. In the fall of 1942 they disposed of their livestock and farm machinery at an auction sale and the family moved to the town of Viking, Alberta.

Charley had now taken on carpenter work. In the spring of 1946, he worked for Burrows Contractors in Camrose and built a home there. In the fall of 1946 he moved the family to Camrose where Mrs. Johnson is still residing. Charley passed away on Christmas Day, 1974, after suffering a stroke earlier that year.

Their daughter, Doreen, married Raymond Gerber in 1953. They live in Calgary where Raymond is employed with the Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas, and Doreen is employed in the Canadian Bible Society Book Store. They have two children, Dennis and Linda. Dennis works in Edmonton, and Linda married Terry Liston and they reside in Calgary.

Garry Johnson married Catherine Cerny in 1959, and they are presently residing in Calgary. Their two sons, Gregory and David, are both attending University in Calgary.

Johnston, Charlie and Winnie

Charlie was born in Michigan, U.S.A. in 1895 and as a youngster moved to Ontario with his family. Later, as a young man he came West and worked in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Winnie was born in Scotland and emigrated to Canada with her family in 1928. They homesteaded in Northern Saskatchewan.

Charlie and Winnie came to Hay Lakes in the mid 1950's. Charlie was employed as a battery operator with an Oil Company. They lived in the Village for a time before moving to a site on the Frank Fuernkranz farm.

Charlie and Winnie are fondly remembered for their hospitality. One time when the Ben Waterman family were supper guests at the Johnston home, Winnie apologized for having prepared such a

“plain” meal. Young Lyle Waterman piped up, “It’s better than we expected.”

Winnie’s youngest son, Nelson Anderson, also lived with them here and attended Hay Lakes School. He was known for his singing ability and was one of the prize winners when “Search for Talent” came to Hay Lakes.

Charlie retired in 1960 and they moved to Creston, B.C. where he passed away in 1962.

Winnie is presently living in Burnaby, B.C., and at the age of eighty years is still enjoying good health.

Johnson, Neil and Karen and Family

Karen and Neil Johnson and family moved from Sherwood Park to the Ivor Lofgren (NE9-49-21-W4) farm in June, 1973. They have seven children: Bryan, Dana, Sue, Kevin, Wendy, Eric and Mary-Ellen. Neil commuted to work in Edmonton until his retirement from the Canadian National Railroad in 1979, after thirty-six years of service. Since his retirement he occupies his time feeding a few cows, goats and a horse. He also grows a big garden (potatoes are his specialty) and he drives a schoolbus. Wendy and Eric graduated from the Hay Lakes High School and Mary-Ellen received a portion of her schooling at Hay Lakes Elementary. At the time of this writing (November 1981) Karen and Neil have four grandchildren, Leah, Erin, Kajsa and Alexander.

The family members have found their way to many distant parts of Canada. After a sojourn in British Columbia, Bryan has returned to work at the farm. Dana and Kevin took their University through hockey at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. They went on to play more hockey in Germany before returning to Canada. At present Dana is in Journalism School in Toronto with his wife, Annie, and children, Kajsa and Alexander. Kevin and his wife, Annie, are at Kingston, Ontario, where Kevin is in Medical School. Sue graduated from the University of Alberta Nursing School, and she and her husband, Jackson Lore, have settled in Nova Scotia with their daughter, Leah. They are looking forward to having another grandchild for Neil and Karen in March of 1982.

Wendy continued her education at Camrose Lutheran College, and finished at University of Alberta in Edmonton. She graduated as a teacher in 1980, and was married to Alastair Grant in January, 1981. At present she teaches in Edmonton, and has a few violin students besides, and is training to be a teacher of the Suzuki method of violin playing for children.

Eric went to Camrose College for his first two

University years and at present is in Education at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

Mary Ellen is in the tenth grade, and is receiving her education at the National Ballet School in Toronto.

The farm at Hay Lakes in homebase for the family, and they all enjoy congregating during various vacations throughout the year.

Lechelt, C. W. (Charlie)

C. W. (Charlie) Lechelt along with his parents, Wilhelm and Carolina Lechelt, and four sisters and two brothers emigrated to Canada in 1899 from Volhynia, Russia, arriving at Nisku, Alberta. He was eleven years old at the time.

In 1910, Charlie married Augusta Panzellius who had also come from Volhynia, Russia. They settled in the Canard district to farm SW 29-48-24-W4. They had a family of four children: Frieda born in 1913, Alfred in 1915, Hilbert in 1917 and Hilda in 1919. Mrs. Lechelt passed away in 1922.

In 1923, Charlie married Augusta Forth, daughter of Leo and Marie Forth of Wetaskiwin. They continued to farm in the Canard district until 1928 when they sold the farm to John Handke and purchased the Grahm garage which he operated for three years.

They then farmed in the Tofield district a few years, returning to the Hay Lakes area in 1935, when they bought the M. Lofsett farm, SW 2-49-21-W4 in the Swan Hill school district where they carried on a mixed farming operation. They also owned the north half of NE 34-48-21-W4, kitty-corner to the home place. In 1952, oil was discovered in the Joarcom field and two wells were drilled on this property. A well was also drilled on the home place, but very little oil was discovered, however, a considerable amount of gas was. Because there was no market for gas at the time, the well was not developed.

During the days of the steam engine, Charlie was “water hauler.” This job was phased out when gas was used to power the thresher and he took on the job of grain hauler for the threshing run, before the existence of the grain auger. Several thousand bushels of grain had to be moved each day by hand with a grain scoop. It was a happy day for the grain hauler when they threshed at the C. J. Carlson farm, for there they could drive into the loft of the barn, open the end-gate, and let the grain flow into the bin below. During the slack times he would lend an ear to a spicy joke, but could be counted on to tell an even better one.

Charlie served on the Swan Hill school board at various times. He was a strong supporter of the Swan Hill ball team and many times he transported the

team to neighboring schools. Often he was the only cheerleader.

The family was musically inclined. Charlie was instrumental in starting and conducting the Hay Lakes Brass Band in 1912.

Charlie and Augusta had three children: Ruth born in 1925, Evelyn born in 1931, and Glen was born in 1936.



Charlie Lechelt Family: Charlie, Augusta with Glen, Evelyn and Ruth.

Frieda married Ed Schneider and lives in Leduc. Alfred married Amanda Lechelt; they live at Nisku. Hilbert married Sylvia Naslund and they live at Mayerthorpe. Hilda married a Gans and lives in Los Angeles.

Ruth married William Hodge of Bittern Lake and farmed NE 20-48-21-W4. They had two daughters: Judy and Audrey. Evelyn married Victor Makar of Kingman, and they live in Redwater and have three children: Rodney, Carol and Richard. Glen married Maxine Kaiser of Wetaskiwin, and lives in Calgary.

The Lechelts retired to the village of Hay Lakes in 1960. After a brief illness Charlie passed away in July, 1973. Augusta still resides in their home and is in reasonably good health.

Gordon Lindseth and Family

Gordon and Lue (Luella) Lindseth were contemplating buying a house in Camrose, but discovered a little farm near Hay Lakes. We purchased the SE 27-48-21-W4 from Rudolph Schmidt in March 1962. At that time it was often referred to as

the Gruntman place, being the former home of Rudolph's father-in-law and his family. We did the gardening, seeding of the land and other work from Camrose until July of that year when we moved to the farm. Our youngest daughter, Tracy, was also born that spring, in April. Our other two children, Jay and Lori were seven and six years old. That fall our son Jay went into Grade three and Lori started Grade one at Hay Lakes School. Gordon had been employed by Baldwin and Knoll Limited Oilwell Servicing, and continued with this work and the farming. We had both grown up on farms, Gordon north of Strome and I north of Killam.

After four years, the E 22-48-21-W4 across the road, was purchased from Algot and Annie Eliason when they retired to Camrose. This farm had been the early Broen homestead and a few of the original log buildings were still standing, including the house. This house was built in 1901 but the log structure is now covered with siding. From our first quarter of land we subdivided twenty acres with the buildings, which we sold to Don and Kit Hughes. They in turn sold to Lloyd Yurkoski and family, who sold to the present owners Keith and Lynda Olson who have lived there since 1975 with their four children.

In 1972 a job opportunity with Petcal Company, a subsidiary of Canadian Homestead Oils, was presented which would mean no more travelling away from home and better hours to keep up with the farming, so Gordon left Baldwin and Knoll Limited after almost twenty years. At the end of 1980, after a short time with Inter-City Gas, who had bought out Canadian Homestead, it was decided to give more time to farming, especially since there was now another quarter to farm. This quarter, SW 35-48-21-W4, was purchased by our son Jay and his wife Diane from Wayne and Valerie Movald in 1978.

Jay (Leslie Jay) took most of his schooling in Hay Lakes, completing his matriculation in 1971. He went to Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary, receiving his journeyman electrician papers in 1977. While in the "south" he met a hairdresser, Diane Greenwood, and in 1976 they were married at Hay Lakes, in Our Saviour Lutheran Church by Paster Enns. They now have two children, a daughter Carmen who will be four this year and a son Jody who will be two. Diane maintains a small hairdressing shop on the farm, whenever they are here! Jay and Diane have spent a lot of their time in the northern areas of Fort McMurray, Fairview and High Level.

Lori also went to Hay Lakes for most of her schooling and graduated from Camrose Lutheran College in 1974. She was working for the Alberta Research Council when she met Ken Ozment of

Camrose. In 1979 they were married by Pastor Robert Kemppainen at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. They built a house two miles north of Camrose in 1980 and Lori continues to work for Battle River Realty, while Ken works with his father Don Ozment who owns the International dealership, Schnell and Barrie Limited in Camrose.

Tracy after eleven years at Hay Lakes School, graduated from Grade XII at Camrose Lutheran College in 1980. She is presently studying in the Faculty of Education. Tracy is an outdoors person and has taken outdoor summer employment with the City of Camrose.



Lindseth Family: Jay, Tracy, Lori. Back Row: Gordon, and Lue.

As members of Our Saviour Lutheran Church, our children took their confirmation there; Jay and Lori from Pastor Frank, and Tracy from Pastor Thomsen and Pastor Enns.

Life in this community has always been busy and never dull. After our first year here, my sister Ginger (Viola) Pollom stayed with us while she took some of her High school education in Hay Lakes. She became a Registered Nursing Assistant and worked at Fort Chip Nursing Station where she often had to fly with patients between Fort Smith and Edmonton. While there she met a nurse from Australia and together they took a boat cruise which ended in Australia where Ginger spent a year travelling. She is presently living in Camrose with her children, son Robin and twins Marc and Michele and working at Rosehaven Institution.

Due largely to my mother's ill health, my parents

left their farm at Killam in 1970 and moved to Camrose. On May 1, 1971 my mother passed away, leaving four children who were still at home going to school. Of these, Michael, then seven years old, was the youngest. Ginger came home to help out for a time and then in the summer of 1972 when Michael had his ninth birthday, he came to live on the farm with us, and went to school in Hay Lakes for five years. Michael took Grade ten at Sturgeon Composite School and then decided to leave school to work the Chuckwagon circuit and be with the horses he loves. While in this work he has travelled to many points in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and several states.

Over the years some of the things our family has been involved with included Cubs and Scouts, Guides and Brownies, 4-H, hockey, fastball and gymkhana. I have served some time on the executive with the Guides and Brownies, also as a member of the Circle S Club, assisted as a 4-H leader and at one time was on the Ladies Fastball team. Presently I work part time as the Municipal Librarian, serve as a board member of a Preventative Social Services Project Committee and co-ordinate Further Education programs for the Hay Lakes area as a Camrose Adult Further Education Committee council member.

Our farming practice consists mainly of wheat and feed grains, and feeder cattle. In 1975 we built a new house, but plan to leave the old log house intact as long as possible. Although our family is pretty much grown up, the days haven't become lonely, but are busier than ever.

Lofgren Ivar, Anna, Roger, Debra and Darlene

Ivar farmed with his dad until he was married to Anna Carlstrom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Carlstrom, of Hay Lakes on September 12, 1943, at which time they bought the farm. It was at this time he quit using horse-power and bought a tractor. Up to 1949 he threshed in a run with neighbors, but then he bought a swather and Johnny Sware bought a self-propelled combine. They were one of the first in the East Hay Lakes district to combine and they had some skeptical neighbors who really wondered if a combine could do the job. Ivar stood waiting as Johnny finished the first round. With a smile John said "I thought "woman" was God's gift to man, but now I'm not so sure." He was pleased with the combine's performance. Soon all farmers began combining.

Ivar and Anna have three children, Roger, Darlene and Debra who all went to school in Hay Lakes, Roger finishing High School there.

On the farm their dog was a constant companion



Ivar and Ann Lofgren Family. Christmas 1980.

of Roger's, so naturally when Roger started for school, the dog started off too. When the bus driver opened the door in jumped the dog, Roger had to go off before the dog would leave the bus.

One time Roger decided he'd raise turkeys so they'd have some "good food" around for a change. That summer he raised eighteen turkeys. They were fed the best of everything a turkey thrives on and grew really big and tame too. That summer they also had two dogs. That fall when he went off to the school bus Debra and Darlene were with him and two dogs and eighteen turkeys!

In 1971 Ivar and Anna moved to Edmonton where Debra and Darlene finished school. Roger was now working independently. Anna works at the Good Samaritan Hospital. In the summer Ivar works for the Department of Highways and in winter is "chief cook and bottle washer".

Roger works for an engineering firm in Cold Lake and lives there with his wife Marilyn and little daughter Candance. He is still interested in sports and plays in a hockey league there.

Debra is employed in a store in Edmonton and lives there with her husband Tim and little son, Darcy.

Darlene is presently working in Prince Edward Island.

Although it is ten years since they left Hay Lakes, Ivar and Anna still think of it as home and feel it's the BEST little district in the WEST.

Lofgren, Jonas and Anna by Ivar and Mary

Jonas August Lofgren was born on May 13, 1875 to Per Eric and Sara Lofgren at Siksjonas, Sweden.

Anna Margareta Naslund was born on July 30, 1891 to John and Lisa Naslund at Nastansjo, Sweden.

Siksjonas and Nastansjo are small farming communities approximately fifteen and twenty miles from Vilhelmina in northern Sweden. Vilhelmina was, and still is, the shopping and church center of many smaller communities around it.

Sweden had known great agricultural prosperity between the years 1850 and 1879, but then had come a depression that affected all classes of people.

Also for years Sweden had had a high birth rate, so now there was a surplus of young, energetic people. They were ambitious but could see no future possibilities in their homeland.

In 1869 the Canadian Government had acquired a great deal of the prairie lands in Western Canada from the Hudson Bay Company. Also as they signed Treaty No. 6 in 1876 and Treaty No. 7 in 1877 with the Plains Indians, much more land was obtained. So they needed settlers in the West.

During the early 1880's the Canadian immigration authorities were very active abroad, and their offer of 160 acres of free land was a great inducement to leave old lands for new. These factors contributed much to the settlement of the west. After the homestead lands in Manitoba and Saskatchewan were taken, the influx into Alberta began.

Glowing reports were brought to Sweden, too. About 1900 the first immigrants from Vilhelmina, Sweden began to come to the East Hay Lakes district.

But it wasn't until in March of 1912 that Jonas and Anna Lofgren left. There was no railway to Vilhelmina at that time so they travelled by a sort of stagecoach to Ostersund. With them they took a cream separator, a spinning wheel, a sewing machine and many other small articles. From Ostersund they took a train to Trondheim, Norway, where they attended the Easter morning service in Trondheim's beautiful Dome Church. From Trondheim they took a type of fishing boat to Hull, then a train to Liverpool, where they had to wait two weeks for the ship *Britannica*. It was with great foreboding they boarded the ship, for that morning the news had come to England that the *Titanic* had struck an iceberg and had sunk. When they came to the area where the ship had sunk, there were many icebergs to be seen. So it was with great thanksgiving that they landed safely at Halifax.

From there they took an immigrant train west. One of Jonas' friends was going to settle in Oxdrift, Ontario (close to Kenora) and wanted Jonas and Anna to do so too. Therefore, they stopped and looked around for a week, but decided against staying, so they continued on to Camrose, arriving there May 5, 1912 after travelling for over a month.

John Lofgren, Jonas' brother, had arranged to

meet them and brought them to his place, where they stayed until the spring of 1913. There were no homesteads to be secured near by, so Jonas bought the NW 9-49-21-W4 from the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

Jonas now began clearing land and building a house and barn. Besides that Jonas and Anna worked for neighbors to earn some cattle. In the spring of 1913 they began to hear a terrifying sound as if some wild animal was on the prowl. It always seemed to come from the west. One day Anna was going to bring lunch to Jonas who was building on the house. As she was leaving, the animal was heard again. Fearing for her safety, two of the neighbor men followed with their guns, feeling they might as well rid the district of this probably dangerous animal. Coming to the house Jonas was not there! Looking around they at last saw him coming from the west, and he had solved the mystery. It was the train that had just started coming from Camrose, by Hay Lakes, and on to Edemonton. Often cattle were on the tracks so the train had this terrible sounding whistle to scare them off.

Jonas and Anna had their house on a hill. Below the house was a creek flowing from Sixteen Lake, to Hay Lakes. From this creek they got minnows by the pail full to feed their chickens. Neighbours would come there and put down nets and get a good supply of fish and in the spring there were many muskrats from which skins, Jonas could get extra money. Just east of the house was a bridge. Many people from the east would come this way, over the brige, up by the house and on the height of the land drive to Hay Lakes to shop. Anna enjoyed having them stop in for coffee on their way to, or home from, shopping in town.

Clearing and preparing the land for seeding was slow work and a lot of "elbow grease" was needed. At first the farmers stacked their grain bundles in bee-hive shaped stacks, and when the Thronndsons and Lysengs from Armena had finished, they came and threshed. Later, one farmer bought a tractor and separator and a number of farmers formed a "run" and helped each other thresh. What an exciting time harvesting and threshing were in those days! The crews were big because the neighbor women came to help cook and the children came to play and enjoy the feast that was always prepared for the threshers. But how empty, how bare, the fields looked after the threshers left. However, now, the cows had a "hey-day" for they could roam all over the before forbidden fields.

In 1918 Jonas and Peter Hanson bought NE 9-49-21-W4, Peter taking the east half of the quarter. On Jonas' west half there was a big level area for a building place, and they built a new house and new barns.



L. to R.: Ivar, Jonas. Seated: Mary, Anna.

Ivar started school in Hay Lakes, maybe in 1919. It was one of the first years the school was operated there. Classes were held in the United Farmer's of Alberta Hall which stood between where Rudy Fuernkranz lives now, and the present town. During the week Ivar stayed with a Mr. Norain, a cream buyer, who lived across the street to the south from Larson's store. Mary also started school in Hay Lakes. The only thing she remembers about this time, was that one noon hour the teacher took the whole class to investigate a ghost that had been seen in Chetterbourough's abandoned shack, just east of the present day school. Sure enough, there was something there — a white (or maybe grey) — "thing" moved back and forth. The children saw it! But coming closer and investigating, it was some old underwear Mr. Chetterbourough had left there. The door was open and the wind moved it. However, Ivar and Mary spent most their elementary school days in Swan Hills. Mary did come back to Hay Lakes and finished her Grade X and XI there. In 1933 it was possible to get your Grade XI in Hay Lakes, and stay at home.

The children who lived on the farm during the Depression really knew nothing about it. We always had enough of what we needed. When Mary took her Grade XII in Camrose, tuition was \$70.00 for a year, and she "batched" with another girl, bringing food from home and they paid \$2.00 each for the room, per month!

Over the years Jonas broke up more land until most of it was in fields. Having only two children, Anna was more free to help outside. She mowed and

raked all the hay, and every little slough that was dry was hayed in those days. She also drove the binder for many years until Ivar was old enough to stook and Jonas took over the binding.

In the fall of 1920 their new house burned down and it wasn't until 1938 that they were able to build a new, modern house. Now for a few years Anna and Jonas were able to take it easier, for now Ivar was helping full time with the farming.

In 1948 Jonas became crippled with arthritis and had to quit farming. He died August 21, 1950. The next year Anna moved to Camrose. There she enjoyed visiting, often walking clear across town, and she also loved having visitors at her place. She did a lot of weaving in those days. She passed away August 6, 1964.

They came from Vilhelmina, Sweden, and it seems fitting that they are now buried in the cemetery beside the Wilhelmina Church east of Hay Lakes, in Canada.

After finishing Normal School, Mary came back to Swan Hill School and taught there beginning September 1936, and stayed there for two years. It was at this time that the small school districts were discontinued and the Camrose School Division was formed. In Mary's first year of teaching she received a salary of \$700.00 a year. The next two years she taught in Farmington School, north of Kingman. On July 24, 1940 she was married to Oliver Grue, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lars Grue of Hay Lakes. Oliver was at that time a caterpillar operator for Cornhill Municipality. During the school term of 1941-42, Mary again taught at Swan Hill, and they moved to the farm that they had bought north-east of Armena, where they farmed for over twenty-five years.

Oliver and Mary have four sons, Glen lives in Leduc with his little daughter Jana. Mark is married to Anne Russel and has three step-sons, Todd, Ron and Don, and they live in Calgary. David married Doreen Reeves. They have two children, Kimberley and Robbie, and live in Cochrane. Rueben has taught school for seven years, but is now back at school at the University of Alberta.

In September 1964 Mary went back teaching, seven years in Armena and nine years at Sifton School, Camrose. In 1965 Oliver quit farming and began working for Schnell and Barrie. In 1966 they moved to Camrose where they are now enjoying retirement.

Matson, Reg and Jean

Reginald Sydney Matson was born to Sydney and Agnes Matson on April 13, 1954 in the St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose, Alberta. Reg and his older sister,

Linda were raised on a farm two miles north and four miles east of Hay Lakes, SE 14--49-21-W4.

Reg attended the Hay Lakes School and graduated in 1972. Reg was baptized at Wilhelmina Church and went to Sunday School and was also confirmed there.

Reg was an outdoors person from the time he was born. At the age of two he wandered away from home following his pet dog. Sydney and Agnes were frantic with worry. The neighbours were called and the search was on. Three hours later Reg and his dog were found by his father. He was found about a quarter of a mile away on Alex Matson's farm, in the dense bush. Sydney and Agnes were overjoyed to find him, unharmed, but badly mosquito bitten and very bewildered.

Sydney spent many hours teaching his son how to hunt and trap properly. Together, Sydney and Agnes taught Reg the dangers and endless joys of the outdoors.

The Matson family was saddened by the death of Sydney on January 20, 1971. Reg will forever treasure the memory of his father and the time that they had spent together.

On May 31, 1974 Reg married Jean Elizabeth Huebner, daughter of Eric and Hilda Huebner. She was born in the St. Mary's Hospital on June 6, 1958. Jean, along with her brother, Raymond, and three sisters, Donna, Debra and Kathryn were raised on a farm two miles north of Hay Lakes. She was baptized at Our Saviour Lutheran Church where she also went to Sunday school and was confirmed and married by Reverend Otto Frank.

On September 25, 1974 in St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose, a daughter, Deanna Robin was born.

Reg had been employed at the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park from the time he completed school until November 1974 when he began working for Totem Delivery in Edmonton. In September 1975, Reg, Jean and Deanna moved from the Matson farm to Inuvik, Northwest Territories, where Reg was employed by Pacific Western Airlines. Reg transferred to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories in September 1976.

At the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital two more Matsons were welcomed into the family. Jill Jennifer was born on August 1, 1977 and Nathan Russell on November 11, 1978.

Three months later, in February 1979, they moved back to Hay Lakes, Alberta and presently reside on the Matson home quarter.

The Reg Matson family now belong to the Wilhelmina congregation where the children are attending Sunday school and have been baptized into



Top Row: Nathan and Reg Matson. Second Row: Ron Fisher, Linda (Matson) Fisher, Jean (Huebner) Matson holding Justin Fisher, Agnes Matson holding Jill Matson. Bottom Row: Scotty Fisher, Jason Fisher and Deanna Matson. Taken on Justin's baptism — November 18, 1979.

the Lutheran faith. Deanna is attending the Hay Lakes School.

The outdoors is still a very important part of Reg's and Jean's lives. Reg is currently working for Pacific Western Airlines at the International Airport.

Matson, Sidney Rudy

Sidney Rudy Matson was born on April 8, 1920, at Camrose, the youngest of seven children of Edward and Alida Matson.

During his school years he attended both Brandland and Sulitjelma schools, usually walking the three miles to school. He always worked on the home farm and finally bought the quarter section, SE 14-49-21-W4, from his parents in 1943.

On November 26, 1942, Sidney married Agnes Lily Matson (no relation) from Kingman, Alberta and to this union were born two children — Linda in 1946 and Reginald in 1954.

Sidney loved to break and train horses and had one trained to stand on his hind legs and also to untie a scarf and take it off your head. The first tractor Sidney had was a Hart Par which was bought in approximately 1945 and still stands on the Matson farm.

An early organization to which Sidney and Agnes belonged was the "Cheery Chums Club" which travelled monthly from house to house having programs, toboggan parties, etcetera. Sidney and Agnes also



Reg's Confirmation, July 1968. Sydney, Reg and Agnes Matson.

were members of Wilhelmina Lutheran Church and Sidney was a member of the church board for several years.

The first telephone Sidney and Agnes had was strung on the fence between twenty-six neighbors.

Hunting was one of Sidney's favorite pastimes and he hunted geese, big game and antelope, as well as ducks, beaver and muskrat. As a boy, he even trapped skunks. Agnes often accompanied Sidney on his hunting trips. She remembers getting lost out on the prairie one fall. Darkness closed in on them while they were digging a pit one evening for a goose-shoot to be held next morning. After wandering around for hours trying to locate their camp, they came upon a familiar spot and from there were able to get their bearings. Through his love of hunting and the outdoors, Sidney served as President of the Hay Lakes Fish and Game Association for several years.

Sidney and Agnes lived all their married life on the farm until Sidney's untimely death from cancer in the Camrose hospital on January 20, 1972, when he was fifty-one years of age.

Matson, Linda Christine

Linda Christine Matson was born on April 17, 1946. She spent all of her childhood years on her parent's (Sidney's and Agnes') farm, riding the school bus to attend school in Hay Lakes. She had one brother, Reg, who was eight years younger.

On June 29, 1962 Linda met Ronald Wesley Fisher and on June 28, 1963 they were married at the Wilhelmina Church, Hay Lakes. After spending two months in Edmonton where Ron attended the University of Alberta Summer School, they lived in Hay Lakes for one year and Ron commuted to New Sarepta for his first year of teaching. On June 19, 1963 their first son, Darcy, was born in Edmonton and that fall the family moved to Daysland where they lived for three years and Ron taught Junior High School. In 1967 Ron, Linda and Darcy moved to Sundre where the family still resides, although they have moved from a single-wide to a double-wide trailer and five years ago to a new house on the riverbank in Sundre. On December 15, 1969 a second son, Scott, was added to the family. Ron and Linda and the boys spent a total of seven summers in Eugene, Oregon, where Ron attended the University of Oregon, receiving his Master's Degree in Education in 1970. Eugene became like a second home to them all, they loved it so much. Tragedy struck the family in 1971 when Darcy got Leukemia and after a nine month battle with the disease he passed away on November 4, 1971, at the tender age of seven, always loved and sadly missed by his family. On March 15, 1974, Jason was born in Sundre and on July 14, 1979, Justin was born. Ron has advanced from Guidance Counsellor at the Grade one to twelve school of 800-900 students to Vice-Principal six years ago, a position which he still holds. He also teaches High School Biology. Linda is busy at home and also babysits several two to five-year-olds during week-days. She also enjoys cake decorating, chocolate making and taking Continuing Education courses during the winter. Scott is in Grade six now and Jason is in Grade two. Scott and Jason both take part in hockey, soccer, swimming and baseball and Jason attends Beavers while Scott takes figure skating lessons, plays Bells and sings in the School Choir. Fortunately for Mother and Dad, Justin is still too little to have such an active schedule.

Mjelve, Inge and Carrie

Inge Mjelve was born in 1886 and grew up near Molde in western Norway, lived in U.S.A. for four years and arrived in Alberta in 1914. He participated in operating the Scandinavian Cafe in the Temperance Hotel on Fifty-first Avenue in Camrose and later a sheep ranch on the east shore of Joseph Lake.

Carrie was born Kari Lilleeng in 1888 at Tynset in eastern Norway, and she lived for seven years in Seattle, Washington where she met her future husband. She returned to Norway for six years and then arrived in Alberta in 1922 to be married.

The couple settled eventually on Canadian Pacific Railroad land, SE 9-49-21-W4, east of Hay Lakes.



Inge and Carrie Mjelve having lunch in a field — 1923.

In 1930 the head of the family unexpectedly died at age forty-four, leaving four children under the age of five. This was a very trying time for a widow on an unimproved farm. In 1933, she moved her family to Camrose and lived on Fifty-fourth Street near Fifty-fourth Avenue. We attended Camrose Lutheran church and John Russell school. In 1936, the move was made back to the farm. Our church home was St. Joseph, two miles north of our place and we often walked and we remembered Pastors Nels Carlson, A. Solheim, S. J. Rude and R. Olson. We walked or skied two miles southeast to the one-room Swan Hill



C. Mjelve's 90th Birthday June 1, 1978, St. Joseph Church. Back Row: Olaf Melvie, Elsie, Ken and Bryce Melvie. Second Row: L. and M. Aasgard, Dean Melvie, Cameron Melvie, Kevin Forsen. Third Row: Yvonne and Vivien Melvie, Ann Marie Melvie, Carolyn Mjelve, Kristine Forsen, (a niece) Alice and John Melvie. Front Row: Mark and Annette Melvie, Carrie Mjelve, Daryl Melvie, Darcy Forsen, Margaret Mjelve.

School where our teachers were Mary Lofgren, Sten Gunderson and Martha McCormick. Our school-mates were named Movold, Nasland, Gronlund, Gruntman, Jaycock, Vikner, Selin, Reinke, Lechelt and Huebner. We took our High school at Hay Lakes and Camrose Lutheran College. Doctors Nordbye, P. F. and Mac Smith attended to our medical needs.

After raising her family single handedly and oil was discovered under her land, Mother spent four months in Norway visiting relatives and old haunts and enjoyed herself tremendously. In 1958, she sold the farm and moved her house into Camrose where she died in early 1980 at the age of ninety-one.

The only Canadian Mjelves live in the two most western provinces. Oddvar John is a Lutheran minister presently in Kitimat, British Columbia; his three children are Ann Marie, Dean and Daryl. Olaf is a Medical Doctor in Calgary and his youngsters are Vivien, Mark and Annette. Ingvar Ken lives at Fort McMurray and his children are Carolyn, Cameron and Bruce. After working in Edmonton and in beautiful Banff, Margaret now lives in Camrose.

Movold, Arthur and Family by Orville Movold

Arthur Movold was born June 8, 1898 at Armena, Alberta. He was the seventh child of Ole and Gea Movold, who emigrated from Norway to Fosston, Minnesota. His parents were one of the first settlers in the Armena area, arriving there in 1894. He attended Thordenskjold School west of Armena, and a few years at Sedgewick when he stayed with his sister, Mrs. Frank McPhee.

In 1916 he joined the Canadian Army, and went overseas with a Scandinavian Regiment from Winnipeg, and served in the 27th Battalion in France. He retired from overseas in 1919, and worked in a garage in Camrose for a short time. In 1920 he bought a half-section of land from his father. This was three miles east of Hay Lakes. Here he farmed for forty years, retiring in 1960.

In 1920 Arthur married Olena Peterson from Viking. Olena was born in Bismarck, North Dakota on November 16, 1900 and passed away at Camrose on September 29, 1933.

There were seven children born to this union. Orville and his wife Lorene live at Sardis, British Columbia. Clifford and his wife Lydia live in Edmonton. Vernon and his wife Joan live in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. Judith married Dave Sanders, and Vera married Joe Woodthorpe. They both live in Richmond, British Columbia, Thelma married Rob Brice. They live in Vancouver. A son Marvin died in infancy in 1933.



1926 — Arthur Movold, Orville, Clifford and Vernon.

In 1934 Arthur married Julia Sanderlin of Strome, Alberta. They had one son Wayne who married Valerie Riches. Wayne and Valerie lived on the family farm until 1980, when they sold it to Carl Selin. They are presently in Camrose.

Arthur passed away in Camrose in 1973 at the age of seventy-five years. Julia passed away also in Camrose, in 1975, at the age of seventy years.

Movold, Gilbert and Clifford, (twins)

Gilbert Movold was born August 4, 1906 at Armena, Alberta. He received the greater part of his public schooling at Thordenskjold School west of Armena, and the remainder at Swan Hill School. Most of his boyhood was spent in the Hay Lakes — Armena area, at various jobs. Prior to enlistment he worked in the mines of B.C. and the shipyards in Vancouver. In October 1942 he enlisted with the Canadian Army, later being transferred to the Royal Canadian Engineers. He proceeded overseas in July



Sunday Picnic at Miquelon Lake 1931- L. to R.: 1. Alex Matson, 2. Orville Movold, 3. Gilbert Movold, 4. Thomas Movold Sr., 5. Thorsten Lofsett, 6. Mary Lofsett, 7 and 8 not known, 9. Ingrie Movold, 10. Amy Danielson, 11. Martin Movold, 12. Vernon Movold, 13. Thomas Movold Jr., 14. Lena Olafson, 15. Inez Broen, 16. Clifford Movold, 17. Thelma Movold (Art's daughter), 18. Olena Movold, 19. Judith Movold, 20. Vera Movold, 21. Ruth Movold, 22. Carl Carlson — on bumper.

1943. On May 6, 1945, while he was stationed in Holland, he suffered fatal injuries of an accidental nature. He was nearing his thirty-ninth birthday. His mother survived him by nineteen days. His twin brother, Clifford, lives with his nephew, Bennie Broen, at Peers, Alberta. Clifford is the only surviving member of the Ole Movold family.

Movold, Martin and Family

Martin Movold was born at Armena on December 12, 1903. His parents were Ole and Gea Movold, who came to Armena from Minnesota in 1894 in search of land. The old homestead where they settled, is the farm now owned by Adolph Peterson and Sons. The original house and barn still stand. The date 1894 is painted on the roof of the barn.

Martin received his public schooling at Thorndenskjold School. He spent his youth in the Hay Lakes — Armena area where he worked on the railroad for a time. He spent several seasons in the harvest fields of Eastern Alberta and Saskatchewan. Other jobs took him to the lumber camps of British Columbia and the lumber mill operated by the Pearson Brothers at Breton, Alberta. He also bored wells with Evert and Bill Pearson in the surrounding area.

In 1926 Martin bought the NW26-48-21-W4 from the Hudson Bay Company, and began farming. He was assisted by his brother Gilbert for a few years, till Gilbert went to British Columbia.

In 1934 Martin married Thelma Kjorlien of Camrose, who had come to teach in the Swan Hill

School. They raised a family of three girls and two boys. When World War II broke out, teachers were scarce, so Thelma was asked to teach and keep the local school open for instruction. She took her children with her, by horse and cutter in winter, horse and buggy in spring and fall or the Model A car. This continued for six years, and in 1950 their children, with others in the district were bussed to Hay Lakes School. As Martin continued farming, Thelma helped fill in for teachers at Brandland and Hay Lakes Schools. After eight years of teaching in Hay Lakes, Thelma retired in 1971. They continued farming till 1972 when Martin retired and rented his land to Clarence Huebner. Martin and Thelma continued living on the farm till 1976, when they moved to Fort Saskatchewan. Martin passed away there on September 27, 1980. Thelma continues to live at the Fort.



Martin Movold Family. L. to R.: Mel, Joyce, Betty, Maxine, Rodney. Seated: Martin and Thelma — 1978.

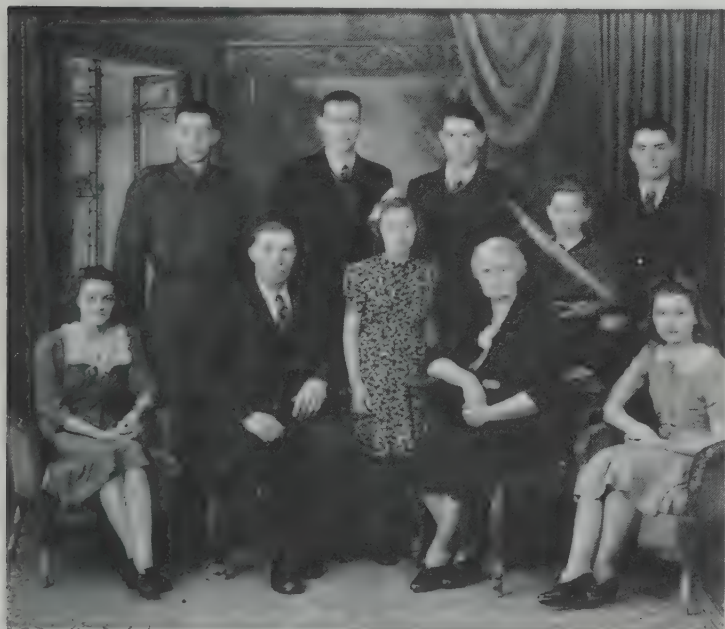
Their children consisted of Betty, who married Vernon Jones of Nipawin, Saskatchewan. They live in Spruce Grove. Maxine married Ronald Knopp of New Sarepta. They are presently living in Edmonton. Joyce married James Thompson of Edmonton where they also reside. Rodney married Eleanor Hill of Drayton Valley. They make their home at Fort Saskatchewan. Melvin married Donna Maxwell of Calgary. They too live at the Fort.

Naslund, Johan and Hildur

Johan (John), who was born in 1889, and Hildur Nordvall, who was born in 1888, emigrated from Nastanjo, Sweden, a small village fifteen miles from Vilhelmina to the United States in 1912. Leaving family and friends, they went by way of Trondheim, Norway through Hull and Liverpool, and then across the sea to Halifax. From there they went to Minnesota, where John had a sister and Hildur had a brother and sister.

Then it was to start a new life and learn a new language. John and Hildur were married in December, 1916 at Clearbrook, Minnesota. In 1918 their first son, Carl, was born in a small one-room log house. With a few belongings, and three cows they moved to Hay Lakes in 1919, where John had a sister, Mrs. Anna Lofgren. They purchased SW 10-49-21-W4 from Emil Grundberg who had homesteaded this property. The home site was towards the middle of the quarter, near a natural spring. Later, they moved the buildings to the west side of the land to be closer to the road. They built a small home which burned down four years later in 1923. Very little was saved except for a few clothes. Mother often mentioned her engagement ring, with a blue stone, that was lost in the fire. They then built another house in 1924, which still stands.

Seven more children were born after moving to Hay Lakes: Alvin was born in 1919; Stanley in 1920; Harold in 1922; Lillian (Mrs. Lloyd Grahn) in 1925; Sylvia (Mrs. Hilbert Lechelt) in 1927; Arnold in 1928 and Alphild (Mrs. John Syms) in 1930. These children, except Arnold, who was born in St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose, were brought into this world by a midwife, Mrs. Lindberg.



Back Row: Alvin, Carl, Stanley, Arnold, Harold. Front Row: Lillian, Mr. Naslund, Alphild, Mrs. Naslund, Sylvia.

Life for John and Hildur was a busy one. Since only fifteen acres were broken on their farm, more land had to be cleared and made productive. At that time often the established farmer would lease or rent cows to the neighbors to help them get started. John leased a few cows and got to keep a certain number of calves and in that way his herd grew a little faster. Besides there was more cream to sell. As the years

went by, they acquired more land, SE 3-49-21-W4 and some pasture land near the third Miquelon Lake where John and his sons built a cottage, an ice house, a feed house and corrals. For several years the milk cows were trailed over there toward the end of June. Two or three members of the family took turns staying there during the summer, doing the chores and bringing the cream to Hay Lakes by team and buggy or car as the roads would permit. Feeder hogs were kept there as well and the skim milk fed to them. This allowed the land at home to be used for growing grain and winter feed. By the time school opened in September the livestock were moved back. In spite of the extra commotion, John and Hildur enjoyed those summers as the family was old enough to help out, each in his own way. John spent one winter at Rocky Mountain House hewing railroad ties.

The children all attended Swan Hill school and for several years the older boys did janitorial work there. It was a good time to raise a family, taking trips to Miquelon Lake for picnics, skiing and sleighing on the hills in the wintertime with home-made equipment, the excitement of threshing crews in the fall. The ditch which drained Hay Lakes went through a corner of the farm as did Stoney Creek, so in the spring they were full of water moving swiftly, which had its own magic. The children would go swimming and boating in Stoney Creek. For several years in mid-December there was an annual picnic to get the Christmas trees, one big one for Swan Hill School and a few smaller ones for neighbors and ourselves.

One memorable day Einar Lindberg installed a Westinghouse radio. It was our first and everyone thought it was quite a luxury.

During World War II, Alvin and Stanley served four years, Stanley being overseas.

Neighbors, school and church were always important to the Naslunds who were members of Wilhelmina Lutheran Church. In 1957 John and Hildur celebrated their Fortieth Wedding Anniversary.

In 1958 John and Hildur left the farm and retired to Camrose. Arnold and his wife, Margaret, own and reside on the farm now. John passed away in September, 1959 at the age of seventy and Hildur passed away in September, 1971 at the age of eighty-two.

Pearson, Evert

Evert Pearson was the second son born to Antonius (Anton) and Selma Pearson. He and his brother, William (Bill), and his sister, Mary, were all born in Sweden. The family emigrated to Canada in 1905. Their mother passed away a few years after arriving in this country and their father later remarried.

In his earlier years, Evert was involved in lumbering at Breton, together with his father and brother, Bill, who were partners with the J. A. Pearsons. In 1933, Evert and Bill left the operation when their father sold his share of the Company to Hank and Alvin Pearson.

Evert then became a permanent resident at his farm at NW2-21-49-W4. You might call him a lackadaisical farmer, for his theory was that he didn't believe in working more than three hours a day, because after that the Capitalists would take advantage of him. Another one of his philosophic quotes was, "I don't have too much faith in friends; you always know where you have your enemies." Evert was a very witty person and when asked a question, rarely gave a straight answer. In his later years if you inquired as to how he was, he would slowly answer, "just waiting for Gabriel to blow his horn."

Evert was very mechanically-gifted and on more than one occasion he had the opportunity to put his talents to good use. He could get any motor to run, no matter how old. It was exciting and pleasing to a great crowd of onlookers when, at the Fiftieth Jubilee Celebrations of the Province of Alberta held in Hay Lakes, he got the old steam engine mobile and drove it in the parade down Main Street. The relic was steaming and puffing with a blast from the whistle at intervals.

Another example of the ingenuity of this pioneer was when the farmers were readying the equipment for threshing and it was evident that there wasn't a suitable engine to power the grain auger. The only engine available was a four-cylinder Model-T, which had been damaged by frost in the third and fourth cylinder, and so was inoperable. However, this did not stymie Evert. He merely cut the engine in half and made it into a two-cylinder motor. By welding together the water jacket where the cut had been made, and making some other minor alterations, the

engine was ready for ideal service to power the grain auger, and it was used for many years. Leonard Olson is presently restoring this engine.

Evert was a frequent patron of the Local Bar. He claimed that he was not an alcoholic, but was just addicted to the "stuff". On one occasion he had stayed a bit longer than usual and had to stop on one of the hills east of Hay Lakes to answer the call of nature, when suddenly the Royal Canadian Mounted Police drove up behind him. They informed him he could be charged with indecent exposure. He agreed and added, "I know, but I don't have anything to expose". They had second thoughts about charging him but proceeded to check the mechanical condition of his vehicle and noticed the brake lights were not in working order. When this was brought to Evert's attention he responded by saying, "How could I know that when I'm sitting up here and the taillights are away back there?"

Once, when a neighbor paid Evert a visit he was in the process of making a black fig wine in a ten-gallon crock. The figs had been obtained through a special order. The neighbor thought it was an extremely large batch, whereupon Evert replied that this particular recipe called for five years of aging, so it was no point in making a small portion. Six months later the same neighbor returned and upon inquiring about the wine, Evert informed him that it had turned out pretty good and handed him a cup with instructions to try it. The neighbor was amazed to find only an inch of wine was left in the bottom of the crock, to which question Evert explained that he had sampled it a few times.

One time Evert was hunting big game. The game warden came upon him, checked his gun and then surprisingly remarked, "You have only one shell". "Yes," frankly retorted Evert, "that's all I need because I'm not allowed to shoot more than one animal." And Evert did get his one moose with that one shell!

Evert was not only compassionate and honest but, true to the pioneer spirit, was also tough as was illustrated when years ago he refused a freezing injection when the dentist was ready to extract all his teeth.

As with most bachelors, his housekeeping left a lot to be desired, particularly in his later years, when he was slowed by arthritis. He had a large chair in the centre of the room and preferred everything to be arm's length so he would not have to move more than necessary. There were newspapers gathered for many past years, empty cans and bottles, and, among all the clutter, a five-gallon pail full of empty snuff boxes.

Evert had in his possession a large Swedish Bible



Evert Pearson in front of his home — 1974.

with a wooden cover. It was over one hundred years old and was unique in that the Old Testament had more chapters than our Bibles today, and he was very knowledgeable about the Bible.

Evert loved wild animals and had his pet chickadees, grouse and squirrels which gathered outside his house to be fed. When he had to spend a few days in the hospital, he voiced his concern for his pets and said he must get home to feed them.

Evert passed away on December 26, 1976, a little over a month after his brother, Bill. He was in his seventy-fifth year.

Reinke, Adolf and Family

by Mrs. Emma Reinke

The Adolf Reinke family left Russia in November of 1926 because of poor living conditions and Communism had taken over Russia, starting in 1922. They travelled by ship, which landed in Hull, Quebec, December 9, 1926, then by train to White-mouth, Manitoba, and arrived there December 14, the same year. The destination was to an uncle's place — John Reinke. Here they stayed until March of 1928. The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Reinke, two daughters Olga six years, Selma four years and Leonard was six months when they arrived in Manitoba.

Mr. Reinke worked in the winter time in the bush cutting down timber, while Mother had to stay home and take care of the family. On December 24, 1927, brother Ed was born, increasing the children to four. Life was very hard, like all new immigrants experienced — not knowing a word of English — and being in a new country with hardly any money.

In Alberta, Mrs. Emma Reinke had a brother, Mr. Adolf Moen and a sister, Mrs. Paul Huebner. So in March of 1928 they left for Alberta to her sister's place. Here they were given a house to stay in, belonging to her brother-in-law. Mr. Reinke bought a farm from a Mr. Skarret, NW 33-48-21-W4, from Kinuso in the Swan Hills district. Later, in that summer of 1928 they moved to the farm and into a tiny shack, so small that for the night they all lay covering the whole floor. Then mother rolled up the bedding so she could cook on a tiny wood and coal stove, and we could eat. Then in the fall Father bought an old burned out blacksmith shop and moved it to the farm for the family to live in. It was a lot bigger — but the fire had left some holes in it, and before it all could get fixed up, snow sometimes came down on our beds at night.

Then late in 1929 or very early in 1930, Mr. Reinke bought another quarter of land, SW 33-48-21-W4, just south of his first quarter. He bought it from a War Veteran — a Mr. Erickson. On

May 30 of 1930 we moved on to that farm, and again into a little two-room shack. One room was the bedroom, only enough room for two beds and a clothes' closet. All the children slept in one bed and the parents in another bed. The other room was the kitchen and dining room.

There was no power or electricity, but lots of wood for heating and cooking. Also lots of bush area. This was the beginning of the "hungry thirties". The price of pigs was \$4.50 to \$6.00, chickens fifteen cents to eighteen cents, eggs six cents a dozen, and cows \$10.00 apiece. With these prices they had to scrounge to make money for land, taxes and living means. Rabbits, mud hens and a few other things were eaten then. Neighbours graciously helped out with food, Weldas and Hinklemans especially. Each child did get half an egg to eat sometimes.

The bush had to be cleaned up to make way for land. They did well to clear ten to fifteen acres of land a year. The barn was very small, made of logs with top and sides of straw, and after heavy rains, there usually was rain falling for a week after inside the barn.



Mrs. Emma Reinke, Helmuth Reinke, Mr. Adolf Reinke (seated).

In 1933, Helmuth, brother to the other children came along, making five children in the family. Also in 1933 Mr. Reinke built a big barn, which still stands there. In 1934, they had a well made for more water. In 1935, they had a windmill, which was a luxury at that time. In 1936 Mr. Reinke built a house, which still is on the farm.

Potatoes were plentiful, so that by fall about four big wagon boxes were hauled into the cellar (later the basement) to be used for feeding to cows, pigs and of course the family too. The bush had to be cleared by the family and a good team of horses, then broken up and worked well, taking out all the stumps and stones (if any) so it was seedable. The breaking was done by a one-share breaking plow and four horses.

Mrs. Emma Reinke worked hard in the fields helping her husband. The children were sent to the Swan Hill School, two and a half miles away — walking — there was no driving to school at that time. The children had to go until they were fifteen years old, regardless of the grade. They could quit then. Olga being the oldest had to stop school and help her dad as hired man outside, working with horses and doing outside work, field work with plough, disc and harrows.

One day a Mounted Police got stuck on the road near their place. Dad not being home, Olga harnessed some horses and hitched them to the wagon and went and pulled him out. He gave her \$1.00 to buy some stockings since she had no stockings on her feet. To her it was a happy surprise. She got married in 1940 and left the home place, moving to Ellerslie.

The first car was bought in 1937, and Mr. Reinke learned to drive it. In 1940 the first tractor was purchased. Threshing time was always a great neighborhood effort with about twelve men on the crew. Mr. Reinke and a neighbor, Norman Welda, hauled the grain from the threshing machine and shovelled it off by hand from the wagon boxes. Not having grain augers at that time really kept them hopping. Before the time of threshing crews, for when there was only a little grain, it was all stacked in stacks, so it wouldn't get wet if rains did come.

Coal for fuel was hauled from Round Hill, with a bob-sleigh in winter. Lumber for barn and house was hauled from Breton by horse and wagon. There was sand on the farm which was used with cement for all their concrete and basement work. Meat was smoked to keep it, some canned and some made into sausage. Later, in the "hungry thirties", chickens, ducks, geese, even turkeys, pork, beef and sheep were used in the meat menus, plus the home-grown vegetables and grain, and lots of milk. Clothing was mostly homemade to save on money. Sometimes they were sent from a catalogue, and even fitted the person meant for those clothes!

For recreation, the boys nailed old skates onto work boots, and skis were made from discarded boards. The Reinkes, even though they farmed two quarters of land, always had time to visit, either walking or driving with horses and invited people to come and visit them.

Education was received from the Swan Hill School, a one-room school, housing about thirty-five pupils with Grades one through eight. Roads were closed to traffic other than horse and sleigh in winter, so the children always had to walk either around roadways or across fields which was a little shorter distance. The boys even trapped weasels along the way. Teachers were Miss Giish, Ina Lofgren, Mary Lofgren, and Thelma, later Mrs. Martin Movold.

Church was attended at New Sarepta, eleven miles away, the Evangelical Church. In summer travel was by democrat and two swift horses. In winter very often, if not too cold, it was by sleigh and wagon box and again with two good horses. An early pastor of the Church was Rev. Krotz. He sometimes walked to church all the way from Edmonton, or rode a bike because of having no money for support. Later on he bought a Model A Ford Coupe.

Mr. Reinke was a trustee of the church for many years and a faithful member. He was always willing to give of his meager income to help support the pastor. Their home was always open to needy people and missionaries passing through, even if it meant giving up their own, or the children's bed for the night, and sleeping on the floor.

Mr. Reinke passed away September 1965 and Mrs. Emma Reinke, June 1980.

Reinke, Ed

First, we will write a history-resumé of the quarter of land, SW 9-49-21-W4, which Ed Reinke purchased in 1952.

Mr. Albert Osgard had purchased this quarter of land, SW 9-49-21-W4, from a Mr. Skarret about 1926. The Osgards had three children; two died of diphtheria and one son Lloyd, lives in High Prairie, Alberta.

Osgard sold the land to Mr. Martin Henkelman when he had married Sarah Amber in 1930. Henkelman had migrated from Russia to Canada in 1926. Prior to purchasing this farm in Hay Lakes Henkelman had worked on a farm for five months in Lamont and then on another farm in Hay Lakes until he married. They were married to his wife's home because of the deep snow. The Moravian minister, Rev. Kroenig, came by bob-sleigh to perform the ceremony.

In 1930 there were only twenty-three acres broken, so there was hard work ahead. To keep warm

in winter Mr. Henkelman exchanged mine props to the Dinant mine for coal. He sold two pigs in Camrose for \$7.50 and brought back one hundred pounds of flour and one box of apples.

They had a happy time with neighbors, plowing fields adjacent with Ivor Lofgren, his north neighbor and having lunch together or talking politics until early morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Henkelman had three children, Norman, Elsie and Mervin, while they lived here.

In 1937 Iver Broen, a neighbor, moved the house from the east fence line to the west line by steam engine.

Martin Henkelman sold the farm to Ted Schultze in 1941 and moved to the Edmonton area to a dairy farm. Their son, Donald, was born in 1944. Henkelmans have retired in Edmonton. Their children are all married, and they have twelve grandchildren. Mr. Ted Schultze remained a bachelor, and attended the Moravian church of New Sarepta as did the Henkelman family. Ted was the choir director there. Ted helped the senior Henkelman family, neighbors to the west of this quarter, with baling hay in the winter time. The bales were tied by wire and were larger than today's bales. This was a long winter project each year. Ted did not live on this quarter. His parents, Rev. and Mrs. Hermann Schultze and their son, Waldemar, lived in the house, and built on two more rooms. They moved to Edmonton some time before their son, Ted, died in 1950.

The Schultze family sold the land to Mr. Adolf Reinke and he rented it to Leo Krell in 1951. In 1952 his son, Edmund Reinke, bought the land.

In 1953 the first of four oilwells were drilled on the quarter. Mr. Reinke farmed with horses until



Leonard, Margaret, Reinhard Kadatz, Olga, Helmuth, Selma, Leo Krell, Mary and Edmund.

1954, when he bought a 1948 — 8N Ford tractor, a two-bottom plough and cultivator (with a three point hitch), for \$425.00 with which he farmed three and a half quarters of land.

Ed Reinke worked in the winter time on the power line and also worked at the Hay Lakes Sewer Project in 1957.

In 1958 the road was finally built into the quarter from the north. Ed cleared all the arable land. He did his own building and re-modelled the original home and built on two more rooms in 1962. He built a new seventy-foot barn in 1964, and started shipping milk in 1969. He added other buildings needed through the years. Electrical power came in 1954, and a telephone was installed.

There are five children; Daryl, a teacher in the Bawlf school; Dale, an assessor and farmer in Hay Lakes; Beverly, (Mrs. Marvin Steinwand) lives at Beaverlodge; while Brenda and Bonita still live at home.

In 1975 the farm got Natural gas. Also in 1975 Mr. Reinke sold the land and dairy to his son, Dale Reinke, on a half-share basis. In 1980 he sold the other half share. Together they built the barn to its present one hundred and eighty-two feet, a large shop and two seventy foot silos to make it one of the most modern dairy farms in the area selling fluid milk to Edmonton since 1978. Dale is married to Janet Ellect from Ellerslie and they have two children, Melaine and Mark.

The SE 9-49-21-W4 was Canadian Pacific Railroad property. John Naslund leased the pasture land and Ivor Lofgren the few broken acres at that time.

In 1929 Mr. Inge Mjelve bought this quarter.

Margaret Mjelve, a daughter, is writing about their family life on the land until Mrs. Mjelve sold it to Edmund Reinke in 1958. He cleared fifty more acres on this quarter and built a new home on the Mjelve yard site in 1975. Natural gas came to this area in 1975.

In 1980, Ed sold this land also to his son, Dale Reinke.

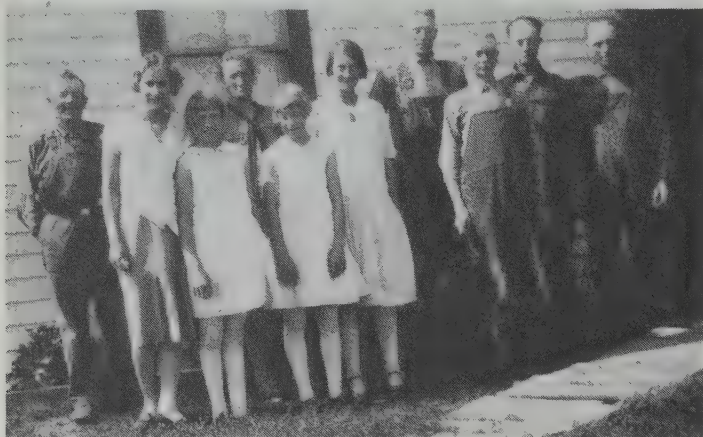
Sandquist, Jonas and Family by Agnes (Sandquist) Peterson

My father's name was Jonas August Danielson, and my mother's was Louise Sara Sandquist. Some years later they took my mother's surname as their family name.

In 1905 they emigrated to Canada from Ronnas, Vilhelmina, Sweden, by ship and train. They came to Wetaskiwin, where they were met by my dad's sister Agata and her husband Axel Selin. At that time they travelled by horse and buggy. The roads were very poor, being just trails.

Dad and mother, with their two year old daughter Christine, stayed with the Axel Selins who lived in the Lundemo district. There my dad helped on the farm until he filed on SE 4-49-21-W4 as a homestead.

On the homestead Dad built a two-story log house and began clearing and breaking land which took a lot of hard work by hand and with horses. Gradually more farm animals and chickens were added to farming.



Back Row: Jonas Sandquist, Mrs. Sandquist, August, Albin, Edwin. Front Row: Margaret Mossesson, Agnes and Ida (Twins) Christine and Roy.

As the years passed six children were born, Edwin, Albin, August, Roy and twin girls Ida and I, Agnes. All the children were born at home with the help of a midwife.

The Swan Hill School was situated on the south west corner of Dad's homestead. All the children in our family except Ida and me attended the school while it was on the homestead. The year my sister and I were to begin school it was moved about one mile east of our home, west corner of SE 3-49-21-W4, which was Lovestet's land. Here it stood until it had no further use as a schoolhouse.

For a while my parents attended Wilhelmina Church until they joined the Swan Hill Church Society which held their services at St. Josephs Church about three miles north of our home.

As the children grew older Dad bought a quarter section of land across the road, south of our home. The boys helped with all the work on the farm until some of them went out working for others. Even then they came home to lend a hand. They stayed in the home area until later years.

Some of our close neighbors were Lovestets, Anton Pearsons, Carlsons, Movalds and Ericksons east of our place, and Wilsons, Tingstads, Grundbergs and Weldas to the south. West of our home lived Simon Grues, Cornelius Grues, Blakelys and Pithouses.

When the family became smaller Dad sold some of the land. He continued to farm his homestead until he passed away in 1929.

Before Dad died, Edwin, Albin and August had left for Enilda in the Peace River country. There they filed on homesteads.

Mother continued to farm with the help of the children who stayed at home. Mother passed away in 1935. Because of floods in the Enilda district which washed away railway lines, the three boys who were living there were unable to come home for her funeral.

Christine, the oldest child, was born May 13, 1903 in Sweden. She stayed at home helping mother until she went to keep house for Frank Vickner, a widower with two small sons, Elias and Andy. In November 1936 Frank and Christine were married. They had two daughters, Lenea and Louisa. In 1945 Frank was killed in an accident while hauling lumber when his horses ran away. Christine passed away in September 1977.

Edwin, born February 1907, farmed on his homestead in Enilda. In 1933 he married Astrid Moen who had come from Norway. They have a family of seven children, Amy, Kenneth, Darlene, Ann, Carol and Linda. Edwin passed away in 1969.

Albin's birthday is May 10. He was born in 1909. He also filed on a homestead in Enilda. His two brothers worked his land when he left for the North West Territories to work for two years. Albin and wife May now live in White Rock, British Columbia. They have a family of three children, Patricia, Barbara and Roger.

August was born October 22, 1912. He accompanied his brothers to Enilda to farm, and there he married Edna Barnes. Their children are all girls, the twins Dona and Gay, then Lynne, Madaline and Carmen. In March 1967, August was killed in an accident. His wife Edna and daughter Gay who were with him survived.

Roy, born December 23, 1914, worked on the farm and continued to farm after his dad and mother passed away. Besides farming he sold Rawleigh products. When the brothers and sisters decided to sell the home farm and everything on it, Roy went to work in Edmonton. He eventually went to British Columbia to live. There he got married. Roy and Olga make their home in Cowichan.

Ida, my twin sister, and I were born January 29, 1916. After finishing public school at Swan Hill, Ida took two years High school in Hay Lakes before going to Edmonton to take a course in hairdressing. There she stayed and worked in a beauty salon. She married Sigurd Franzen and they raised their family of two, a son Lorne and a daughter Lorraine. Sigurd

was well known in Hay Lakes during the late thirties as an Insurance salesman. He was Vice-Consul for Sweden for several years until he passed away in 1978. Ida pre-deceased him in 1973.

Last of all I (Ange) spent some time working in Enilda, St. Albert and Viking. In 1936 I married Emil Peterson of Armena.

Emil and I farmed for two years in Enilda before moving to Czar where we farmed from 1939 to 1947. Then we moved back to Hay Lakes to farm on SE 11-49-21-W4.

We have six children in our family. Joyce, the oldest, married Jim Anderson, and they have two girls and live in Edmonton.

Keith also makes his home in Edmonton.

Maxine and her husband, Jim Holden, live in Toronto.

Yvonne married Ron Petric. They have a son David, and live in Elk Point.

Terrance with his wife, Percette, and son Terry live in Hinton.

Kenneth and Janet Lein make their home in Winterburn.

We sold our farm in 1975 and retired to Camrose. The following year Emil passed away. I still make my home in Camrose.

Scabar, Don and Family

We were both raised and educated in the Round Hill area which is eighteen miles east of Hay Lakes. We, Donald Scabar and Theresa Orcheski, were married in Edmonton on February 21, 1967. We lived in Edmonton for four years where Don was employed by Canadian National Telecommunications.

We then bought five acres of land south and west of the Game Farm where Don built our home. Born to us were three sons: Rodney on November 18, 1969, Barry on August 28, 1971 and David on December 5, 1974. After seven years, we sold and purchased the quarter of land — NE 11-49-21-W4 — from Coney Stroo in January, 1978. Coney Stroo had purchased this land from Agnes Matson. We moved into a mobile home in April, 1978, and in the late spring Don started building our present home.

Don quit working for Canadian National Telecommunications in September, 1979. In 1980 we started our own business, Tri-Bar Contracting Ltd. We enjoy curling, camping, cross-country skiing and dancing. Our children enjoy hockey, cubs, cross-country skiing, swimming and camping.

Schweitzer, Paul

Paul Schweitzer was born to Daniel and Ephrezina Schweitzer on October 18, 1921 west of

Wetaskiwin in the Brightview-Falun area. From there his parents moved to Edmonton, then to New Sarepta before settling in Hay Lakes.

Paul received all his schooling in Hay Lakes, quitting after Grade eight. As a youth he did various jobs around Hay Lakes, mainly working on farms. He liked the outdoors and did a lot of trapping, mainly muskrats and weasels, for a little extra spending money. Hay Lakes in the 1930's had a good hockey team of which Paul was a member. This team won the district tournament in Camrose. They also won it once after the War — Paul still being on the team.

On June 25, 1941 Paul enlisted in the Canadian Army and received his training in various parts of Canada. He sailed for the British Isles the following year. He was with the Engineers and served in Belgium, Holland, France and Germany until the war was over in 1945. During his time with the Army he also played on a hockey team. He got his discharge in December, 1945.

Paul then started a trucking business in Hay Lakes hauling coal, livestock, grain, and other freight.

On October 27, 1947 Paul married Olga Kosovich of the Big Hay Lake district. He did general trucking till 1950 when he went farming. He bought his first farm from John Bittner, SW 26-48-21-W4, and his second quarter from Obert Kelstad in 1959, SW 22-48-21-W4.

In 1977 he sold the farms and moved to Edson on October 6. While on the farm and to this day Paul has been an avid hunter and fisherman so Edson was the logical place. Besides, his two daughters were teaching there. He discovered he had too many idle hours so he started working for Luscar Sterco coal mine at Coal Valley in June, 1979 and is still there.

Paul and Olga have two daughters: Rita, born on



Paul Schweitzer Family: Linda, Olga, Paul, Rita.

December 13, 1948, took her schooling in Hay Lakes, attended Camrose Lutheran College 1967-'68, the University of Alberta 1968-1972. She received her Bachelor of Education degree and began teaching in Edson in September, 1972. In July, 1974 she married Bill Suter. They are now residing in Edson and she is teaching at the Composite High School there. Bill owns and operates the Edson Racquet Ball Club.

Linda was born on November 25, 1955. She took her schooling in Hay Lakes, attended Camrose Lutheran College from 1972-'74 for Grade twelve and the first year University, the University of Alberta from 1974-'77. She received her Bachelor of Education degree and taught in Edson for two years. She married Jerry Aubrey in July, 1979. They travelled for six months and settled in Westbank, British Columbia where Linda is presently teaching Grade two and Jerry works for Lornea Copper Mine.

Axel Selin Family

by Carl Selin

Axel Kristofferson Selin was born at Ronnäs near Vilhelmina, Sweden, October 18, 1865. His father Paulus Pålsson had been a landowner and a tailor. Paulus had changed his name to Sellin during his service in the army about 1865.

Axel was united in marriage to Agata Albertina Danielsdotter at Vilhelmina Church on March 30, 1891. Agata was born March 1, 1869, daughter of Daniel Eriksson, a farmer, and Eva Agata.

After their marriage they lived in a log house on a small plot of land given to him by his father. Axel made his living by hewing logs, small scale mixed farming, and some fishing in nearby Mälgomaj Lake. It was a meagre way of life in Sweden in those days with a poor future to look forward to.

A friend of the Selins from Vilhelmina, Inga Janson, had immigrated from Sweden to the United States where she married Jacob Lunde. In 1900 the Lundes moved to Canada and homesteaded the quarter section where Lyle Lyseng now lives. Mrs. Lunde wrote to Sweden telling them about all the homestead land available and the glowing future of this country. Her brother, Magnus Janson, left soon after and homesteaded SE 36-48-21-W4. Lunde also purchased the Canadian Pacific Railroad quarter for eighty cents an acre and this included oil rights.

Then in 1903 at the age of thirty-seven years Axel and his wife Agata and four children, Oscar — seven years, Walter — four years, Jenny — two years, and baby Herman — six weeks, decided to leave for Canada. One sister, Mina Danielson, and one brother, Petter with his wife, Hulda, and two children,



Mr. and Mrs. Axel Selin and Stanley.

Einar and Hildur, were to accompany them on this journey.

They sold their land and possessions and started out near the end of June. The first leg of the journey, twenty-one miles, was by a small steam boat from Ronnäs to Vilhelmina. This steam boat was normally used to tow logs to the sawmill. From Vilhelmina to Umeo it took three days by horse team. At Umeo they boarded a train for Gothenburg. From there a ship took them to England and then by train to Liverpool. There they boarded the ship, Elder Dempster, recently purchased by the CPR. The ship took about four weeks to reach Quebec City. Across Canada they travelled by train to Wetaskiwin. Jacob Lunde met them there with a team of horses and a wagon. Crossing Pipestone Creek, just north of where Gwynne is now, the wagon wheels had to be chained going down the bank. Going up the hill on the east side, the wagon had to be unloaded and everything carried up. An overnight stop was made at Rosenroll, about two miles south of the present Bittern Lake.

The next day, August 8th, they reached Lundes' homestead — a total journey of seven weeks' time.

Axel and his family stayed with Lundes and Petter went to Magnus Jansons. Axel filed for homestead on NW 36-48-21-W4 and Petter on NE 36-48-21-W4. A few years later, Axel purchased SW 36-48-21-W4 from Lars Palm for \$1,000. Axel stayed on with Lundes, built a log house and helped Lunde on his farm. Lunde was seventy-five years old at the time. After three years Axel dismantled his log house, moved it, and built it up again on his homestead, the present yard site of Mr. Whitehouse.



Axel Selin home with shelter of young poplars, erected for Jenny and Jonas Grundberg's Wedding reception 1920.

The Selins wrote back to Sweden and asked their friends and relatives to come too. Linus Selin (brother of Axel), Jonas Sandquist (brother of Agata), Jonas Danielson (cousin of Axel), Amandus Pearson and Selma (cousin to Agata), the Erik Victor Ericksons, Anton Pearsons, Anders Christofferson, Nils Lindbergs, and many others from Vilhelmina came over in the next few years and settled nearby. Many of them used the Selin home as their first stopping place.

Before the Lundemo store and Post Office came into being the nearest trading store was the Roper store north of Bittern Lake. It was from here and Wetaskiwin that the early settlers got their supplies. They travelled with oxen, horse team, mule team, or many would walk those miles and return with flour, sugar, salt, et cetera, carried on their backs.

The land on these early homesteads was cleared of bush with axes, grub hoses, or by burning. The trees were used as logs for houses and barns and as wood for fuel. Oxen were used to pull the breaking plow. They were good for this purpose since they were stubborn and kept pulling when the plow hit a root. Then with a few chops with the grub hoe, the roots were pulled out. The larger stumps had to be burned out.

When a steam tractor was bought in 1917 the work of land clearing and breaking went much faster.

A sawmill was also set up using this machine. A threshing machine was purchased and the sons started a threshing outfit working northwards to Joseph Lake and south to Armena and Camrose.

All of the sons purchased land and farmed nearby. Herman also built and operated a garage in Hay Lakes. Jenny married Jonas Grundberg June 30, 1920 and moved to Dinant.

Axel and Agata became members of Fridhem Lutheran Church when they arrived in Canada. In 1908 Axel together with Pastor Lindgren and the other settlers organized the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Congregation and named it Wilhelmina. The foundation for the church was laid in 1912 and the building was finished in 1919. Axel served for years as a trustee and on the board of deacons. He purchased the church organ in Winnipeg with money saved by the Young Girls' Society of the church; he also served as church organist for years.

Axel and Petter also served on the board of Brandland School. Jenny, Hildur, and Walter started school at Brandland in 1909, the year it was built. Oliver, Albert, and Stanley were born in Canada. Stanley, the youngest attended Swan Hill School after it was moved.

Agata and Axel celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding anniversary in 1941. Agata died June 24, 1945. Axel continued to live in a small house on the homestead. He kept busy chopping and splitting wood and fencing up to his last years. He died in February, 1960 after a short illness at the age of ninety-four years.

The Carl Selin Family **by Carl and Christina**

We were both born and raised in the Swan Hill district.

Carl: I was born March 4, 1932, son of Oscar and Gulli Selin. Among my earliest recollections is the time when our house burned down and I was taken across the snow-covered fields by mother to my grandfather's house about half a mile away. My grandmother put me in front of the wood-burning cook stove with the oven door open to warm my feet.

I attended Swan Hill School through Grade Eight and remember: Nature Studies — netting for tadpoles in the slough across the hill on Lechelts; Softball — playing in the schoolyard with the slough in left field and first base down the hill; skiing — on that big ski hill across the road on Lechelts; writing one hundred times, "I must not leave my desk during school time" using four pencils at once; Mr. Sten Gunderson catching the big boys chewing tobacco in the boys' outhouse during schooltime; the driveway gate on the school steps and the outhouses tipped over at Hallowe'en; 22-shells going pop in the big

wood and coal stove; ink frozen in the desks by the windows; and absolutely the most delicious tasting vanilla-flavored home made ice cream at school picnics.

For Grades IX-XI, I rode horseback to Armena School. After taking Grade XII at Camrose Lutheran College, I left the farm and worked as a clerk in a grocery store in Edmonton.

In 1951 I went to work for United Geophysical Corporation and was employed on seismograph crews in Western Canada until 1956. I was then transferred overseas and spent four years with oil exploration crews in Libya. The next two years, as instrument engineer, my travels took me through the United States, Canada, and Alaska, as well as Europe and North Africa.

On July 27, 1962, I was united in marriage to Christina Fuernkranz, daughter of Carl and Marie Fuernkranz.

Christina: I was born October 30, 1935, and attended Swan Hill School from Grade one through Grade six. My early memories of school include: walking to school in bare feet during the warm, rainy days; exchanging homemade sausage for flatbread; eating homemade ice cream at school picnics; and reciting, singing, and acting for the Christmas concerts. The Christmas concert was the highlight of the winter. After months of preparation and practice, a stage was erected at the front of the school and bed sheets were strung on wires for curtains. One year this almost became a tragedy when the curtains were pulled too close to the lighted candles on the Christmas tree and caught fire. The fire was quickly extinguished and the concert continued.

In 1948 my family moved to Hay Lakes and I attended school there from Grades VII to XI. Grade XII was taken at Camrose Lutheran College.

After attending University, I taught school in Hay Lakes from September, 1955 to June, 1957. I then taught in New Norway for three years and Wetaskiwin for two years. My teaching career ended in 1962 when I married Carl at St. Stephens Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes.

We moved to Australia and made our home in Brisbane for the next four years. Our first Christmas was spent on Heron Island in the Great Barrier Reef. Christmas morning we left Gladstone in a small launch to Heron Island, normally a three-hour trip. However, after thirty minutes at sea the launch sprung a leak and we had to return for repairs. Later in the afternoon we again set out across the open sea. By this time it was rainy and windy and the launch was buffeted by enormous waves. Most people became seasick and everybody was getting soaked standing on the open deck. We finally arrived at Heron Island just after dark in a pouring rainstorm.

The tide had gone out so we had to be ferried to shore in small rowboats. It was about eleven o'clock at night before everyone was settled. Few people showed up for the Christmas turkey and plum pudding in the dining room. However, the rest of our stay was very pleasant and the food was always very delicious. This was a very quiet island and only three-quarters of a mile right around it. We spent our time exploring the reef, swimming, sun bathing, and watching the enormous turtles. A very marked contrast to our Christmas time in Canada!

Carl's work took him to visit seismic crews located in all parts of Australia, Papua, New Guinea, and Borneo. I joined him on a trip around Australia to Darwin, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney. In August, 1966, we returned to Canada by way of New Zealand.

In 1967, Carl with two partners formed Centennial Geophysical Company. They operated for two years and sold to Globe Universal Sciences in 1969. Carl stayed with this company until he left the seismic industry in 1975. We operated our own rental business in Calgary until 1980 when we sold out and moved back to the Hay Lakes District, where we have now taken up farming. Our home is on SE 3-49-21-W4, about one-quarter mile from where the Swan Hill School was located.



Carl Selin Family. Back Row: Nancy, Brenda and Carl. Front Row: Christina and Ian — 1979.

We have three children: Brenda born in Brisbane, Australia, June 24, 1965; Nancy born in Calgary, December 25, 1966; and Ian born in Calgary, January 2, 1970. They all attend the Hay Lakes School at present.

We are members of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

Selin, Herman

Herman Linaus Selin was born on May 13, 1903 at Ronnäs, Wilhelmina, Sweden. He was baptised into the Lutheran faith before coming to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Selin. He was six weeks old and not too strong when the family left for Canada. Many friends predicted he would never survive the trip.

Herman attended school at Brandland. He was interested in mechanics and took a mechanic course in Edmonton. He built and operated a garage in Hay Lakes for a few years in the mid-twenties. The garage was then rented to Mr. Holte, then to Mr. Hartman, and finally to Dick Gellert who eventually purchased the business. This was the garage that stood next to the present town office.

About 1939 Herman purchased the SW 25-48-21-W4. He worked for many years on the Selin threshing outfit as separator man and steam tractor operator. When oil was discovered in the Hay Lakes area in 1951, Herman was one of the local steam boiler operators who went to work on the drilling rigs during the winters. He was employed on a rig near Red Deer at the time of his death, which was caused by an automobile accident March 19, 1957.



Herman Selin.

Selin, James

I, James Selin, third son of Walter and Hildur Selin, attended Swan Hill school up to Grade eight. Then I was two years at Armena and finished Grade twelve at Camrose High school. I then worked on the farm for a few years before moving to Calgary, where I lived for the following three years.

In 1954, I married Ivie Torvinen from Usona. We lived in Hay Lakes for eight years before moving to Drayton Valley (present location). The same year I

started to work for Imperial Oil (also present employer).

Ivie and I have three sons and one daughter: Wayne, Carey, Cameron and Corinne.

Wayne married Judy Labatuk in 1972 and lives in Swan Hills, Alberta, where he works for Esso Resources. They have two sons and one daughter, Jamie, Scott and Joelle.

Carey works for Columbia Gas Development in the Yukon. He is an operator at a gas plant.

Cameron works for Santos in Adelaide, Australia, an oil and gas company.

Corinne is presently attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, enrolled in Business Administration, Accounting.

A humorous but sad incident that occurred while attending the Swan Hill school follows:

Before going home after school, Arlen Jaycock and I built a snowman in the lee of the road just east of the School.

Later that day, Carl Carlson was on his way home from Hay Lakes when he met up with our snowman. The horse which he was riding became so scared that he died there and then, from a heart attack. The horse was only twenty-two years old.

The next morning on the way to school we found the dead horse about one hundred feet from the snowman. There were two scared boys who immediately began to destroy the snowman.

Gunnar Erickson later sold Carl Carlson a horse to replace the one he lost.

Norman Selin and Family

Norman and Frances Selin were born in the Swan Hill area and are still farming in the area.

Norman was born to Walter and Hildur Selin. He attended the Swan Hill School. There he enjoyed a good ball game and the annual track meets. He usually rode his horse to school.

During his early years Norman drove a caterpillar for the Pearson Saw Mill west of Breton during the winter and farmed during the summer.

Frances was born to Carl and Marie Fuernkranz. She attended the Swan Hill School and enjoyed the annual track meets and ball tournaments. For a couple of years the family did the janitor work at the school. As the well water at the school was not suitable for drinking, Betty Movold and Frances carried water in pails from the Lechelt farm about half a mile away.

The family then moved closer to Hay Lakes where Frances took one year of schooling before attending two years at the Vermilion College.

Norman and Frances were married August 24,



Norman Selin Family. Back Row: Larry, Ivan, Bonnie. Front Row: Frances and Norman 1979.

1955 by Rev. Keitel in St. Lukes Lutheran Church, Hay Lakes.

They set up farming on the J. Danielson farm and still live there. During the years they brushed and broke about one hundred and fifty acres. They also have had several well drillers to finally get enough water, as well as putting in Calgary Power.

They have three children, Ivan, Larry and Bonnie. They all attended the Hay Lake School and graduated there. They took part in all the sports available to them and won many trophies and ribbons throughout the years.

Ivan is working for Leduc Construction so is on the move a lot.

Larry has a gravel truck and works for Border Paving; he boards at home and works in the Camrose area.

Bonnie works in the Personnel Office in the Edmonton Co-op, and also lives there.

The family are members of the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church, and belong to Hockey, Ball and Gymkhana Clubs.

Oscar Selin by Carl Selin

Oscar Antius Selin was born in Ronnäs, Sweden on April 11, 1896. In 1903 he arrived in Canada with his parents. That winter he boarded at the Lomnes' place while attending school at Thordenskjold. He also went to the Thronson School for four months in 1907. This was after they had moved from Lundes to the homestead, so he boarded with Oscar Staboes.

Oscar remembers there was lots of water in those days. Hay Lake was full of water and had fish. The fish came up from Dried Meat Lake by Stoney Creek. His father and his uncle made willow boxes to catch fish in Stoney Creek. He remembers his Uncle Petter saying, "Now this is America," as they loaded fish into the wagon box with pitch forks. When the dam was built for the Camrose water supply the fish could no longer come up the creek and they disappeared.

Oscar was confirmed in 1910 at the Fridhem Lutheran Church. Wilhelmina Church had not yet been built. It was founded in 1908 but the church was not completed for many years. The tower was built last by Mr. Hernquist. Hansel Johnson made the cross and the ball. Mr. Hernquist and Oscar were attempting to lower the cross into place on top of the tower when a sudden gust of wind caused it to overbalance and crash to the ground. It tore the scaffolding off and left the two men clinging to the tower. They had to wiggle around to the west side of the tower and jump onto the church roof to get down. The cross was then cut down by one foot all around and the second attempt was successful.

Oscar worked for the Canadian National Railroad as a watchman for a short time before he was conscripted into the Army in May of 1918. He was sent to England in the fall and just missed being shipped over to France before the war ended. After returning to Canada in June of 1919, he bought SE 35-48-21-W4 from the Canadian Pacific Railroad for \$1920.00. During the next four years he worked for the Canadian National Railroad as a fireman and took leave each fall to come back home and run the threshing outfit for his father.

The high price of grain (oats — \$1.00 per bushel) convinced him to quit the railroad and concentrate on farming. He operated the steam tractor to break land. With his brothers, he also sawed lumber and ran the threshing outfit for many years.

Oscar remembers helping move the Swan Hill School about 1921 or 1922. It was pulled by horses in the winter from the Sandquist place following the frozen sloughs and low land to its last site on SE 3-48-21-W4. The chimney was left attached during the move but when the schoolhouse was being lowered onto the foundation, the chimney fell over narrowly missing Mr. Wilson.

Oscar married Gulli Johanson February 1, 1931. Gulli, a widow, had a daughter Elsie who was born December 16, 1923. Elsie attended Swan Hill School till 1939. A son, Carl, was born March 4, 1932 and a daughter, Deloris was born June 7, 1937. Oscar and Gulli separated in 1939. Oscar continued to live on the farm with his son and Gulli moved to Victoria



Oscar Selin Family. Elsie, Oscar, Carl and Gulli — 1933.

where she is still living. Elsie (Mrs. Haddow) also lives in Victoria, and Deloris (Mrs. Kyle) is now living in Kamloops, B.C.

Oscar rented out his farm in the early 1950's and was employed as boiler man on oil rigs during the winters till 1962 when he retired to Camrose. He has been living with his son since 1972, first in Calgary, then moving to Hay Lakes in 1980.

Selin, Rudolph and Family

I am the oldest of Walter and Hildur Selin's family and have lived all my life on my father's homestead. My first school teacher was Thelma Kjorlin (Mrs. Martin Movold) and I recall when starting Grade one at Swan Hills School I could not speak a word of English. The community consisted of Swedish people and it was the working language until the children attended school. At fifteen I quit school to help with farming operations. As family members married and moved away from home I took



Rudolph Selin Family. Back Row: Rudolph, Vivian. Front Row: Lori and Melvin — 1981.

over more responsibilities on the farm. In 1958, I married Vivian Driedger of Camrose. We moved to the farm in the spring and my Mom and Dad retired to Camrose. My parents had always operated a mixed farming operation but in 1972 I shifted to a milking operation. I converted the horse barn into a stanchion barn for milk cows and a milk house for a bulk milk tank.

Melvin and Lori, our children, attended school at Hay Lakes. Melvin graduated from High School in 1977 and is presently enrolled in Professional Cooking at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary. Lori, after graduating in 1980, is attending the Royal Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing. During the children's school years, Vivian has been an active member of the Hay Lakes Home and School Association. We are members of the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church where we are both involved as council members and also Vivian is an organist.

Stanley Selin

I was born at Lundemo, June 6, 1914, son of Axel and Agata Selin. First I attended Brandland School; and when the Swan Hill School was moved, I attended there. While taking Grades IX to XI at the Hay Lakes School, I stayed with my brother Herman who had a garage in Hay Lakes.

I did not have far to go courting; I could walk to Hansel Johnson to see Hennie. It was much faster in the wintertime when I drove the cutter. I married Hennie April 13, 1938 at the Axel Selin home.

In 1944 I purchased the farm SW 36-48-21-W4 from my father. Farming with horses was much slower than the methods used today. A hired man for



Stanley Selin Family. Back Row: Linda, Garry, Lois. Front Row: Joyce, Stanley, Hennie and Allan.

stook-threshing was paid \$2.50 a day. I farmed here until 1973 when I sold the farm and moved to Camrose.

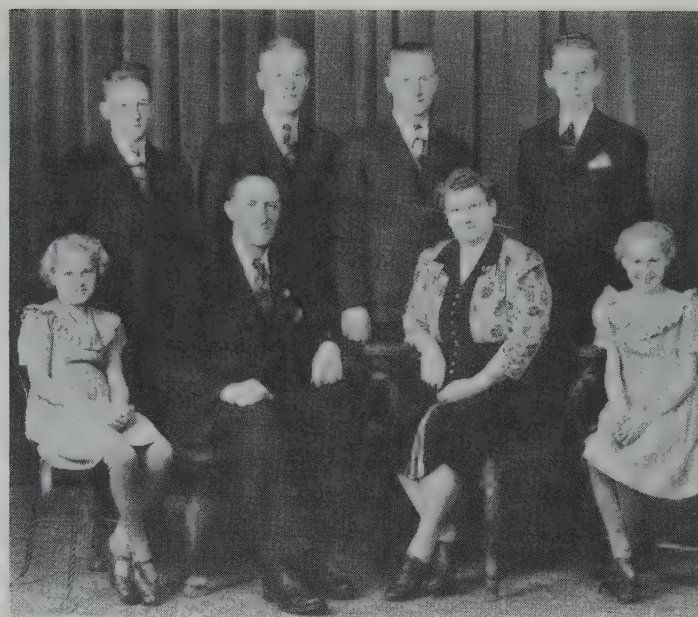
Our five children all attended Hay Lakes School. Joyce is married to Hardy Friesen, who is employed with Alberta Government Telephones. Allan married Marg Ness and is a Travel Agent in Airdrie. Garry married Barbara Nordin and is trucking in Edmonton. The twins, Lois is court reporter in Calgary and Linda is employed with Alberta Government Telephones.

Walter and Hildur Selin

Swedish born Walter Selin was five years old when his parents emigrated to Canada in 1903. He attended Brandland School which was a two and one-half mile walk from the homestead. Education did not seem to be as important as work so attendance at school was not on a regular basis. The teachers stayed in farm homes. The families changed off so no one family would board the teacher more than two months at a time.

Wilhelmina Lutheran Church, built in 1912, was situated two and a half miles northeast from his parent's farm. It became an active central point for community life.

When Walter was a young man he met and courted Hildur Johnson. Hildur lived with her mother, Kristina Johnson, on a farm three miles east of Walter's home. Hildur was eight years old when she came to Canada from Kiruna, Sweden with her mother, sister and three brothers in 1911. She also attended Brandland School.



Walter Selin Family. Back Row: Norman, Benard, Rudolph, James. Front Row: Ruby, Walter, Hildur and Annie 1946.

Walter Selin (1898-1973) and Hildur Johnson (1903-) were married November 26, 1921. Walter purchased a quarter of land, NE 35-48-21-W4, just west of his home place. It was solid bush and had to be cleared. Not having up-to-date machinery he cut the trees with an axe, pulled stumps out with a steam engine, and piled them with horse power. The piles were later burnt. The land was broken with a breaking plow pulled by horses or a steamer. The logs were taken to the steam-powered saw mill located near a water-filled slough. Poplar lumber made by the mill was for all building purposes. Walter built a house with the lumber while they lived at his father's place. He moved his parent's first house built from logs to his farm to serve as a barn. This house had no nails, only wooden pegs. The logs were fitted and marked for easy moving and reassembling. They were then ready to move into the new house and also had a barn to house the cows and horses. The family grew to consist of four boys and two girls, namely Rudolph, Bernard, James, Norman, Annie and Ruby. The house was extended in 1948 and the new addition built was the same size as the old house. The new size was twenty-four by forty feet. In 1942, a new log barn, thirty-four by fifty-two feet, was started and completed in 1944. Half the barn was made into horse stalls, the other half for milk cows.

In May 1959 Walter and Hildur retired to Camrose and their son Rudolph continued the farming operation. The other family members married and today reside in Camrose, Calgary, Drayton Valley, and Coquitlam, British Columbia.

Walter and Hildur Selin celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, November 26, 1971. Walter was killed in a car accident east of Camrose on April

9th, 1973. Hildur is still a resident of Camrose, Alberta.

Erickson, Annie (nee Selin)

I am the oldest girl of Walter and Hildur Selin's family. Being raised on the farm I attended Swan Hill School to Grade nine, Armena school for Grades nine to twelve, and then one year at the Vermilion School of Agriculture. On finishing school my first job was in Fortune and McKenzie Dry Goods store in Camrose. In June 1955 I married Glen Erickson, (1935-1978) and we moved to Calgary to make our home. Except for a brief two years in Winnipeg, I have lived all my married life in Calgary.

My family from the oldest to youngest are: Patsy who married Randy Agnew and has a son, Doris (1957-1979) who married Philip Graham, my son Darcy who is taking a course in Petroleum Technology at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Pamela who graduated from High school in 1981, and Jean and Janice who are attending High school in Calgary.

Tymchuk, Ruby (Selin)

I am the youngest daughter of Walter and Hildur Selin. Born and raised on the farm at Hay Lakes I attended Swan Hills School from Grades one to eight and then the Hay Lakes High School. While I attended High School I worked at St. Mary's Hospital, and on finishing school worked at the Bank of Montreal in Camrose. I married John Tymchuk in 1956 and our first residence was in Edmonton. Later we moved to Lloydminster, Calgary, and Camrose where John operated his own beauty shops. In 1970 we moved to Coquitlam, British Columbia where we presently reside with our children, Dwight, Donna and Alan.

Spokile

The first name is unknown but this man was believed to be the first white settler to settle in what later became known as the Swan Hills district. He probably was a bachelor as old timers in the area cannot recall the mention of a Mrs. Spokile. He had his log shack on higher ground just west of a small lake that straddles the boundary between section 33-48-21-W4 and section 2-49-21-W4. This body of water is locally known as Spokile Lake. This location was chosen not only for its scenic beauty, but was ideal for his ranching which offered an abundance of water and wild land. It is not known what became of Mr. Spokile after he left the district, but it is presumed he went to the U.S.A. prior to 1908. People were able to move freely across the International

Boundary. It is believed he settled in this district about 1880 and resided here until about the turn of the century.

Strand, Johan and Anna

Johan P. Strand with his wife Anna and children came to the United States from Norway in 1879. They homesteaded in the County of Richland, North Dakota in 1887.

At the turn of the Century, their daughters Matilda Cornelia and Anna Pernilla came to Wetaskiwin, Alberta where Matilda taught school and Anna opened a Dressmaking Shop, which she later moved to Camrose above the R.B. Price Store on Main Street. The girls worked and saved enough money to bring their parents and a few possessions to Alberta.

In 1902, Johan and Anna arrived and applied for a homestead on NE 28-48-21-W4, getting the patent in 1908. Their address was New Sarepta.

Anna passed away in 1910 at the age of seventy-nine years and Johan passed away in 1912 at the age of eighty-five years. They are both buried in the Old Skandia Cemetery on the NE 2-48-21-W4, near Armena.



Matilda and Anna Strand with their friend Fidelia Page. The dresses worn by Matilda and Anna were made by Anna.



Strand Family: Matilda, Anna, with their parents Johan and Anna Strand by their farm home in 1910.

In November, 1906, Anna married Jacob Welda, a friend from North Dakota who had taken a homestead in 1903, on NE 20-48-21-W4.

Matilda, along with Jacob Welda's sister Solveig went to Bellingham, Washington where Matilda continued her education at The State Normal School, receiving her Life Teaching Certificate and pin in 1916. She married Namin Munroe of Bellingham, Washington and returned to her farm in Alberta NE 21-48-21-W4 which she had previously purchased. She taught at the Swan Hill School in 1921 to 1923 and passed away in 1924. She is buried in the Old Skandia Cemetery.

Vikner, Frank

Frank Vikner was born in Vilhelmina, Sweden on July 17, 1885. In 1912 he came to Washington, U.S.A. and then to British Columbia and later, to Alberta.

He returned to Sweden in 1919 when he married Clara Thalín. He left his wife in Sweden and returned to the Hay Lakes area. In 1924 he returned to Sweden and brought back his wife and son, Elias, to Alberta to the Clyde area where they resided for two years and then moved to the Hay Lakes area. The location was SW 11-49-21-W4.

There were two sons born to this marriage: Elias born in Sweden and Andy born in Alberta.

Clara passed away in 1933 and is buried in the Wilhelmina Lutheran cemetery east of Hay Lakes.

Frank Vikner later married Christine Sandquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Sandquist. Christine was born in Vilhelmina, Sweden and came to Canada as a young girl. Two daughters were born to this marriage: Linea and Louisa. Frank Vikner was accidentally killed; his team had a run-away in June 1945. Christine Vikner passed away in 1977. Both are buried in the Wilhelmina cemetery.

Elias Vikner was born in 1921, in Vilhelmina, Sweden. He attended Swan Hills school and shortly after went working for the Pearson Brothers in the sawmills in the Breton area.

Elias married Ina Warren from Berywn (Peace River area), and to this marriage were born three children: David, Ann (Mrs. Eugene Deschamps) and Betty Lou.

Elias later moved to British Columbia where he continued working in the sawmills for some years, finally settling at Keremeos, British Columbia. In Keremeos, he started his own plumbing business. He worked with this until he passed away in the spring of 1979.

Andy Vikner was born in 1925 at Hay Lakes. Andy took all his schooling at Swan Hills. In 1947 he left home to go out working. After a couple of years he moved to Calgary, and worked for Burns and Dutton until 1968. Since then he has been employed by the City of Calgary and continues to live there.

Linea Vikner was born in 1937 and attended the Swan Hills school for the first few years. She lived with Emil Petersons and Sven Eliasons in the Hay Lakes district. Afterwards she lived in various homes such as Bill Ingrams and attended Ketchmoot school, then stayed at the Frank Shupes in Tofield, and for a short time at the Albert Haukedals. In 1949 she moved to the Norman Scott home and attended school in Tofield. From there she moved with the Scotts to Vegreville for one year, and later moved to Edmonton and attended school at University High. In 1955 she went to work for the Alberta Government Telephones until 1969. She married Adam Schreyer and they have five children: Terry, Gwen, Leanne, Barry and Tracey. They still live in Edmonton.

Louisa Vikner was the youngest child of Christine and Frank Vikner. She was born in October 1941. Louisa was brought up in a number of homes. She started her schooling at Ketchemoot school while staying at the John Brown residence. In 1948 she went to stay with George Foshaugs, in the Bardo district, taking three years at Anderson's school and the remainder of her schooling in Tofield. She worked for the Alberta Government Telephones in Tofield and Grand Prairie.

In 1962 Louisa married Rudolf Undin from Kingman. They have three children: David, Kathy and Debbie who attend Tofield school and are still residing on the farm east of Kingman.

Welda, Harold

Harold Welda was born September 28, 1886 in Snaasa, Norway. He came to Canada in 1905 and took a homestead in the Hay Lakes district near Jacob's homestead. Like his brothers, who came to Canada, the Norwegian spelling of his name "Welde" or "Velde" was changed to "Welda" during the immigration paper work.

Harold left Snaasa during the winter of 1904. His family in Norway last saw him skating across a large body of water known as Snaasavatn. The only possessions he had were the clothes on his back, and as a niece in Norway recalls, "his wits and his dreams". He knew a ships captain in Trondhjem, with whom he had arranged a passage to America. Harold's date of entry into Canada was in 1904, and he received the patent on his homestead, the SW 28-48-2p-W4 in 1908.

He built a log house on his homestead, but did not



Harold Welda beside his house built in 1903. Showing the corner which was struck by lightning.

actively farm. He broke enough land to keep his homestead claim clear. He later sold his farm and moved to British Columbia, where he was employed in the logging industry and fishing business near Prince Rupert.

His homestead house became popular for having been struck by lightning; the house was not harmed or burned, but the spikes in the corner of the house, where the lightning struck had been bent.

Harold passed away on his boat in Work Channel north of Prince Rupert, B.C., on June 2, 1955. He was sixty-nine years of age. He was buried beside his brother Jacob in St. Joseph cemetery at Hay Lakes, Alberta.

Caroline Welda also came to America. She married John Sem in North Dakota. Oscar, Jacob, Harold, Bjarney, Solveig and Caroline Welda were together in Landa, North Dakota, at the same time, before Jacob moved to Canada. Caroline stayed in Landa and her descendants still live in the U.S.A.

One of Harold's younger brothers, Bjarney Reidulf, also came to Alberta as a single man, before he left for British Columbia. He stayed for a short time with Jacob Welda and later moved to British Columbia where he worked as a baker, and later became a cook on a steam ship. Like Jacob, Bjarney (Barney) was also an accomplished violinist. Barney

died March 16, 1954 at the age of fifty-four years. Barney's family are in B.C. and Ontario.

Solveig Welde stayed here with Jacob and Anna, before she moved to Seattle, Washington. There she married Konrad Johansen. They had two daughters, Edna (Knutsen) and Signe (Husmoe). Solveig is still living and is in a nursing home in Seattle.

Another other brother, Oskar (Oscar) also came to Canada. Oskar returned to Norway and settled near Steinkjer, where some of his other brothers and sisters lived.

Jacob Haakon Welda

Jacob Haakon Welde (Welda) was born near Snaasa, Norway, on November 24, 1877. He was baptized and confirmed in the Snaasa Lutheran Church. His mother, Bertha Malmo was the hostess on board the "Baten", a pleasure boat for tourists on Snaasavatn. His father, Haakon Welde served as captain on the same boat. Jacob came from a family of eleven children. He left Norway the year his youngest brother Oliver was born. With little money and food the oldest children left as soon as they were not needed at home, or when they found some opportunity for employment. At age 17 Jacob left Norway with only his violin and the clothes on his back. He stayed with his uncle in Minnesota who wanted to send Jacob to law school. Jacob wasn't interested; he moved from Minnesota and drifted across the North West United States, taking what jobs he could get. Not being able to speak English, he found music to be an international language. He played the violin very well. He entertained in many places and on

many occasions his violin proved to be his meal ticket or the only source of income.

Jacob's mother died soon after Oliver's birth, and Haakon remarried, this time to a widow who already had four children by a previous marriage. Because he never returned to Norway, Jacob never saw his four step-brothers and sisters and his two half-brothers and sisters.

While in Sheldon, North Dakota, Jacob met Anna Pernela Strand. She had been born on the Lofoten Islands in 1877, had come to America with her parents, Johan and Anna Strand, at the age of three.

Jacob came to Wetaskiwin from North Dakota in 1901. He first moved to the Bardo district and was there persuaded by a member of the Grue family to take a homestead in the Hay Lakes area. With abundance of timber in the area, the two men hoped to set up a mill and saw lumber. He came to the "land of milk and honey" to homestead in 1903 the NE quarter 20-48-21-W4, and received the title in April of 1907.

On November 18, 1906, Jacob Welda and Anna Strand were united in marriage at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Strand, of Bittern Lake. Matilda Strand (Anna's sister), Harold Welda (Jacob's younger brother) were the witnesses and the ceremony was performed by Pastor Carlson of the Norwegian Lutheran Church.



Jacob and Anna Welda — 1913.



Jacob and Anna Welda's children, Rolfe, Helen, and Alpha. Twins: Gordon and Norman — 1913.

Five children were born on the Welda homestead — Rolfe in 1907, Alpha in 1909, Helen in 1911, the twins, Norman and Gordon in 1913.

The original homestead lay in the Thordenskjold school district, but the Thordenskjold school was several miles east of the Welda farm. In 1912, when Johan Strand died, the Strand farm was left to Anna Welda. Jacob and Anna decided to move onto the Strand farm since the family would be much closer to the Swan Hill School than it was at the time to Thordenskjold school. Rolfe was seven years old and Alpha was five when the two started Swan Hill school in 1914. All the Welda children attended the Swan Hill school.

In 1919 the family moved to Bellingham, Washington. The farm was sold to Gus Lund, but was reclaimed two years later when no payments were made. When Jacob returned to Hay Lakes in March of 1921, he walked to his farm from the railroad station. He met his farm horses on the "Lake Bottom". They recognized him, even though he had been gone for so long and nuzzled him and followed him home. In May of 1921 Anna Welda and the children returned.

In the mid-1920's after each harvest, a load of wheat was hauled to the Bittern Lake Flour Mill (operated by Mr. Hazelwood and sons, Ernest and Alfred), to be ground into a year's supply of flour. The wheat was stone ground and then passed through silk screens to produce white and second grade flour, shorts, wheatlets and bran. The load was hauled one day and ground, and the drivers would return the following day, after spending the night with the millers.

During the summer of 1924, the tent-caterpillars were extremely bad in the Swan Hill area. Trees were stripped of their leaves and people living along the railroad could hear the train wheels slipping on caterpillars on the track as the train tried to go up the slight grade east of Hay Lake village.

The following pieces of information are taken from a diary: "October 28, 1925 — "Potatoes are selling for 35¢ a sack". "November 2, 1925 — "Jacob Welda loaded a car load of potatoes for L. Larsen, merchant, came home with 100 lbs. of white sugar at \$6.90, and 50 lbs. of brown sugar for \$3.35".

Like most Scandinavian women, Anna Welda spun her own knitting wool, and became so skillful she could knit and read at the same time. She sometimes knit mitts and socks from unwashed, pulled wool. Then the finished product was washed; how warm and lovely they were!

In 1925 "The Jolly Hay Hawks" was organized. It was organized by Jacob and Anna Welda and Mr.

McKittrick and an active group of friends and neighbors, mainly for the participation and entertainment of the young people. They would meet regularly at the various homes for an evening of debating, limeric contests and dancing. At each meeting a debate topic and limerick line were chosen for the next meeting. A "jazz garter era limerick" —

"The garter inspector has been around,
He caught Mrs. B. on dangerous ground,
One garter was twisted
But still she insisted
The darn thing was straight all around."

Following the contests, Jacob Welda on his violin, accompanied by one of the boys on a rhythm instrument provided music for living-room dance. Families enjoying the get-together were Robert McLeods, Bud Blakely, H. Pithouse, L. C. Anderson, J. Kraemer, C. S. Grue, A. C. Folconer, the Rupertus family, N. Wamacks and Mr. McKittrick.

As the family grew up and moved on to employment they still continued to play their instruments.

Rolfe went into the trucking business and played his banjo at social gatherings.

Alpha worked in the Post office, and later clerked in general stores. She played with local bands in and around Hay Lakes.



Welda Orchestra. L. to R.: Jacob Welda, Rolfe, Alpha, Helen, Gordon and Norman.

Helen worked in the Post office and later moved to Edmonton and worked as a clerk in a store. She joined the all girls' Swing Sister Band (six piece band), and played in many centres in and around Edmonton.

Norman and Gordon both went to Breton to work in the Pearson Lumber camp. There they played in the camp band. Other boys in that band were: Edgar Grahm, accordion; Inar Paulson, guitar; Norman Welda, drums; and Gordon Welda, guitar. After returning to Hay Lakes to farm, Norman played the drum for many years in several local bands, including the Reins Mittlestadt and Selin bands.

Gordon moved on to British Columbia after getting his machinist and welder's ticket and played several instruments in bands wherever he went. As he says, "I can't live without music."

In the 1920's the croquet court at the Welda farm was a busy place as friends from near and far came to play a game of croquet and visit. Anna Welda had the coffee pot on for all who came her way.

Rolfe married Margaret Milroy, daughter of Alex and Elizabeth Milroy of Bittern Lake. They farm in the Armena area and have four children: Susan Ramm, Edberg; Arthur in Edmonton; James, Armena; and Brian, Armena.

Alpha married Charles McLean, son of Roy and Lena McLean of Hay Lakes. They live in Hay Lakes. They have three children. Donna Johnson, Vernon, B.C.; Keith, Victoria, B.C.; and Dianne Brockhoff, Edberg.

Helen married John Sware, son of John and Johanna Sware. They farm in the Hay Lakes district and they have three children: Leon, Sherwood Park; Lauanne Mann, Sherwood Park; and Marlene of Calgary.

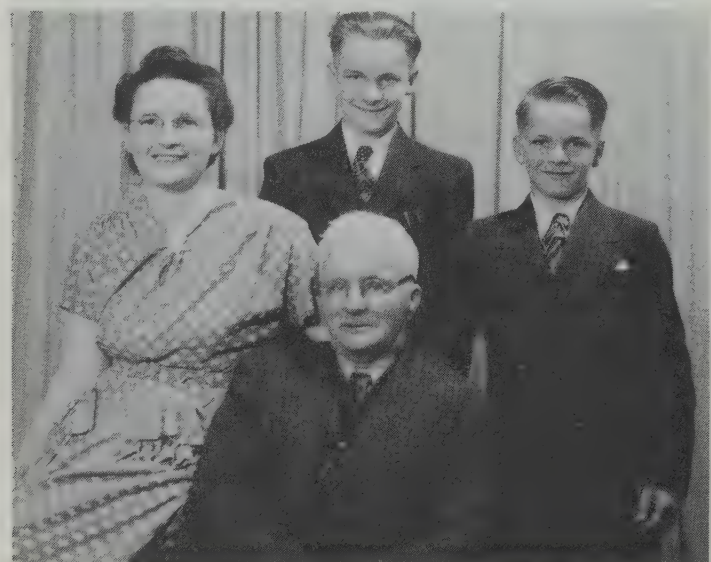
Gordon married Annie Nelson, daughter of Nels and Alva Nelson of Wetaskiwin. They have one son, Barry of Quesnel, B.C. Annie passed away in February, 1963. Gordon resides in Castlegar, B.C.

Norman farms in the east Hay Lakes district.

Anna Welda died on March 12, 1931 of a heart attack. She had been ill with some sort of influenza for some time. She was buried in the old Skandia cemetery with the rest of her family.

Jacob Welda — Rosalie Blakely

On December 10, 1932 Jacob Welda was united in marriage to Rosalie Blakely at the United Church in Camrose — Rev. Kerr officiating. To this union two



Jacob and Rosalie Welda and sons, Donald and Roger.

sons were born — Donald Eugene and James Roger. They lived their growing up years on the farm south-east of Hay Lakes. They took most of their schooling in Swan Hills, later going to Hay Lakes often on horseback or skiing.

Jacob passed away on March 30, 1951 at the age of seventy-four years in St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose. He had been ill for some time and had suffered from severe arthritis, but the cause of his death was a stroke. He had been in the hospital for six weeks prior to his death. He was buried in St. Joseph's cemetery, with Pastor Raymond Olson, assisted by Reverend Parley of Hay Lakes, officiating at the service.

In 1952 when the oil boom struck the Hay Lakes district Donald and Roger in their teens worked on oil rigs. Norman also worked in the oil field and was staying with us (Rosalie and family).

In 1955 Donald married Helen Peddicord of Amisk. They have a family of four sons. Craig — married — lives in Edmonton and has one daughter — Amanda. Grant — married — lives in Edmonton, and has one daughter, Tanya. Alan attends University and Blayne lives in Edmonton. Donald continued farming and battery operating as his family was growing up.

Roger married Astrid Sanddahl of Amisk in 1956. They lived in Drayton Valley where he worked in the oil field there. They have four daughters all living in Camrose.

Lynette married Barry Hovelson. They have a son Michael.

Sharon (4th daughter) married Laurie Mills, and they have a son, Stephen.

Darlene and Janice both work in Camrose.

After taking a nursing Aide course Rosalie sold the farm to Donald and moved to Camrose in 1962. Donald continues to farm and works in the oil field in Rainbow Lake.

Rosalie has now retired in her home in Camrose but keeps busy with church work and enjoying her grandchildren.

Wilson, Robert John

Robert John (Bob) Wilson grew up in the Ohaton district. He attended university in Missoula, Montana where he met and married his wife, Karen Bateman, formerly of Long Beach, California. In 1973, they came back to the Camrose area where Karen began working in St. Mary's Hospital and Bob began his teaching career in Rosalind.

In 1978 they bought a quarter section from Wayne Movold and built a house on it in 1980. They have two daughters; Leigh Alison (six years) and Cas-

sandra Ayn (two years). Bob is now working as Music Consultant for the County of Camrose.

Wilson, William and Family

William Wilson emigrated to Canada from Kensington, Minnesota in 1902. He filed on a homestead at Lomberton, Alberta, (a small settlement near Buffalo Lake). After five years of struggling he sold the homestead and moved to the Kingman district and rented a farm for a year. He met and married Christina Olson. In January, 1909, Mabel was born. They met a fellow by the name of C. L. Erickson, west of Lundemo, who had a farm for sale. After making some enquiries, and looking at the quarter (SW 34-48-21-W4), the Wilson's decided the price was right and bought it in 1910. The following year they broke ten acres with oxen. In 1911 Wilbert was born, followed by Lenard, Myrtle and Alice. Another quarter was added to their farm in 1918 when they bought the SE 34-48-21-W4 from Mr. Ole Arison.

Tragedy struck on more than one occasion; Alice passed away in 1936 from a blood clot after an appendix operation. In 1940, the barn burned to the ground after it was struck by lightning; five horses stabled in the barn were killed. William passed away at the age of sixty-nine years in 1941. Lenard passed away in 1975 following an operation. Mrs. Wilson resided on the farm until she passed away at the age of eighty-four years. Wilburt and I (Myrtle) still reside on the farm and are in reasonably good health.

In 1952 eight oil wells were drilled and some of



Wm. Wilson Family — 1918. Back Row: Wilbert and Mabel. Seated: Leonard and Myrtle.

the higher producing wells in the Joarcan field are on this property.

MIQUELON LAKE

MIQUELON LAKE

BRANDLAND

WILHELMINA CHURCH
S. BRANDLAND SCHOOL

JOHN KLEIN
RUDOLPH KLEIN
LYLE KLEIN

W. WILLISKA
LES COYKENDALL

JOHN NORDIN
ERNEST NORDIN
CONRAD WINDER

ANDERS TURNQUIST
REYNOLD NORDIN

JOHN KLEIN
RUDOLPH KLEIN
KEITH KLEIN

WALDUM
R. HATFIELD
S. ZELLER
W. ZELLER

JOHN KLEIN	WALDUM R. HATFIELD
RUDOLPH KLEIN	S. ZELLER
KEITH KLEIN	30 W. ZELLER

Brandland School No. 1797

At a rate payers meeting held in April of 1908, it was voted to purchase two acres of land on NE 6-49-20-W4 from Hansel Johnson to build a school. The purchase price was \$15.00. Hansel Johnson brushed the site for \$26.80 and Einar Broen received \$48.00 for freighting the lumber, while Jonas Anderson received \$95.00 for building the school.

Brandland school opened in April of 1910 with

twenty-two students attending. After eighty-four days of school, it was closed on August 14, 1910. At a meeting held on January 12, 1911, ratepayers decided to keep the school closed until July, due to a lack of funds. An application from Mr. Coldwell was received and accepted to teach. However he must have had second thoughts as he did not show up. Mr. Clugg was hired for four months at \$65.00 per month.



Elfert Johnson hauling wood to Brandland school — February 1932. No snow at that time.



Brandland School being moved to U.F.A. grounds.

A circular mailed to the board of trustees in 1914, informed them the Municipality No. 487 was nearly out of funds and with no bank credit was unable to finance the school until further notice. Because of insufficient funds the school board borrowed \$55.00 from A. K. Selin to meet accumulated expenses and \$350.00 from the Minister of Education for school supplies, paint and a well. Hansel Johnson was to dig the well and crib it for \$1.00 per foot to a depth of fifteen feet. He was also to paint the school for \$24.75.

Tenders were received at a meeting in February, 1916 for a caretaker and he was to supply wood. The lowest tender was P. A. Selin who was to receive ten cents a day to sweep the floor and start the fire and \$1.70 each time he washed the floor. John Person supplied wood at ninety cents a cord.

In 1920, it was decided to build a 12 x 14 barn on the north east corner of the grounds.

On July 19, 1920 Brandland School was struck by lightning and burned, so classes were held in Wilhelmina Church for the remainder of the summer.

A special meeting was held at Hansel Johnson's, regarding the construction of a new school and it was decided to build on the same location. The board was given the authority to secure a loan of \$3,000.00; they felt this was sufficient funds to build a new school and install a heating system. The money was received September 15, 1920 and to be paid back to the Merchant Bank of Canada in fifteen installments at not more than eight percent.

In 1921, they voted to protect the school from lightning by installing lightning rods at a cost of \$60.00.

On September 15, 1926 the sum of \$500.00 was borrowed to construct a teacherage on the school grounds. Due to the deterioration of the foundation, it was decided in 1928 to put it on a permanent founda-



Brandland School 1945. Back Row: Bonnie Coykendall, Doreen Johnson, Hampton Anderson, Dennis Forsen. Third Row: Irene Holdsworth, Greta Lickoch, Gladys Holdsworth, Billy Kisko, Nick Kisko, Ernie Johnson behind Nick. Second Row: Lloyd Dahl, Norman Dahl, Rueben Selin, George Holdsworth, Sylvan Johnson. Front Row: Leona Selin, Ryan Nordin, Lillian Dahl, Vernice Lein, Bertha Lickoch.



Class at Brandland School approximately 1928.

tion. Tenders were called and a bid from Einar Lindberg of \$21.00 was accepted. Upon completion of the foundation Einar agreed to give the teacherage two coats of paint on the outside and one inside for an additional \$17.00. It was agreed to rent the teacherage for \$3.00 a month including firewood and coal.

When an ad was put in the Edmonton Journal in July 1931 for a teacher over one hundred applicants were considered.

At a January meeting held in 1934 a motion was made, seconded and carried to plant trees on the north and west side of the school. H. E. Johnson asked \$25.00 for a strip two rods wide. The trees were ordered from the nursery at Indian Head, Sask.

In 1934 and 1935 Edwin Johnson supplied wood for the schol at sixty-eight cents a cord and P. A. Lund hauled coal from Dinant at \$1.50 a ton.

Because there was no power and water, the teacherage was moved in 1954 to the Thor Johnson farm across the road. In 1957 it was sold to John Erickson and moved to SE 20-49-20-W4. When this land was sold to the Provincial Park the teacherage was put up for tender, with Verner Johnson being the buyer and moved to his farm SW 8-49-20-W4, where it still stands today.

Brandland school No. 1797 served its purpose until 1956 when the trend to larger schools came and the children were bussed to Hay Lakes, Armena and Kingman.

In 1957, the grounds were sold to Alhard Johnson and the school to the East Hay Lakes Community Club. It was moved to an acreage on the southwest corner of Miquelon Lake, the NW 24-49-21-W4. Later it was purchased by East Hay Lakes Unifarm.

There is little left but fond memories to those who attended Brandland school; the pictures and sounds; the ring of the hand bell that called the children in from play; the big case of library books from which one could choose a book; the big maps that hung over the blackboard at the front of the room that helped one take imaginary journeys to far away places; the big school clock that slowly tick-tocked our school days away, which seemed even louder when kept in after school; the long row of lunch pails usually Gainers lard or Rogers syrup; occasionally a pupil would have a surprise at lunch time when he or she discovered they had mistakenly taken the breakfast syrup pail instead of their lunch; the large water crock with the thumb valve on the bottom was the center of attraction on a hot day until the supply ran out when a couple of students (who were assigned to keep the crock partially full for that week) would be off to Hansel Johnsons to replenish the supply; the pot-bellied stove with a case surrounding it, glowing red hot at times spreading its warmth outwards but not



Harold Rolseth — Teacher of Brandland School.

always reaching the furthest corner. Games that were played: softball, skating and hockey, Prisoners Base, Fox and Geese, Peewee, Cops and Robbers with the coalshed as a jail.

Teachers that have served Brandland school ranging from three months to four years;

1910	Mr. Purdy
1911	Joe Clugg
1912 to 1914	Miss Alice Roofe
1915	Patrick Moynihan
1915	Martin Peterson
1915	A. B. Thomson
1916 to 1920	Miss Alice Roofe
1921	Mr. Davidson
1921	Mrs. Olga Brown
1922	Mr. Davidson
1923	Miss K. L. Baker
1923	Miss Fraser
1923	Edwin G. McLeod
1924	Mr. Reynolds
1924	Miss Alice Kitchen
1924	Ethel Telning
1925	Ernest Vestine
1926	F. R. Milliken
1926	Mrs. C. Sandy
1927	Miss A. Simonson
1928	Inez Thronson

1929 to 1931	Mrs. Mary Gotierry
1931 to 1934	Arthur Erickson
1934 to 1936	Mr. Thor Hawkins
1936	Mrs. Thor Hawkins
1937	Miss Alackson
1938	Arthur Solheim
1938 to 1942	Nels Kvisle
1942 to 1946	Harold Rolseth
	Sady Stack
	Sonja Hanson
	Lillian Johnson
	Barbara Schmidt
	Verna Lomas
	Mrs. Cassidy
	Mrs. G. Saffran
	Mrs. E. McNary
	Mrs. Thelma Movold

Anderson Elis Andreas and Petra Bertina (nee Hanson)

Elis Andreas Anderson was born in Vesterbotten, Sweden on January 10th, 1889. He emigrated to Canada in 1909 from Wilhelmina, Sweden. He was sponsored by Mr. Jim Erickson of Armena, where Elis worked on a ranch for one year.

Later Elis Anderson helped build some of the railroads in Alberta. One line he worked on was from Edmonton to Edson and afterwards he worked on the Coal Branch line from Edson to Coalspur.

After a few years with the railroads, Elis Anderson decided to buy a quarter section of land from Mr. Iner Broen located NW 18-49-20-W4 eight miles east of Hay Lakes near Miquelon Lake.

Elis Andreas Anderson and Petra Bertina Hanson were married on March 31, 1914 at the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.



Elis Anderson Family and Ole (Son-in-law). L. to R.: Elmer, Estella, Ole Swanson, Viola Swanson, Mrs. Elis Anderson and Ole Anderson.

Petra Bertina Hanson was born in Crookston, Minnesota, U.S.A. on August 28th, 1887. Her parents died when she was three years old. Petra was then adopted by Mrs. Inga Lunde who brought Petra to Canada in 1901 to reside on a farm in the East Hay Lakes district of Lundemo.

Elis and Petra Anderson were blessed with three children: Elmer Lawrence born on September 20, 1915, Viola Syranie born on June 17, 1917, Estella Elvera Bertina born on August 23, 1919.

Their children grew up helping on the farm and attended school at Branland.

Elis Andreas Anderson passed away in October, 1957, and Petra Bertina Anderson (nee Hanson) passed away November, 1960.

Anderson Elmer Lawrence and Hulda Hazel (nee Schoenknecht)

Elmer Lawrence Anderson born September 20, 1915 was raised on his parents farm located approximately eight miles north-east of Hay Lakes.

At the age of eighteen years Elmer Anderson acquired a carpenters' certificate by taking various subjects through correspondence from the U.S.A. He helped build many of the neighbors' houses and barns. On November 12, 1947, Elmer Lawrence Anderson married Hulda Hazel Schoenknecht.

Hulda was born January 30, 1927, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Henrietta Schoenknecht of Hay Lakes. Hulda grew up on a farm with her two sisters, Annie and Adelia and two brothers, Wilhelm and Ewald and also a cousin Reinhold Rosenthal. This farm was located approximately three and a half miles south-east of Hay Lakes. Hulda attended a one room school at Thordenjold.

After Elmer and Hulda Anderson were married they remained on the farm NW 18-49-20-W4 with Elmer's parents Elis and Petra Anderson. In June of 1951 their first son, Dwayne Roger, arrived. Then in 1952 Elmer built a house for his parents on his sister and brother-in-law's farm, Walter and Estella Adamson. At this time Elmer had taken over the complete farming operations as well as continuing his carpentry skills.

Elmer worked as a carpenter at Elk Island Park, and Public Schools, for Watson Construction of Tofield and also worked as a contractor with his brother-in-law, Ole Swanson, Viola's husband, for the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. Then in the winter of 1972 the Alberta Government granted Elmer a refresher course at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology where he obtained an Alberta Journeymen's Certificate

Another talent of Elmer Anderson's was to be musically inclined. Elmer was involved with several

musical orchestras during the early part of his life. One of the first orchestras consisted of Mr. Henning Anderson who played the violin, Elmer's sister Estella who played guitar and Elmer who played the banjo. Afterwards Mr. Johnny Erickson joined, playing the ukulele. Elmer also played in an orchestra with Stanley Selin, Rudolf and Ted Swanlund, and Bernard and John Johnson. These orchestras played for various dances and special occasions in the district. Later, after Elmer's eldest son Dwayne grew up, Elmer and Dwayne played in an orchestra with Stanley Selin and his son Gary.

Elmer and Hulda Anderson were blessed with five healthy children:

Dwayne Roger born on June 14, 1951, Muriel Elaine born on August 4, 1953, Elwin Wilfred born on May 12, 1961, Derry Nathon born on June 7, 1968, Ross Dale born on August 19, 1970.

Their children grew up on the farm and attended the Hay Lakes School.



Elmer Anderson Family. Back Row: Dwayne, Elmer, Hulda and Elwin. Front Row: Derry, Ross and Muriel.

Dwayne Roger Anderson and Jocelyn Anne Anderson (nee Perras)

Dwayne Roger Anderson, born June 14, 1951, attended Hay Lakes School from Grades I through XII, graduating in 1969. Dwayne enrolled in Computer Systems Technology at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and graduated from N.A.I.T. in 1971. Because Dwayne had no practical experience in computers and this field was quite new in industry, Dwayne had a hard time finding that first job.

However, after working as a management trainee for the Bank of Commerce Dwayne started working for the Bridge Branch of Alberta Transportation (Edmonton) in 1972 as a computer programmer.

On July 16th, 1976 Dwayne Roger Anderson married Jocelyn Anne Perras.

Jocelyn, born October 14, 1953 was originally from Morinville, Alberta. Jocelyn worked for the Bridge Branch as a clerical worker when she met Dwayne.

Dwayne and Jocelyn constructed a house on an acreage southeast of Sherwood Park with help from Dwayne's father, Elmer Anderson. On July 11, 1978, their first child was born, Delaney Dawn, and on September 28, 1979 their second child, Jillian Rae.

Dwayne is currently employed by Alberta Energy and Natural Resources, Surveys and Mapping Bureau in the Research and Development Section as a Senior Systems Analyst.

Muriel Elaine Smolarchuk (nee Anderson) and Myron Bernard Smolarchuk

Muriel Elaine Anderson born August 4, 1953 attended the Hay Lakes School from Grades I through XII, graduating in 1971. Muriel then enrolled in a Secretarial Course at Henderson's Business College in Edmonton and graduated the Spring of 1972.

Muriel's first job was with the Alberta Provincial Government for the Electrical Protection Branch working with two Inspector Sepcialists in the Head Office. Later, after a couple of years, Muriel had the opportunity to compete for the position of head stenographer working with the Branch Manager of the Electrical Protection Branch. Muriel worked with the Branch Manager for approximately five years. During this time Muriel Elaine Anderson united in marriage with Myron Bernard Smolarchuk on May 8, 1976.

Myron Bernard Smolarchuk, born August 18, 1944 in Athabasca, attended his first eight years of school at Philomena which is located north of Lac La Biche. He also attended one year in Boyle and his three High school years in Lac La Biche. Myron graduated in 1960 then enrolled at the University of Alberta where he received his Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education. Myron has been teaching fifteen years with the Edmonton Separate School Board.

On December 30, 1978 their first child was born, Daniel Christopher. They are presently residing at 5907-94B Avenue in Edmonton.

Elwin Wilfred Anderson

Elwin Wilfred Anderson attended Hay Lakes school from Grades I through XII, graduating in 1979. Elwin is presently enrolled at the Lethbridge

Community College for two years. He is taking Environmental Science, Enforcement Option.

Elwin has been working as an assistant Ranger for the Alberta Parks at Miquelon Lake and at Big Knife Provincial Parks during the summer months. Elwin hopes to become a full time Park Ranger after graduating from Lethbridge.

Derry Nathon Anderson and Ross Dale Anderson

Both Derry and Ross are presently attending Hay Lakes School. Derry is finishing Grade seven and Ross is finishing Grade five.

The Blomander Family

Carl Otto Blomander emigrated from Ostergottland, Sweden to South Dakota, USA in 1902 at the age of nineteen. He was employed as a farm labourer for a number of years, then moved to Saskatchewan in 1912. He was granted a homestead in the district known as Old Wives and farmed a quarter section during which time he met, courted, and married a young lady by the name of Mary Pearl Carters. The Carters owned a large farm in the Mortlach district and Carl and Mary probably met as a result of his having business with Mr. Carters. On 2 Sept. 1920 they were married at Mortlach, Sask. and then commenced farming together. The first son, Carl Gilbert Allan, was born in Moose Jaw on 24 June 1921; a daughter, Helen Mary on 7 Dec. 1924 and the second son, Paul Otto on the 29 Dec. 1935. The prairies offered little protection from the onslaught of win-

ters' storms and the winter of 1935-36 was no exception. With snow drifted in almost to the crossbars on the telephone poles, the thought of making one's way to a distant hospital in December by conventional means had to be dispelled. A single engine mono-plane was flown in to transport Mary to Moose Jaw for the delivery of her last baby.

The 1930's offered little hope for prosperity from a farmer's point of view, consequently in the fall of 1937 Carl and Allan made their way by freight train to Hay Lakes to check out the possibility of obtaining land in Alberta where the prospects appeared brighter. Here Carl was re-united with his sister whom he hadn't seen in some time. Ellen Blomander, a few years older than Carl, had married John Carlson in Sweden and had immigrated with him to Canada and had settled in the Hay Lakes area about three miles east of town. Carl and Allan assisted with the harvest that year and discussed with John, the possibility of obtaining land in that area. Land at that time was relatively readily available and was owned by the Hudson's Bay Company or the CPR. A half section was chosen, six miles east and one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes, and in the spring of 1938 Carl moved his family to the new farm. A plot of land had to be cleared of trees, then a wood frame house (uninsulated) was constructed near the municipal roadway, which in those days was little more than a trail. Other buildings were constructed including a barn out of logs to keep costs to a minimum and to shelter the livestock. Chicken coops and chop sheds came a little later. Horses, cows, pigs and chickens were raised on the farm and not only yielded produce that could be sold in Hay Lakes, but also provided food for the table. Other sources of meat came from the woods and sloughs where there was an abundance of partridge, ducks and geese.

As the half section was almost entirely covered with poplar, willow and the odd birch, the only portion of it which could be cultivated was the low lands around the sloughs. Thus more emphasis was placed on raising livestock rather than grain as Saskatchewan was noted for. Each year saw an increase in the number of livestock but in 1941 the war in Europe had been raging for two years and in August, Canada entered the conflict, draining it of manpower which would normally have been able to cope with the increasing workload on the farms. Allan enlisted in the Navy in Sept. 1941; Al Norlander, his cousin, in the Army at the same time, and a couple of years later, his other cousin Harold Norlander, in the Navy as well. Meanwhile, Helen more or less took Allan's place on the farm, workwise, and finished her schooling at Brandland. Brandland was a rural school located about a half mile south of the farm and



Blomander Family — 1943. L. to R.: Carl, Helen, Mary, Allan, Leslie Coykendall, Paul in front.

in Sept. 1941 Paul started Grade one under the watchful eye of Mr. Harold Rolseth. The school was paid a visit by the School Inspector from Camrose a couple of times a year and one soon learned to stand to attention and recite a pre-arranged greeting on his arrival. Inspector Robinson would visit with each pupil, inspecting their work and asking questions which one hoped he would have the answer for. Mr. Robinson seemed very stern and one did not give him cause to linger any longer than necessary at your desk.

During the war, soldiers, sailors and airmen were allowed a month's leave to visit their families. Some were given time off in the autumn to help with the harvesting. Allan would almost inevitably get off the train at Hay Lakes and make his way home, sometimes on foot to surprise us. It was an event which we all looked forward to, especially our mother. Allan, as well as his cousins, were fortunate that no serious injuries or sickness precluded their opportunity to take their annual furlough. In Aug. 1945, Allan accepted his release from the Navy and started to enjoy the freedom he had fought for. Helen found life on a farm unsuitable and moved to Camrose where she was employed at the Alice Hotel and one or two of the cafes there, prior to moving to Edmonton where she was employed at the Cecil Hotel.

Paul continued in school at Brandland to Grade 9 and some of the teachers during that time were Mr. Rolseth, Mrs. Swaren, Miss Sicklesteel, Mrs. Stack, Mr. French, Miss Calvert, Miss Clarke, Mr. Cassidy and Mrs. Movold. Paul started Grade 9 in Hay Lakes but the location of the bus stop was changed and due to the distance away from home, finished the grade at Brandland with Mrs. Movold as teacher. All high school training was taken at Hay Lakes High School and some of the teachers there were Mr. Roberts, Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Waterman and Mrs. Atkinson.

Carl and Mary Blomander continued to farm in a lesser way until their retirement in 1957. After the war, Allan found employment with an oil drilling company out of Lloydminster while Helen moved from Edmonton to Uranium City. In 1956 Paul ventured to Great Bear Lake NWT and worked for a year as an acid plant operator. During the summer of 1957 he returned home and by this time his mother and dad had sold the farm and moved to Hay Lakes. They purchased a house once owned by Art Schaffrick. An addition was built to the house in the fall of 1957, the interior finishing being completed during the winter. There being no work of a desirable nature in the area at that time, Paul decided to enlist in the Provost Corps (MPs) and took his basic training at Shilo, Manitoba from Feb.-July 1958. Mary Pearl Blomander passed away at her home in Feb. 1965 after a

short illness and is buried at Wilhelmina Lutheran church cemetery. Carl Otto Blomander passed away at Wainwright in Nov. 1971 and he, too, is buried at Wilhelmina cemetery. Helen married Mr. Michael Prostilo who worked in the mines at Uranium City. Two children, Michael Jr. and Donna were born to this union, but due to a serious illness, Michael Sr. had to retire and consequently died in Edmonton. At this time Helen and Mike were living in Tofield but since his death she has returned to farming.

Allan's employment with the oil well company took him back to Saskatchewan where he married and settled down in Estevan. Ann and Allan raised four children, three boys, Bill, Dwight, and John, and one girl, Susan. In July, 1975 Allan passed away after a bout with cancer and Ann too, passed away in the summer of 1980 at Estevan. Paul accepted his release from the armed forces at Penhold, Alberta in December 1979 and is at present employed at CFB Penhold. Paul married Shirley Richardson in Halifax while on duty there in 1959 and six children have been born: Inez, Carl, Paul, Robert, Shelley and Sherrey. All children have finished school save Sherrey who commenced Grade one at Penhold in Sept. 1981.



Paul Blomander, 22 years in the Military Police.

In June 1980 a family reunion of the Carlson family and relatives was held at Miquelon Lake and the Hay Lakes Hall. This gathering helped to renew old friendships and gave one a chance to relive some of the experiences of earlier times.

In retrospect, life in the 30, 40 and early 50's seemed to pass by at a slower pace compared with

today. For one thing there was no television so one had to use his imagination while listening to his favorite radio program. Work around a small farm took up a good amount of time because there were no conveniences and few machines to help; wood had to be hauled, sawn, split and stacked to dry, hay, after being cut and dried had to be stacked, grainfields stooked. Coal had to be acquired and often came from the Dodds mine, hauled in by a local trucker. Livestock had to be cared for and a bountiful crop gleaned from the oversized garden. Harvest time was a busy time in our area and it went without saying that the boys in school would undoubtedly be away for periods of up to two weeks to assist in this activity. Stooking, a thing of the past now, hardened one's hands and back. Threshing was carried out from dawn to dusk but you were amply rewarded with three grand meals and lunches a day.

Brandland School, like other schools in the Hay Lakes area was a wood frame single-room building which held all grades from one to eight. Perhaps we were at an advantage in those days, going to school with others in the same room who were in a higher grade. One could not help overhearing the activities of those in higher grades and knew what to expect in regards to what was required in that grade the next year.

Christmas at a rural school was quite different than in today's schools. Every grade was involved, each having a play, recitals or carols to practise. A few days before the Christmas concert, the boys would get the supports and planking from the coal shed and build the stage on one side of the classroom. The girls would decorate and do any painting of Christmas scenes on the background as well as hang the curtains for the front. The Christmas concert was a big event in the school year and was presented during the evening usually on the day preceeding the Christmas holidays. That night the school room would be packed with mothers, fathers and other relatives and at the conclusion of the events put on by the classes, the younger pupils watched in awe and wonder as Santa made his appearance.

Another event which was looked forward to was the annual sport's day, usually held in Camrose with all the surrounding schools participating. Track and field events went first with the day culminating with the softball games. Then at the end of the school year in June a picnic was held which was attended by all pupils and their families. Games and sometimes animations were held with the adults participating as well. Everyone always had a good time at these functions, a few games, a good lunch and the thought that the next two months was yours to do with however you wished. Sometimes ice cream was

made in a wooden ice cream maker which had to be cranked but there never seemed to be a want for volunteers to crank it even though it was quite difficult near the end.

There were hardships too, which pupils nowadays do not encounter. For instance, depending on the location of one's farm, pupils trudged anywhere from one-quarter to three and a half miles to school come rain or snow or any other form of inclement weather. Lunch was always taken and eaten at school and there being no buses, the next cheapest and fastest means of travelling was by skis, bicycle, or snowshoes. During the 40's a youngster would grow up invariably without his older brother and sometimes without his sister who were away at war, the reason for which you couldn't fully comprehend.

Carlstrom, Erick and Family

by Anna (Carlstrom) Lofgren

My father, Erick Carlsson, was born in Asele, Sweden in 1888. In 1910 he emigrated to South Dakota with an uncle. There he worked at various jobs, and kept very busy learning to read and write the English language. Here he decided to change his name to Carlstrom as there were so many "Carls-sons" in that area. In 1912, he came to Alberta and worked on the railway in the Taber and Medicine Hat areas of Southern Alberta.

My mother, Agnes Erickson, was born in Vannas, Sweden in January, 1895. At the age of eighteen she emigrated to Alberta to the Highland Park area (Ferintosh). That first summer she worked at the home of Eric Stromberg; later that year she obtained employment at the Wetaskiwin Hotel in Wetaskiwin for the fabulous wage of fifteen dollars a month.

My father and mother were married in February of 1916 (no big wedding or honeymoon trips). They were married at the home of Pastor Sandin.

They farmed at Ferintosh for three years, then in 1919 decided to move to the Hay Lakes area, and settled on S.E. 12-49-21-W4 in February of that year.

The cows, horses and young stock were shipped by railway car to Armena. They then started off with a team of horses and hayrack. With hay in the rack, their worldly possessions were bedded down, and they travelled as far as Camrose the first day. There they left their horses in a livery barn. They stayed at the old Feather Brae Hotel, then the next day they continued their journey.

On this farm there was a small log house with a lean-to covered with black tar paper which was to be their first home. Ten years later an addition was built on, but the old log structure still stands.

The Wilhelmina Church had been built on the very southeast corner of our land.



Back Row: Eric Carlstrom and Clifford. Front Row: Herbert, Mrs. Agnes Carlstrom and Anna.

Homesteading in those early years was a difficult undertaking. Very little land was broken, so brush had to be cleared by hand, then the land had to be broke by horse-power. It took money to build the house, barn and outbuildings. Horses, livestock and machinery had to be purchased as time and money permitted.

Here my parents raised their family. There was my brother Clifford, myself, and my younger brother Herbert. Here we attended Brandland school. Inez Thronson was my Grade one teacher.

My parents continued farming until 1954, when they retired to Camrose. My father passed away in November, 1966, at the age of seventy-eight. My mother still resides there and at the age of eighty-six, tends to her house and garden.

In September of 1943, I married Ivar Lofgren and we lived on N.E. 9-49-21-W4. Here our family grew up, Roger, Debbie and Darlene. We continued farming until 1971 when we moved to Edmonton. I obtained employment at the Good Samaritan Hospital and have worked there since. Ivar has been employed by Department of Highways.

Roger is married and lives in Cold Lake, Debbie lives in Edmonton and Darlene is in Prince Edward Island. We have two grandchildren, Darcy and Candice.

My brother, Clifford married Lena Koshman from Willingdon in July of 1945. They live in Ed-

monton and have a family of four: Barry, Sydney, Ingrid and Arlene. In 1954, Herbert married Elva Hoflin of La Glace. They also have a family of four: Neil, Rodney, Lyle and Carol. They live at Bear Canyon, Alberta (in the Fort St. John area).

Coykendall, Annie

Annie Gibson was born on May 8, 1898 and came to Alberta in 1920 to keep house for her brother. Being an excellent cook, she was employed at Cox's cafe in Hay Lakes for a year during 1921. After she was married, she resided in the Kingman district where her three children Fred, Leslie and Lorene (Bonnie) were born. After living here for twelve years she moved to the Miquelon-Brandland area where the children continued their schooling. Presently, she resides with her son, Leslie, who farms in the Brandland area. Her eldest son, Fred, farms in the Kingman district. He and his wife, Luella (Christensen) have four children namely, Larry, Linda (Mrs. Larry Banack), Beverly and Freddie Junior. Lorene (Bonnie) married Robert Ellis. They have one son, Robert, and are presently residing in Edmonton.



The Coykendall Family. Back Row: Leslie and Fred. Front Row: Annie and Bonnie.

Annie Coykendall is an avid gardener, which is evident by the numerous plants and flowers bordering her house. Although her eyesight is failing she manages to take care of her home.

Ellis, Bonnie Lorene Isabelle (Coykendall)

I was born on May 3, 1931. I moved to the Brandland district with my mother, Annie Mae Coykendall, and my two brothers, Fredrick James

(Fred) Coykendall and Leslie Arthur (Les) Coykendall when I was five years old. I recall many happy memories of my childhood years at home.

The families of the community of Brandland were always friendly and helpful people. The children at Brandland School participated in the Camrose Inspectorate School Festival in 1941, held at the Bailey Theatre. The Brandland students won their fair share of the competition awards for solos, music and other academic standards of achievement. I recall the many hours Anita (Mrs. Elfert Johnson) spent with the students at her home after school, helping us practise our solos in preparation for the festival.

Through the efforts of parents and teachers the students at Brandland had gymnastic equipment, a piano and hot meals served at noon once weekly during the winter months. Each family in turn provided the meat and vegetables on a weekly basis. The meals were prepared at the school teacherage by the students.

I remember the Christmas Concerts held at the school. One in particular remains vivid in my mind. We learned the National Anthems of Sweden and Norway and sang them in their linguistic lyrics as well as "O Canada".

Harold Rolseth in teaching us the lyrics of these anthems explained their meaning in English. We were proud students having learned to sing these songs at Christmas in our community.

The picnic held at the end of each school term was always a happy event with many hands turning the ice-cream makers. A good turn out of families came to share in the occasion.

Following my education at Camrose High School I was employed with Alberta Government Telephones, having worked at Camrose, Stettler, Peace River and Edmonton through the years.

I married Robert Esley (Bob) Ellis on February 25, 1953, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police stationed at Camrose. We have one son, Robert David (Robbie) Ellis. We now live in Edmonton.

Jonas A. Danielson Family by Emmy Broen

Jonas and Monica Danielson came to Canada from Granliden, Vesterbotton, Sweden June of 1904. At the time they left Sweden young married couples could see no future in Sweden where times were hard. They set out with their three small children, Hildegard, Alex and Edith. Many hardships were



Jonas Danielson's Home. L. to R.: Hildegard, Emmy, Monica, Edith, Hilder Selin, Alex, Elder Selin. Taken in about 1921.

endured crossing the Atlantic in those days due to the quality of the boats, poor food, sea sickness and unsanitary conditions. They reached Wetaskiwin (the end of the railway in those days), and they knew no one, but happened to meet someone who knew the Stabos family, who had a place a mile south of the old Lundemo Post Office. Here they were able to rent a little log shack with a sod roof. When the rains came mud seeped through the roof ruining clothing etc. Monica Danielson was very lonely and sad when she first came. Living in the little log cabin with the sod roof did not help. One day as she was sitting and dozing in a chair, she had this very vivid dream, she saw her mother in Sweden saying to her how lucky she was to live in North America as the times were so hard in Sweden. Monica awoke and from that day on made up her mind that she would make a good life for herself and her children in this new land. Then Jonas got a job working for Mr. Knut Lysengs and made a few dollars. With this money, and money obtained when he sold butter that Monica had made, he would walk to the nearest town, Wetaskiwin, to buy staples and carry them back, often in a sack over his back. Around 1905, Jonas filed for a homestead six miles east of Hay Lakes (S.E. 6-49-20-W4M). Here he built himself a log house so his family would have a proper home. Gradually they obtained cows, a horse and oxen. On this homestead three more children were born Henry, Emmy and Nanny. After a few years Jonas purchased S.W. 6-49-20-W4M and enlarged his log home. He also purchased CPR land N ½-5-49-20-W4M, east of Brandland School. We all attended the Brandland school until it burned down after being hit by lightning. A temporary school was set up in Wilhelmina Church until a new school was built. In 1940 after Monica passed away, Jonas decided to retire. He sold his north-half section to Thor Johnson. When Jonas passed away in 1949 his family sold the homestead and south west quarter to Norman Selin, who presently farms there.

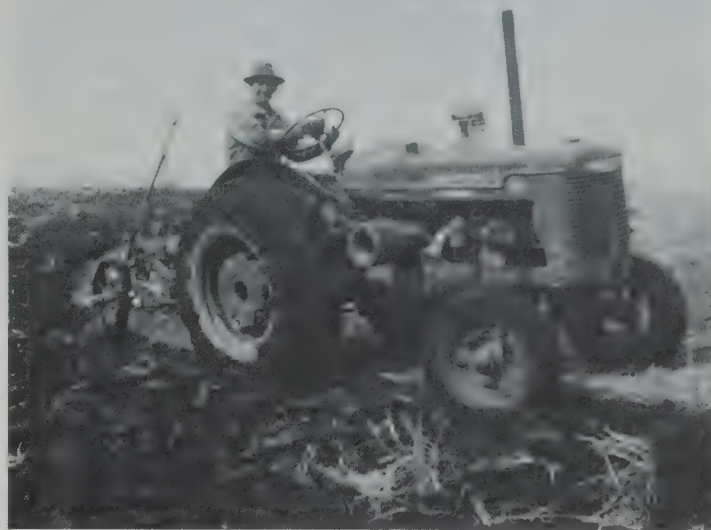
Alex passed away at the age of 26, Nanny at the age of one and a half years. My oldest sister Hildergard passed away December 25th, 1981. Edith suffers from arthritis and is presently at the Auxiliary Hospital in Wetaskiwin. Henry is retired and lives in Vancouver at a seniors' lodge. I (Emmy) farmed three miles north east from Hay Lake, after my husband Einar Broen passed away July 4th, 1968, I sold the farm to my son (Dennis) and bought a house in Edmonton, where I presently live.

Axel Dahlin

Axel Dahlin, born August 26, 1900 came to Canada from Vilhelmina, Sweden with his stepfather Paulus Matson in 1922 and purchased a quarter of

Canadian Pacific Railroad land. He farmed this land until 1966. It was then purchased by Ed Nordin.

Before retiring to Camrose he spent a great deal of time with his niece, Mrs. Gordon Simonson. He moved to Camrose and lived in a basement suite owned by Elias Anderson.



1960 — Axel Dahlin plowing.

Due to failing health he moved back and lived with the Simonsons for sometime. In December, 1973 he moved to Bethany Sunset Home. Then in January 1978 he moved to the Nursing Home and spent the past two years as a patient in the Auxiliary Hospital. Axel Henning Dahlin passed away October 17, 1981. He filled a meaningful place in life. He was appreciated by many and leaves good memories.

Erickson, John U. Mr. and Mrs.

My father emigrated to Canada in the early spring of 1904 and homesteaded seven miles north-east of Bawlf in 1905. Mother came to Canada three years later and they were married in Bawlf on November 12, 1907 by Rev. J. J. Carlson. Dad worked at railway grade construction throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan during the summer and fall seasons from 1904 until he was injured in a train wreck in the late fall of 1912.

In 1909 he worked at building grade on a new Canadian Pacific Railroad branch line east of Calgary, extending from Langdon to Irricana and Drumheller. I was born that summer in a railway camp twenty miles north of Langdon.

My early childhood days were spent on the homestead except for a year during 1910-11 when we lived in Ferintosh. My education began at Oak Park school in September of 1917 with Ella Sparby as teacher. I remember walking the two miles on my first day of

school in company with a neighbour boy, John Gesshe. I liked my teacher for I remember her as a very kind, understanding person. I remember my participation in the Christmas program at Oak Park, and how self conscious I was at facing the audience. I also remember how we would huddle around the big coal heater on cold winter mornings so we could warm up before classes began.

For a time I walked, but later my father bought me a nice buckskin pony so I could drive to school in a buggy. Our closest neighbours, the Paulson children, also drove to school in a buggy hitched to a pinto pony, and after school dismissed it was a race to the barn to see who could get hitched up first and then race for home. I shudder to think of it now but time and time again we would race the two miles home, side by side on that dusty country road with our ponies running at full gallop. I would stand in the buggy with my knees braced against the dashboard, like a Roman Charioteer, with a small whip in my hand urging my pony to run even faster. The way those buggies bounced over gopher and badger holes it's remarkable that we suffered no serious accident. It was a good thing for us that our parents didn't know what we were doing! When winter came, Dad bought a brand new McLaughlin cutter, and with warm bricks to warm my feet and blankets to cover my lap, I rode in real style and comfort. Nellie Svenson also taught at Oak Park school during the term of 1918-19, and boarded with us.

In the spring and summer of 1919 Allied school was built just two miles south of our place. Our homestead was in the new Allied School District, so for me it meant leaving Oak Park and going to Allied. I attended school at Allied from September to November in 1919.

During those early years much of the land adjoining our homestead was open prairie and unfenced. I learned to ride horseback at an early age, and I have fond memories of riding my buckskin pony over prairie trails to bring the cows home for milking. At that age it was a real adventure to follow old roads and explore the countryside.

I remember particularly well the dreaded Spanish Flu epidemic during the fall of 1918. Thousands of people died and in some cases entire families were wiped out. Our family was very fortunate in escaping this deadly epidemic, and I remember the gauze masks that we were required to wear over the nose and mouth when we went somewhere.

My parents sold the homestead in the fall of 1919 and moved to Camrose where Dad took a position with the Manning-Sutherland Lumber Company. Then in the spring of 1921 our family moved to Kingman where Dad took over the management of

the Manning-Sutherland lumber yard. This firm was later purchased by Beaver Lumber Co. Ltd.

Ted Severson started a general store in Kingman about the time we moved in, so after school and on Saturdays I would do odd jobs for him, and look after the store while he ate his meals. He had a summer cabin in the narrows between first and second Miquelon Lakes and occasionally he would invite me to spend the week-end with him which to me was a real thrill. He owned a Gray-Dart touring car, and taught me how to drive it. When he sold his business to Duncan Sampson I continued at the same job. Mr. Sampson had a summer cottage on first Miquelon Lake and I enjoyed the great pleasure of spending many a week-end with him at his cabin. He was a great naturalist and we would often paddle his canoe among the islands in the lake to observe the bird life there. The last summer he was in Kingman he asked me to drive his model "T" touring loaded with groceries and sell to the local farmers in the community. This was a new innovation in merchandising. Mr. Sampson finally closed his business in Kingman and opened a grocery store in Camrose. I moved to Camrose with him and worked in his store for a few months.

Thor Grahn operated an implement business in Kingman for a few years and during one summer I assembled quite a number of Deering horse binders for him. They came shipped in boxes and crates and had to be put together. I got \$5.00 for each binder that he sold.

During the winter of 1926-27 I took a course in automobile and tractor mechanics at a trade school in Edmonton and received my diploma. In the spring of 1927 I went to Wainwright where I had a job as bookkeeper for the Manning-Sutherland Lumber yard. I spent the summer in Wainwright, and in the fall of the same year was transferred to Forestburg. Joe Gosnell was the manager at that time.

While working in Wainwright I met a pretty, young lady who was later to become my wife. Babs Renville was born in Judyville, Illinois on July 3, 1910 and moved to Canada in 1912 where her parents took up a homestead south-east of Wainwright. A few years later her parents moved into town where her father owned and operated a meat market for a number of years. Mr. Renville later became Fire Chief and the Chief of Police. I had great respect for him, naturally, and while courting his daughter I was always very careful to be on my best behavior. Babs worked for a time in the Photo Studio and later in the Post Office. This was good reason for me to walk up town several times a day to see if there was any mail. She later entered the school of nursing at the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton.

In December of 1927 I was transferred to Head Office in Camrose, where I worked until being transferred to Red Deer in the latter part of April in 1929. Before moving to Red Deer Babs and I decided to share our life together so we were married on April 8, 1929. We lived in Red Deer during 1929, 1930 and part of 1931 where I then held the position as assistant manager in the lumber yard. The City of Red Deer was a fine place to live, and very sportsminded. I became very active in sports at that time, and participated in baseball, hockey, tennis, basketball, fast-ball, curling and bowling.

In August of 1931 I was transferred to Killam as manager of the lumber yard there. Our daughter Barbara Jeanne was born in Killam on March 5, 1933, an event that brought us much joy and happiness.

Then in the spring of 1935 we decided to go farming, so we moved into the Wilhelmina-Brandland district and settled on a farm that earlier had been homesteaded by J. I. Berglund, on the SE 20-49-20-W4. This was during a period following the depression years that began with the great stock market crash in October of 1929. There was very little money to be had for a few years but everybody seemed to have plenty of food, most of it home-grown. Despite hard times there was a fine community spirit of togetherness and co-operation everywhere, with the church and the school being the centre of much of our social life and activities.

Our daughter Barbara Jeanne attended school at Brandland, three miles from home. Her teacher was Harold Rolseth who lived in the teacherage on the school grounds. The Holdsworth children who lived nearby also attended the same school so when the weather was nice the three girls would walk, otherwise I would drive them to school.

We were shocked and saddened in the sudden death of our only child on February 27, 1943 from virus pneumonia which developed from a common cold. She was almost ten years old when she died.

During the years of World War II a great number of young people were still living in the Brandland-Wilhelmina district which later became known as East Hay Lakes, which also included Sulitjelma and Swan Hill. Wilhelmina Church had a very active Luther League group of young people, so with the inclusion of Sulitjelma and Swan Hill into the East Hay Lake area it was decided to organize a district social club known as the Cheery Chums Social and Recreation Club. This organization proved to be a tremendous success. Meetings were held once a month at various homes in the community, and at times nearly one hundred people young and old would attend. The club would regularly pack parcels

and send them to the men from the community who were in the Armed Forces overseas.

On April 13, 1950 we were again blessed with the birth of another daughter, Karen Doreen. As she grew up she took a great liking to farm life. Her farm pets included innumerable dogs, cats, bantam chickens, calves, ducks, geese, and also her own saddle pony. In early spring the mother cats would have their kittens, so one day her grandmother asked her how the cats were doing. She replied, "Not very good, I've only got thirteen so far."



The J. U. Erickson Family. John, Babs and Karen.

Babs and I took a very active part in local and community activities, and in other organizations too. Babs served as secretary and then as president of the local Ladies Aid Society, which by the way at one time had a man as their President — Mr. John Person! Later Babs served as secretary and then as President of the Women's Missionary Society — Alberta District. She taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and also served on committees with many local organizations in the community. Later she served a two-year term as the lone Canadian representative on the Board of Directors, Women's Missionary Society in Chicago, Illinois.

For my part I have also been very active in local and regional organizations. Locally I have held office in the Farmers Union, Cheery Chums Club, Armena Home and School Association, Armena Rural Electrification Association, Agricultural Service Board — Municipal District of Camrose. In the Church I served as Deacon, Trustee, Luther League President and Statistician and Executive Board Member of Lutheran Church in America-Canadian Section. Other offices held were Vice-President and Director of the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool for eleven years, Vice-President and Director of the Alberta

Dairymen's Association, and Chairman of the Agricultural Economics Advisory Committee, University of Alberta.

In 1956 the Lion's Club in Camrose purchased approximately one hundred acres of lake front land from Mrs. Victoria Berg, who later married Earle Reiersen. This land bordered the south-east shore of the third Miquelon Lake and had been used by local people for many years for picnics, swimming and camping. There was a beautiful sandy beach with lots of trees nearby for shade and shelter.

In April of 1958 the Parks Branch of the Alberta Government took over the property from the Lions Club and established it as a Provincial Park. In May that same year I was asked to consider taking a position as Park Warden at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park, to take charge of operations and development. I accepted the offer, and held this position until the end of February in 1965. Then on the first of March I received a promotion to Regional Manager of the Southern District with fifteen Provincial Parks under my supervision. I held this position until my official retirement in July of 1974.

The Parks Branch felt the need of further expansion at Miquelon Park, so in the summer of 1965 they purchased my farm which is now part of the Park.

My office and Headquarters was located in Lethbridge so we bought a new home and moved into it the end of April 1965. Karen completed her High School education and one year of University after attending public school in Armena and Hay Lakes. In October of 1969 Karen married Darrel Lewko, and they presently own and operate three dry cleaning plants in Lethbridge. They have two children, Candace and Todd.

Since retirement I have spent my summer months supervising special construction projects for the Parks Branch. Babs keeps busy with activities within the church and has supervised the Vacation Bible School program for the past twelve years. I am a member of the Church Council and am very active in many societies and organizations in Lethbridge.

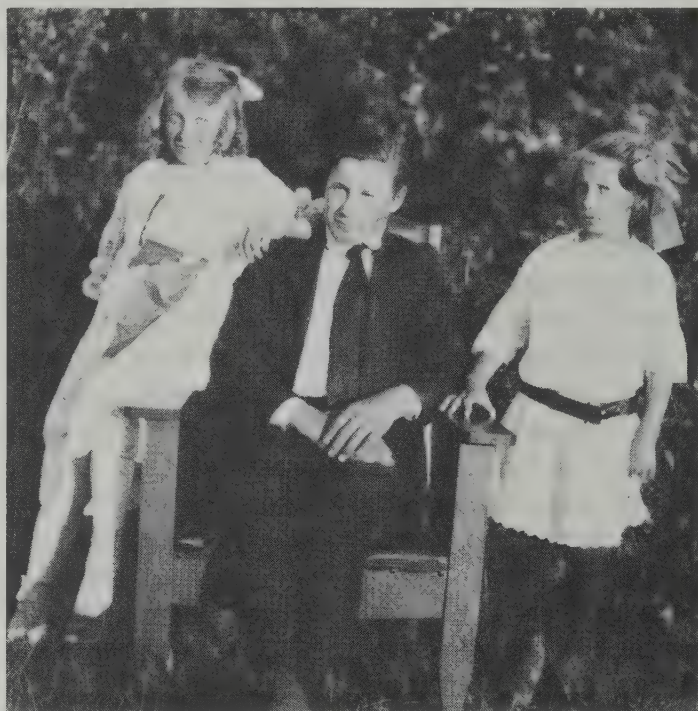
Babs and I have enjoyed a good happy life together and we celebrated our Golden Wedding anniversary on April 8, 1979. We have made many friends in Southern Alberta, and we like the city of Lethbridge. However, we still treasure many fond memories of the years that we spent in the Kingman, Wilhelmina and Hay Lakes area.

Hanson, Hans Erik and Agatha and Family

Erik Hanson (Erik is the name he used) was born on August 26, 1876. He and his wife, Agatha (Matson), born on November 15, 1879 were in a party of

thirteen (eight adults and five children) who emigrated from Vilhelmina, Sweden, arriving in Canada in May, 1905. The party included Mr. and Mrs. J. Amandus Johnson and their son, Thor; Amandus and Lovisa Hanson and their four children — Gerda, Hanny, Helga and Erik August; Peter Hanson, and a Mr. Carlsson who had worked on the Amandus Hanson farm in Sweden. (Carlsson died later from gas in a water well which he was digging for a settler.)

They came to the Lundema district and stayed with friends until homesteads were found and homes built. Shortly after their arrival in Canada a son, Helge, was born on June 28, 1905 to Erik and Agatha.



Gulle, Helge and Blanche Hanson children of Erik and Agatha Hanson. Taken 1919 (Gulle died from pleurisy in 1923).

The Erik Hansons settled on SE 24-49-21-W4, their homestead, close to Miquelon Lake. Here they built their log home which, with additions and improvements, became their permanent home. More land was acquired: section 19-49-21-W4 which joined the shores of Miquelon Lake was mostly used as pasture; and NW 13-49-21-W4 also became part of their mixed farming operation. Besides cattle and horses, sheep were also raised for a supply of wool and meat. For many years a good supply of water was a problem. Cattle were herded to the lake to drink, and water was hauled in barrels for the other farm animals. When rain water was scarce for the family wash the hard water was softened by adding a strong lye solution made of water which had seeped through a container of wood ashes.

In the early years the grain was cut, stooked and

left to dry. It was then stacked before it was threshed. As more land was cultivated threshing the grain of the field after it had been cut and stooked became the common procedure. Threshing time was always exciting for the youngsters. The rattle of the wagons driven by the threshing crew, which generally consisted of as many as sixteen men, was a sure sign of the culmination of the harvest season.

The Erik Hansons were noted for their warm hospitality; their door was always open to people who came from a distance to attend the Wilhelmina Church Conferences. Visiting clergy and their families were regular guests. Often the home was crowded, but with their old country custom a hearty welcome greeted all.



Helge holding Mariam, Agatha (Hanson) Nordfelt, Blanch and Hans Palm.

A niece, Hanny Hanson, joined the family after her parents' death (see Amandus Hanson). On January 9, 1910 a daughter Gulle was born. She died on June 30, 1923 from the after-effects of the 1918 Spanish 'Flu. Blanche, their second daughter, was born on September 9, 1912.

In 1918 Erik Hanson became ill with the Spanish 'Flu. He died on November 7 that same year. In September, 1925 Agatha Hanson married Knut Nordfeldt. Knut was born on September 13, 1877 at Lysekil, a seaport north of Gothenberg, Sweden.

Helge and Knut continued farming together. The Nordfeldts also continued welcoming others into their home. Knut's nephews, Holger and Oscar Nordfeldt, made their home there for several years before returning to Sweden. Jonas Osberg considered this his second home as did Knut's brother-in-law, Andrew Olson, in his declining years.



Back Row: Oscar and Knut Norfeldt, Edwin Olson, Helge and Blanche Hanson, Holgar Nordfelt. Seated: Andrew Olson.



1958 Johnas Eastberg.

Interest in the Wilhelmina Church also continued; Blanche and her mother were instrumental in organizing the Junior Mission Band.

On completing Public school in Brandland, Blanche took her High school in Camrose and received her Teacher's Certificate in 1931 from the Camrose Normal School. Blanche taught school for a number of years until she married Hans Palm and changed her career to that of a farmer's wife. They farmed in the Armena district. Hans and Blanche had one daughter, Marian. Blanche passed away on September 4, 1954. Knut Nordfeldt died on June 6, 1944; his wife, Agatha, died on August 13, 1945. Helge continued farming but cut down his workload. He sold his land on the south side of the road, NW 13-49-21-W4 to Clarence Sware. On March 22, 1956 Helge suffered a heart attack and passed away.

Through the estate the land was sold. Joe Duggan bought the east half of section 19 which he later sold to be included in the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. Vernon Lyseng of Armena bought SW 19-49-21-W4 and the south half of SE 24-49-21-W4. Stollery, also of Armena, purchased the north half of SE 24-49-21-W4 and NW 19-49-21-W4 which is partly lake.

This pioneer family played a vital part in building a foundation of a community and church. They are truly worthy of being remembered in this History Book of Hay Lakes and District.

Hatfield, Ralph and Fannie

My maiden name was Fannie Burrel. I was born on March the fifth, 1892 in Kemptville, Nova Scotia. Ralph was born on January seventeenth, 1889, also in Kemptville. We were married at the home of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Burrel, Kemptville, Nova Scotia. My dear husband died a year ago after sixty-one years of married life.

We went to Alberta in 1919 as bride and groom and landed in the Lundemo district, south of the Brandland school. My husband and I were of English and Scotch parentage, and when we landed in a Scandinavian community we were as green as could be about farming there. The neighbours far and near were good to us and had many a laugh over our queer ways, or so it seemed to them. We bought a quarter section of land and built it up from the rough, house, barn and granaries. (We were both born on farms and loved the life.) We went there thinking we could till the soil easier there because of the rich black soil and no rocks, but alas, there were many large poplar trees on our land and it was cruel work to root them out, cut them up for firewood, and plough and harrow before the crop was ready to seed. OH! OH! it was a hard struggle and by the time we had a hundred acres in crop and got all the new buildings, our strength was gone.

We lived on the sale of cream, and raised pigs and poultry. We went to Hay Lakes, a distance of eight miles with eggs to Mr. Larson's store where we bought all our groceries. The cream went to the creamery. In the depression years the price fell to twelve cents per pound of butter fat; eggs were three to four cents per dozen so most of us fed them to the calves after liberally using them in the house. We gave lots of eggs and butter to our town friends when they visited us.

One comical incident I must tell. I had a little white pony named Susie, and it was my task to haul the eggs and cream to Hay Lakes, perhaps twice a week. After a heavy rain the day before we set out, and when we came to a creek, the water was close to the top of the pole bridge and Susie said, "No" —



Fannie Hatfield and Susie taken about 1925.

she wasn't going over. I assured her she had been over that bridge many times and she could go that day too. She made a big jump and over we went. I grabbed the handle of the cream can and saved that, but the twelve-dozen eggcrate went flying. Of course, every egg was smashed. I tied Susie to a bush and collected the wooden crate, climbed into the buggy and went on, looking somewhat bedraggled on arriving in Hay Lakes, and when I told folks about my adventures, they had a big laugh. After our errands we returned home safely.

My husband used to shear sheep for Mr. Pithouse and also for Mr. Sam Holmer. I learned to spin yarn on a Norwegian spinning wheel and am enclosing a picture of me sitting and spinning in front of our little log house.

Brandland school had a teacherage with a resident teacher most of the time. The scholars numbered between thirty and forty, but attendance varied greatly during spring ploughing and seeding, summer-fallowing, and harvest in the fall, when help was needed at home. It was a busy round and we were lucky if we could snatch a few days off and go to Banff, providing we could find a chore-person to care for the cows and pigs. It was nearly two hundred miles to Banff, a lively place to visit, and more so after the roads improved.

For the social life there were the churches, all Lutheran, and the people gradually talked more English. Then there were the annual church picnics and Ladies Aid meetings monthly; I enjoyed these.

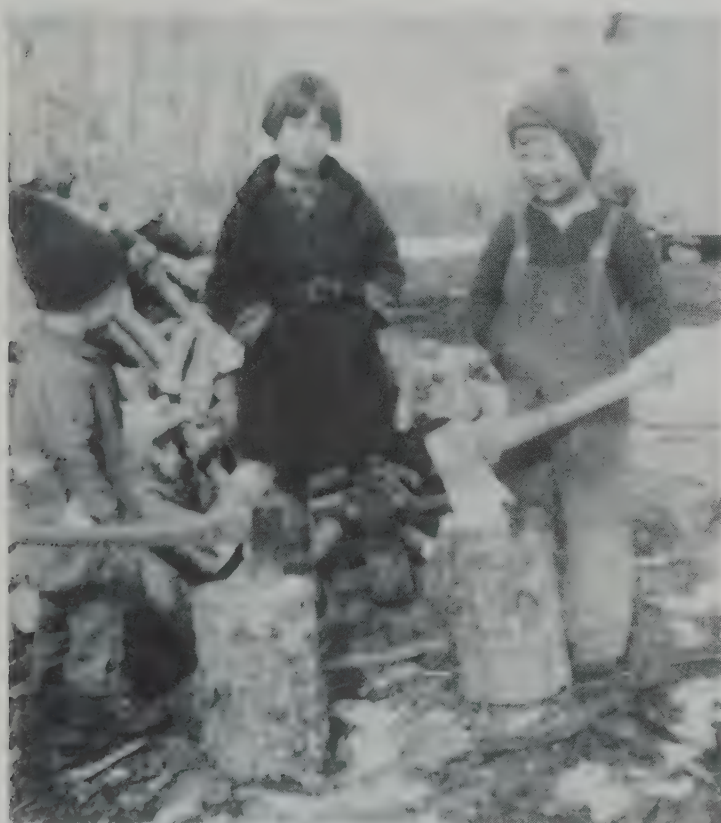
All in all it was a good life and it was with deep regret when we left the farm and all our dear friends. We had put our roots down deep after over thirty years of residence there. My husband's health made it difficult to carry on. After living in Edmonton for four years, we returned to Nova Scotia where we were born and grew up.

I am now eighty-nine years old, possibly I am

one of your most elderly correspondents and living perhaps the greatest distance away. I am still quite well and strong and live in a Senior Citizens Home of fifteen apartments in Hebron, Nova Scotia.

Holdsworth, Eddie and Family

I was the youngest child born to Maurice and Ellen Holdsworth on August 6, 1937 on NE 17-49-20-W4. As a child I did not have an overabundance of material things which we associate with the "good life" as it is known today. We had enough food to eat, a warm home heated by a wood burning stove and heater, sufficient clothing, not always the best and a large family to share our experiences with. By today's standards we would call it a frugal existence, but in my estimation it was the ideal time for a boy to grow up.



Eddie, Gladys and George Holdsworth 1939.

One of the first memories I can recall with clarity was not a very happy one, and happened when I was about three or four years old. Like most small farms, we had about twenty head of cattle, five horses, about twenty-five pigs, twenty turkeys and forty or fifty hens. Then hens were white leghorns, except for one, which was a beautiful golden brown hen and I called her "Brownie". She was my favourite, a real pet, and I loved her. Being the only brown hen among all the white ones she began to take the brunt of the attacks from those turkeys! One morning as I went out to feed the chickens, I did not see her come to

meet me, so I started to search for her, but couldn't find her with the other hens. I saw the turkeys gathered in a bunch in front of the granary so went over to them, as I approached, the bunch started to break up and in their midst, lying on the ground was the mutilated, lifeless body of Brownie. Tears came to my eyes as I stooped to pick up the limp bloody form of that once beautiful bird. Those tears of sorrow were not long in turning into tears of rage, and I searched for something with which to extract my revenge. The first suitable thing was the handle of a broken hockey stick which had been made from a willow bush. Only those turkeys would know the wrath of a three-year-old boy evening up the score of their horrendous act.

The war years are vivid in my memory because of the many discussions by our parents, relatives and neighbours of the battles won and lost by our Armed Forces over in Europe. Everyday it was mentioned on the newscasts received by our battery-operated Crossley radio. Batteries were expensive and one set had to last at least six months, everybody had to be quiet when Dad was listening to the news as the volume had to be kept down to save on the batteries. The war became part of the games I and my brother George, three years older than me, played. There was always the two sides, "the Allies and the Axis". George, being older, always got first choice which was the Allies, and, you guessed it, the Allies always won. I didn't win many mock war battles, but was big winner in having the companionship of a brother close in age to explore the mysterious world of early childhood. We used to thrill at the sight of yellow Harvard training planes barnstorming just over the treetops, sending the chickens scurrying for cover, and cattle and horses dashing around in fright. On rare occasions they would do power dives and fly upside down, a sight that the generations of today and the future will only witness at an air show.

Another aspect of the war was the "ration book". One of the items in short supply was gasoline for transportation. My dad owned a 1927 Chevrolet touring car converted into a light truck. Anyone familiar with this type of automobile was aware that they did not have a fuel pump, but instead had a vacuum tank. This tank had a capacity of one imperial quart, to get the most out of the gasoline coupons, the vacuum tank was filled with purple gas while red gas was in the regular gas tank. This car could go a distance of seven and a half miles on one quart of gasoline, from our farm by Miquelon Lake to the Henkelman farm by Hay Lakes, before running out. Not bad mileage for a vehicle manufactured fifty-four years ago! Mind you it didn't have power steering or power

brakes, nor automatic transmission, but it did have air conditioning, though not the mechanical kind.

In September, 1944, I started school at Brandland, a one-room classroom with Grades one to eight. The room had a high ceiling with windows along the east wall; a partition was erected along the west wall which served as a combination hallway and cloakroom. In the northwest corner a large cast-iron heater was surrounded by a black tin jacket to protect the children from being burned on the hot surface.

The two and three-quarter mile walk every morning and evening was an adventure for a young boy seeing and experiencing nature's recreation. Winter's first appearance was a cloak of soft fluffy snow masking the drab landscape of late autumn, bringing with it the expectation of skiing, sleighing, building snow houses and, of course, skating after the slough had been cleaned off. The harsh reality of winter soon became evident as the icy blasts from the northwest invaded the land, piling up snow in drifts across the roads, marked by the occasional track of bobsled and team. No modern snow ploughs to have the roads cleared within twenty-four hours after the storm's ending! The struggle to go to school almost became an ordeal when no horse and sleigh had broken the trail to make walking a little easier. The biting cold was only warded off by the thick woolen mittens and socks knitted by my mother from wool washed, carded and spun by her own hand. Appreciation and thanks were never fully expressed for this labour of love and devotion symbolized by the hours spent knitting beside the faint light of a coal oil lamp long after we children were in bed. "Rogers Golden Syrup" pails offered little protection from the elements, consequently the bread in our lunch became frozen as hard as the horse "turds" we used to kick along the road while walking to school.

April brought the joys of spring, the sun climbing high in the sky making the grass sprout on the south face of the hills. High overhead was the sound of air rushing away from the wings of ducks and geese hurrying north to nature's call. Robins hopped along, then stopped to peer into the grass for an unlucky worm near the surface. It was time to shed the heavy garments of winter, dig out the old inner tube and cut new rubber for the sling shot. Good rubber was getting scarce by this time, and synthetic rubber was quite acceptable for transportation but "not worth a dam" for sling shots. It was time too, to raid the nests of magpies and crows for their eggs; with this went the climbing of trees and "ripping" of our best school clothes, and also "the music" that had to be faced when we got home. Drowning gophers was always a great sport in the early spring months with an old milk pail, a pair of rubber boots, and the dog at

the hole waiting for the miserable, pathetic gopher to poke his head out. Sometimes it seemed like those holes must have gone all the way to China for the amount of water you could pour into them!

Finally the end of June came; it was time for the school picnic. Races were to be run, ball games to be watched and played, but best of all was the feast brought by all the parents, topped off by that great treat, Homemade Ice Cream! Finally with relief we got our report card and knew that we had passed.

In the early spring of 1946 we moved down to the Swan Hill district where I attended school until the end of Grade six. During these four years and four months that I attended the Swan Hill School, I had the privilege of being taught by Mrs. Thelma Movald. Any accomplishments I have achieved to date are due in part to the fine teaching she gave me. In June 1950, the "good old days" came to an end; in September we were bussed into the Centralized school at Hay Lakes. I continued attending school in Hay Lakes for the next four years, and completed Grade ten.

The following summer I worked at Port Radium on Great Bear Lake for Eldorado Mining Limited. It was a thrilling experience to stand on the bluffs along the shores of the lake at twelve midnight and watch the sun dip to the horizon and then rise into the sky again.

In the spring of 1959, I bought N 8-49-20-W4 from my great uncle, Carl Blomander, the land upon which we presently reside. To pay for this land I had to move to Edmonton and get a job, and started with O.K. Construction. Later, I got steady work with the Edmonton Public School Board, and then made one more move to work at Canadian Industries Limited in 1963.

In the summer of 1959, I met Muriel James who had immigrated from England in May and we were married July of 1960. Our son, Lance, was born in November, 1963 and our daughter, Jill, in 1965.

Early in the spring of 1966 we made our final plans to move to the farm and began our residence here in May. Those first few years seemed to be tough at the time, but looking back were some of our happiest. Indeed we've never regretted leaving the Big City and hope to live here for many more years. By 1968, I got a job with Alberta Government Services at Rosehaven Hospital in Camrose, and am still with them. Lance and Jill have taken all of their schooling in Hay Lakes.

The rural community has a special lifestyle to offer all those who become a part of it. It has truly been our privilege to be residents of the Hay Lakes district.

Johnson, Elfert and Family

Elfert Davidus Johnson was born on June 25, 1911 at Lundemo, Alberta. His parents were Hans Erik and Klara Christina (Anderson) Johnson who immigrated to this district in 1905 from Wilhelmina, Västerbotten, Sweden. Elfert took all his schooling at Brandland school. Some of his teachers were Thomas Davidson, Mr. Anderson, Miss Ethel Telling, Mrs. Olga Brown, and Mrs. Cuteric. At various times he was janitor of the school and also cut and hauled wood. He would also cut props from bush on his farm and haul them by team of horses to Round Hill for coal, both for the school and for his own use on the farm.

Clearing land of brush was done by using the axe. The stumps were removed by horses and sticks of stumping powder. After the branches were cut off, the trees then were hauled by team of horses to the sawmill which was situated on the Hans Johnson farm and sawed into lumber. This lumber was used for various buildings on the farm.

In 1940, Elfert purchased SE 7-49-20-W4 from his parents. During the late 1940's he purchased NE 7-49-20-W4 from Mr. and Mrs. Elias Anderson. In 1977, he purchased SW 7-49-20-W4 from the Lund Estate.

Anita Pearson was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta. During the summer holidays from 1932-1938 she visited her aunt, Mrs. Annie Olson, who lived on NE 2-49-21-W4. After 1938, Anita lived permanently with her aunt. On November 24, 1940 she was married to Elfert Johnson in the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church. After the wedding they resided on the groom's farm.



Elfert's and Anita's 35th Wedding Anniversary.

I recollect our first Christmas. We were up very early in the morning. We harnessed the single horse cutter and bundled ourselves with homemade blankets and quilts. The jingling of the bells on the horse made music as we sped along in the full moonlight and the frost was sparkling in the trees. We drove across country to the Wilhelmina Church. Elfert was to build a fire in the wood stove in the church to make it nice and warm for "Julotta Service" at six o'clock in the morning. Pastor Bernhardson was pastor at the time.

Another early memory is of John Person. He would row his boat across "sezsa lake" to visit with us.

Elfert and Anita had five children: Eileen, Verna, Ferne, Lynn and Daniel.

Eileen, Verna and Ferne attended Brandland school until 1956 when the Brandland school was closed and they were bussed to Armena. In 1959, '60, and '61 Eileen attended Camrose Lutheran College, and then worked in Camrose for the School Division, and later, for the County of Camrose. Verna, Ferne, Lynn and Daniel transferred to Hay Lakes School where they finished their schooling. Verna continued to the University of Alberta for her Bachelor of Education degree. She taught at Ross Shepherd High School in Edmonton. Ferne went to Edmonton to school and then to work. Lynn worked in Camrose and Dan went out to work for a time.

Eileen married Paul Ortlieb and they have three children: Neil, Linda and Dean. They live in Leduc, Alberta.

Verna married Sine Awid and they have four children: Kelly, Troy, Krista and Cory. They live in Edmonton, Alberta.

Ferne married Keith Moren and they have three children: Ricky, Karrie Anne and Todd. They live in Camrose, Alberta.

Lynn married Larry Flemming and they have two children: James and Jason. They live at Kingman, Alberta.

Daniel has taken over the farm.

Elfert and Anita took part in community affairs, especially with the work in the Wilhelmina church and congregation.

Elfert passed away on July 29th, 1979. Anita continues to reside on the farm with her son, Dan.

Johnson, Sture and Family

Sture Sixten Johnson was born on November 5, 1905, the second oldest son of Jonas Amandus Johnson. Sture attended Brandland School and was instructed by Hjalmar Anderson.

In 1929, Sture married Mabel Sware, the oldest daughter of Ole and Elise Sware. They lived with

Sture's father for about a year after their marriage. While living here, their first child, a daughter, Ardis Elaine, was born on January 18, 1930. A short time later, they purchased a farm in the community, (S.W. 18-49-20-W4) and moved into a small house that was already on the farm. On October 10, 1931, a second daughter, Doreen Lenora, was born. Due to the increase in family size, Sture broke and brushed a portion of the southwest corner of the farm and built a new home consisting of a bedroom and a kitchen. It was here in the new house that their youngest family member, a son, Ernest Marvin, was born on November 14, 1932. After Ernest was born, a living room was added to the house.

Those were the depression years when many hardships were encountered. There wasn't any well on the farm, so Sture took it upon himself to dig a well by hand to at least have a water supply for the cattle. Water was hauled by horse and buggy from a neighbor's house to supply the household with its water.

Sture was an avid hunter and trapper, and was quite good at it. Not only did Sture hunt for the sport, but also for the necessity to keep the family supplied with meat for the long cold winters. Selling the furs helped with the family income during these hard times as well. They also raised chickens and sold the eggs for five cents a dozen.

Ardis, Doreen and Ernie, like their father, received their education at Brandland School, walking approximately two miles each way through the deep snow in the winter, as did the other children in the surrounding area.

Ardis married Verner Johnson in 1947. To this union, four children were born. Ronald Verner, born on his father's birthday, July 3, 1947; Rickie Wayne, born on May 25, 1951; Lenora Elaine, born on April 3, 1955; and Sandra June, born on June 6, 1960.

On April 3, 1970, Ronald married Jean Skocdopole of Stettler, Alberta. They now reside on a farm in the Valleyview district. Ronald is a foreman for the Provincial Parks of Alberta. Rickie was married on September 13, 1975 to Brenda Cousens of Calgary. Rickie is a Park Ranger with the Provincial Parks at Whitney Ross Provincial Park near Elk Point, Alberta. Rick and Brenda have two daughters, Christy Joy, born on February 28, 1978 and Julie Anne, born on December 22, 1980. Lenora is an Office Supervisor with a branch of the Provincial Government in Edmonton. On June 21, 1980, Sandra married Russell Olansky. They are residents of Camrose, where Russell is employed as a member of the local Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment. Sandra works for a Camrose accounting firm. Verner Johnson passed away in April, 1973.

After attending High School, Doreen enrolled at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, where she took her training as a Registered Nurse. She graduated in 1953. After her graduation, she and a friend ventured to beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii, where they lived for several months and were employed as nurses. While in Hawaii, Doreen met her future husband, William Bergstrom who was with the United States Navy. Doreen and William (Bill) were married in Portland, Oregon which was Bill's home town, on August 28, 1954. To this union, three children were born. Carrie Elise was born on June 10, 1955; Robert Allan, born on October 20, 1956; and JoAnne, born on August 22, 1959. All of the family members are still residents of Portland. Carrie has followed in her mother's footsteps and is employed in Portland as Registered Nurse. Robert (Bob) is working as a journeyman meatcutter. JoAnne is also working and living in Portland.

Since Sture died on March 21, 1966, Ernie has taken over the operation of the farm, as well as being employed at the Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. In the summer of 1972, Ernie built a new house in approximately the same location as the last house, where he and Mabel still reside. Mabel keeps herself quite busy with her numerous quilting projects.

Johnson, Thor and Family

Tor Helge Emanuel Jonsson was born in the Vilhelmina district of Västerbotten, Sweden, on April 2, 1904. He was the son of Jonas Amandus Jonsson and Anna Aquilina (Mattson) who were married in May, 1903. His father Amandus' birth was on April 14, 1876, and mother Anna's birth was on October 12, 1882. Father Amandus was a village policeman in Sweden.

They emigrated to Canada in May, 1905. They changed the family name to Johnson. Thor was one year old then. They settled on the homestead S.W. 24-21-49-W4, where he grew up with brother Sture, and sisters Anna, Lille, Thora, Myrtle, Alma and Agnes, and also a foster sister, Helga Hanson.

Mother Anna passed away at an early age leaving the husband and eight children.

Thor was confirmed in the Wilhelmina Lutheran church. In 1933, he married Ida Malester Hovelson (Molly) of Kingman. They resided on the home farm some years, then seven years at Armena on the Broen farm. In 1946 they moved to S.W. 5-20-49-W4 where their children Arlo, Carol, Warren and Opal attended Brandland, Hay Lakes, and Armena schools. Carol took Grade twelve at Camrose Lutheran College. The children were all confirmed at Wilhelmina Lutheran church.

Arlo married Donna McLean in 1958. They have



Thor and Molly Johnson with children: Arlo, Warren, Opal and Carol.

three children: Jill, Ross, and Jeffrey. Arlo is in Real Estate. Carol married Chester Warden in 1958. They have four children: Kelly, Cameron, Tracey and Sara. Wardens are self-employed in the floor-laying trade. Warren worked at the Stelco plant in Camrose, Water well-drilling, on the farm, and also floor-laying in British Columbia. Warren passed away in April, 1973 at the age of thirty-two years. Opal married Jack Hiller. Jack is self-employed in well-drilling and lives at Hay Lakes.

Many will remember Thor in the Steam threshing gangs with Broens and Lysengs.

Thor has always been interested in music, playing the violin since he was seventeen. At one time he had his own orchestra, and was one of the fiddlers at the old Bowery, and also in the Basa Lodge where he was a member and still enjoys to hear the old-time fiddlers in Vernon, British Columbia (where he resides), and other bands.

Carol plays piano, Chester the accordion, and he has a band. Arlo plays the fiddle, Opal makes music on the piano, as did Warren.

Keith Klein

Keith worked with his father on the farm for a time until his marriage to Margaret Anger of Duhamel in 1966. They spent the first one and one half years in Edmonton where they were both employed. They purchased a house trailer and moved it out to the farm. Keith helped with the farming as well as working in town. In the spring of 1969 their first daughter Cheryl was born. Six weeks later Keith and family moved to Hinton where Keith worked at Cardinal Rover Coals at Luscar apprenticing at a mechanic.

In 1971 their second daughter Corine was born. Later that year Keith bought the home quarter from his father. They continued to live in Hinton until Keith received his mechanic's licence. In April of 1973 Keith moved his family back to the farm. He took the summer to build a new house and in Oct. they moved in. Keith went back to work in Edmonton.

In March 1976 their third daughter Lisa was born, and Keith started work in Nisku.

Klein, Rudolph

In the early twenties John and Anna Klein moved from the Big Hay Lakes area to the Lundemo district, settling on the NW 30-49-20-W4. The eldest children attended Thronson school. Rudolph, the youngest, went to Swan Hill for one year, then took the rest of his schooling at Brandland. In 1951, John and Anna Klein retired to Camrose. John passed away in 1952 at the age of seventy-two and Anna passed away in 1965 at the age of ninety years.

Rudolph Klein worked on the farm with his father until and following his marriage to Alice Mattson from Kingman in July 1940.

In 1951 his parents moved into Camrose and Rudolph took over the farm.

When first married they used tree stumps for chairs and lived in a two room house. Winters were cold and the water froze in the kettle on the stove. While living in this house Marvin was born. They took turns staying up at night keeping the fires going for the baby. Thirteen months later along came twins, Keith weighing 3 lbs., 12 oz. and Kenneth weighing 4 lbs., 2 oz. They were short of help at the hospital because it was wartime, so they were sent home in ten days. By this time they had lost considerable weight and were a little over three lbs. Alice's sister Ester stayed to help with the babies. Rudolph, Alice, and Ester took turns staying up as someone had to be with them at all times, as they only drank about one ounce at a time. They were kept in the warming oven in baskets that first winter. Marvin called his little brothers kitties. When three months old they weighed seven lbs.

When Marvin was two and the twins were one Alice had to help with the stooking. They used to make a shelter out of stooks and put the three babies in blankets in the stooks, with their bottles and diapers.

Alice used to do all the washing on a scrubboard.

In 1951 Rudolph's parents moved into Camrose and he took over the farm. They moved into the big house. In August the second set of twins were born. Lyle weighing 5 lbs., 1 oz. and Jeanette weighing 4



Rudolph Klein family with children and grandchildren. L. to R., Back: Ken, Charlene, Linda, Ron Makarowski, Gloria, Marvin, Lyle, Margaret, Keith. Front: Jeanette (Klein) Makarowski, Dean, Rudolph, Shauna, Alice holding Heather, Cheryl, Debbie holding Christina, Corinne and Laurie standing in front. 1975.

lbs., 13 oz. Times weren't quite so hard and they stayed in the hospital until they each weighed 5 lbs.

Marvin started school in Brandland school and had to walk about three miles. When Keith and Kenneth started school they went to Armena. By this time there was a bus. Lyle and Jeannette also started their schooling in Armena, later finishing in Hay Lakes.

All five children attended Sunday School and Confirmation at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.

Marvin married Gloria Swaren from Camrose in 1965 and have one daughter and one son. Marvin is part owner of Rose City Body Shop in Camrose and lives on an acreage in the Gwynne district.

Keith married Margaret Anger of Duhamel in 1966 and they have three daughters. Keith is a heavy duty mechanic in Nisku and lives on the home place.

Kenneth married Linda Forman of Dixonville in 1970 and they have three daughters. Kenneth is a heavy duty mechanic in Peace River and lives in Grimshaw.

Lyle married Debbie Huebner of Hay Lakes in 1972. Lyle lived and worked for a time in Inuvik, N.W.T., then moved to Ft. St. John where he owned his own rental business. In 1981 they moved back to Hay Lakes area. They have the north quarter of land originally owned by his father. They also have three girls.

Jeannette married Ron Makarowski of Daysland and they live in the Hay Lakes district. They have two sons. Ron works for Ibsco Pipe Plant in Edmonton.

Rudolph, as well as farming, worked for Camrose Electric in Camrose. The shop then moved to Edmonton and he drove back and forth for a time. Keith then purchased the home quarter from his father and Rudolph's, then moved to Camrose where they still reside.

(Refer to Big Hay Lakes for the John Klein story.)

Lindberg, Sundin, Kruzic and Families by Alice (Lindberg) Kruzic

My parents, Anders Magnus Lindberg and Gertrude Matilda Lindberg, came to Canada from

Siksjönas, Vilhelmina, Västerbotten, Sweden in 1906. My father filed on a homestead N.W. 12-49-20-W4, in the Lundemo district. Ejnar (Einar), Esther and Ruth were born in Sweden. I was born in October, 1907. Then there was Sixten, George, Alice and Majni (Magni died at age three).

I lived in my parents' home until I was eighteen. I married Harold Sundin, a newcomer from Öngermanland, Sweden. Our first son, Rodney, was born at my parents' home in 1924. I was seventeen years old one month after he was born. Our second son, Roger, was born in the dining room of the hospital in Burns Lake, British Columbia in 1928. My first husband, Harold, went to British Columbia to try to earn some money. Two years later he came back for us. We had twelve dollars between us, but my parents gave us two cows which we sold. Harold had been sending me some money while he was in British Columbia, but I had spent it on clothing and such.

So on a landseeker's ticket we went to Northern British Columbia. I cooked in some tie-camps while my husband hacked railway ties. In one camp I got \$50.00 dollars a month cooking for ten men. Harold wanted to get some land, so we took up a homestead in Uncha Valley near Southbank, British Columbia. Our nearest railway was at Burns Lake, twenty-four miles away. There was no way we could make a living on this land as there was too much big timber and swamps so we had frost all summer. Later after many forest fires and some timber logged off there was less frost.

When the depression struck there was no work for man or woman. I got tired of a steady diet of moose meat. We did get some grouse and trout. I left my two children with some neighbors and went to Hazelton, British Columbia where I worked at housework for a storekeeper for \$25.00 dollars a month for three months. I paid \$25.00 dollars a month to the people that looked after my children. My two sisters sent me \$2.00 each and my parents \$6.00. My parents did not think it was right to be separated from my children so they sent me a ticket to come home. Then we went back to Alberta for ten months. There we had plenty to eat but very little money. Then Harold sent me the ticket for us to return to British Columbia, so we went back but things didn't work out. So I left my children again and together with the boss and six of my neighbours we beat the freight to Hardisty, Alberta.

I got \$3.00 a day as cook, the men only got \$2.00 a day threshing grain. I made \$90.00 dollars which was a lot of money then. I did not go back to my husband. I went to work for another homesteader for room and board for thirteen years. My sons and I worked very hard and we made some sort of living. I

worked in a small co-op store for some time. My sons started working at a very early age. Roger cut wood for neighbours and worked in a saw mill. Rodney was in the Army, so I was on my own. I quit the store and went to Vancouver. I worked in the shipyard and that's where I met my second husband. We were married in 1948 and have lived there ever since.

Sundin, Rodney and Family by Alice (Lindberg) Kruzic

When Rodney was ready to arrive, his grandmother who was a midwife, was at John Persons delivering Alvor Person. Someone was sent running to Persons. Luckily, Alvar had already been born, so my mother, known to everybody as Tilda Lindberg, came in a hurry. But Rodney was in no hurry to arrive so my dad, Magnus Lindberg, hitched up the horse and drove to Hay Lakes for Doctor Stoner. I think this probably was the only time Mother had to call a doctor. Rodney first left Alberta at the age of one and a half years. His father was Harold Sundin from Sweden and his mother was Alice Lindberg, born in Canada.

Rodney returned to Alberta with his mother and brother, Roger. About 1930, he went to the Brandland school for a very short time.

I had a chance to go to Clyde to look after the farm for Paulson and Olson while they were threshing grain for their neighbors. I got fifteen dollars for one month's work but had to pay four dollars out of that for the bus and train to get back to Hay Lakes. In November that year we went to British Columbia again.

When Rodney was in the Army he was stationed at Camrose, and some other place too, in Alberta that I can't remember. He was also at Truro, Nova Scotia. When he was ready to go overseas he was very ill with some chest problem. He was sent to Kamloops, British Columbia to look after guns and ammunition. He was stationed there for some years.

After Rodney got out of the Army he went to Southbank, British Columbia where he married Tina Bergen from Saskatchewan. They had four children — Ralph, Philip, Wesley and Carol. Ralph married Helene Grav from Norway. They have two children, Tera and Rita. They live in Enderby, British Columbia. Westley married Wendy Lemay from Ottawa. They have one son and live in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. Rodney is a carpenter and he and Tina live in Enderby, British Columbia. Rodney's brother, Roger, married Olga from Saskatchewan. He had one stepson Ivan, and step children Quinn and Elizabeth who live at Mission, British Columbia. Roger and Olga Sundin live at Pritchard, British Columbia.

Roger is a foreman in construction. Harold Sundin passed away in 1978 at Burns Lake, British Columbia.

Lindberg, Magnus and Matilda and Family

by Ruth (Lindberg) Fredrickson

Magnus and Mathilda Lindberg emigrated from Siksjönas, Vilhelmina, Västerbotten, Sweden in 1906. They settled in the east Hay Lakes area on NW12-49-21-W4, then known as Lundemo. They brought with them three small children, Einar, eight years old, Esther seven, and Ruth, eleven months old. Another son had died previously in Sweden in 1904. Alice was born after their arrival in Canada in 1907, also Sixten in 1909, George in 1911 and Magnhild in 1912, who later passed away at the age of three years.



Magnus and Matilda (Tilda) Lindberg — 1919.

When they arrived from Sweden, the Lindbergs had no money and things were rough. In those first years the meat in our menus for the most part was bush rabbits and prairie chickens. However, we never went hungry. Our father worked on the railway in the winter time to earn extra money. Our first home was a one-room, two-storey log house, which was added to

later on. All of us took our schooling at Brandland. Our parents were charter members of Wilhelmina Lutheran Church, east Hay Lakes. All of us were confirmed there and the children born in Canada were also baptized in Wilhelmina.

Our mother was a midwife and probably helped deliver most of the babies born in a forty-five mile radius of our farm. Although she was not a trained nurse as we know them today she was always willing to lend a helping hand and was ever ready to go at a moment's notice in fair weather or fowl, day or night, (for most babies are born at night). Many of the people in the east Hay Lakes area were brought into the world by Mathilda Lindberg.



L. to R.: George, Sixten, Ruth, Magnus Lindberg, Esther, Einar, and Alice taken in the early 1950's at a family reunion.

Alice Kruzic moved to British Columbia in 1926. She has been back to Alberta eight times, but not in the past twenty-four years. She has two sons, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Ruth Fredrickson lives in New Norway, Alberta. Esther, Mrs. Bert Dyer, lives in Wetaskiwin and George lives in Toronto.

Magnus Lindberg passed away on February 1st, 1952; Mathilda died on December 20, 1938. Sixten passed away in 1961, Magnhild in 1915, and Einar passed away on January seventh, 1980 at the age of eighty-one years. All are buried in the cemetery at Wilhelmina church.

Lundquist, Bob, Pat, Leanne and Linda

We moved onto our acreage NW 5-49-20-W4 from Richmond, British Columbia, in March 1980. We came out west to get away from the crowded city life, and as we have friends in Camrose, we decided this was the place to come. When we left our home in Richmond, all the spring flowers were starting to bloom. We arrived here to find we couldn't get into our yard with the moving truck as the snow was too deep. With the help of a neighbour that was soon

remedied, but more snow was on the way. The next Saturday it started to snow, and in two days about three feet fell. The girls missed their first few days of school, because we were not prepared for the weather. We thought we would freeze!

In the year and a half that we have been here we have had many trying experiences for people who have been born and raised in the city to now be in the country and find that bats have decided to take up summer residence under the eaves, and occasionally come right into the house for a visit, was just a bit much to take. We have encouraged them to leave. It's one more obstacle to overcome. We have had a lot of hard but rewarding work. We have made a lot of improvements to our home, and feel now that we could not go back to living in the city.

Mattson, Paulus, Emma, and Axel Dahlin

Now in 1982, sixty years have already passed since Paulus (aged fifty-two) and his stepson, Axel, (twenty-two years old) stepped into the twenty-year-old Swedish settlement east of Hay Lakes. It was in May, 1922. Some weeks later, the wife and mother, Emma, arrived. They had come from Vilhelmina, Sweden and stayed in the home of the widow, Mrs. Erik Hanson, and family, while they were building their house on the land that Paulus had acquired, SE 1-49-21-W4. Later Emma was invited by the Andrew Olsons to be their guest until she could move into her new home.

Besides helping Paulus on his new farm, Axel assisted Helge, who was seventeen years old, farm the Hanson place that summer. In the late summer and fall, Axel, with his nineteen-year-old cousin, Erik August Hanson, cut brush in the Miquelon Lake vicinity. (Axel was a pall-bearer at young Erik's funeral that November.) A few years later, besides working some winters at the Pearson Lumber camp, Axel took a homestead in the Enilda district.

However, he didn't pursue the acquisition of the land there, but chose rather to live in this community.

Paulus Amandus Mattson was born on March 17, 1870 in Sweden. At maturity he emigrated to Minnesota where he became a tailor. He returned to Sweden and married the widow, Emma, on December 12, 1912.

Emma Augusta (Henriksdotter) was born Near Vilhelmina, Sweden on May 8,, 1873. She married — Dahlin there and they had three children. Anna married Nils Johnson. Axel was born on August 26, 1900. Emmy became a seamstress and still lives in Sweden. Their father, Dahlin, lost his life while skating across the lake bordering Vilhelmina. (That lake was used as a short-cut to trade in the town and attend church, in the summertime by boat and in the wintertime by sleigh or skates.)

When Emma arrived in this district she was so happy to have a home in this new land. She had the pleasure to meet again the now grown four children of her older sister, Eva Lovisa Hanson, who with the family had left Vilhelmina in 1905. Emma was also glad to see her daughter and family, the Nils Johnsons, come later and live on a neighboring quarter of land, NW 25-48-21-W4.

The Mattsons were active members of the Vilhelmina church here. Paulus taught Sunday School, served on the board of administration and was a delegate to some Alberta District meetings of the church. Emma participated in the church "syf-öreningen" meetings, afterwards called the Ladies' Aid, and now the Lutheran Church Women.

Emma's nature was kind and warm. Her face reflected the goodness in her heart. She couldn't do enough for the guests who visited in her simple pioneer home. Unfortunately, only ten years after her arrival, she suffered from cancer for which there was no medical relief at that time. Her daughter, Anna, then a widow, cared for her until her death on July 12 1933.



L. to R., Back: Oscar Selin, Willim Atema, Frank Vikner, Elias Anderson, Mrs. Axel Eriksson, unknown, Sture Johnson, Gerda Johnson, Mrs. Betty Anderson, Mrs. Vikner. Front: Paulus Mattson, Brith Johnson, Mrs. Mattson holding Ruth, Mrs. Johnson, Axel Dahlin, Mrs. Carlstrom, Rev. Axel Eriksson, Chall Johnson, Eric Carlstrom.

Paulus and Axel continued to farm together until Paulus retired. He stayed with Anna who had by then married Albanus Johnson. At times he visited friends and Emma's nieces on their farms. His talents were used in making furniture for people at their request. When told that he could take his time, he answered, "I might not be here tomorrow", and so he was anxious not to leave any unfinished task on this earth. Paulus also had used local birchwood to hand-carve notched rolling-pins which in some homes are still in use for making flatbread. He died on November 10, 1948.

Axel had bought the land from Paulus and lived alone until it was time to sell his farm and move into Camrose. His talents had been generously used in building houses in the community, and after retirement he would call at homes in the district with fresh fish for sale. He spent his last eight years in the Bethany Home, Nursing Home and Hospital where he was deceased on October 17, 1981 at the age of 81 years.

Emma's descendants are Anna's children, Chall Johnson and Mrs. Ruth Simonson and their children, as well as the two children of Anna's deceased daughter, Mrs. Inga Brith (Carl) Johnson.

Nordin, Edmund and Family **by Angeline Nordin**

My parents were Albert and Victoria (Kristoffer-son) Berg. Albert came from Wisconsin with his mother and two sisters, settling in the North Dinant district. Victoria had emigrated from Sweden as a young girl and worked at various jobs. In March, 1914, they were married. In September, 1914, I, Angeline, made the family three, and in April, 1916, my brother, Vincent made the family number four. My sister, Bernese, made the family number five in June, 1925. From 1920 to 1922 we lived in California and then the folks decided to move back to Alberta. My dad bought what had been my grandfather's (Anders Kirstofferson) homestead: NE 18-49-29-W4. Later, he purchased SW 20-49-20-W4 from Mrs. Oscar Bard. Several years after Dad passed away (July 1934), Mother sold the land to the Lion's Club in Camrose, and they sold it to the Provincial Government to develop the present Miquelon Lake Provincial Park.

Like many others who had come from Sweden, my grandfather had to cut logs and hew them down so he could build a house and barn from them. Later, some homemade sawmills were made and lumber of different kinds could be sawed. The lumber was rough but easier to build from than just logs. Even some shingles were sawed. There was very little money to spend. Land was cleared by hand with an

axe, broke with horses until a few farmers found it possible to buy a tractor of some kind. Grain was cut with binders and as soon as it was dry enough, it was all hauled home and piled in stacks to be threshed later. One man had the job to stand in front of the thresher to cut the twine and put the bundle of grain into the thresher. As years went by, more modern machinery was bought which made the work easier.

I, Vincent and Bernese all attended Brandland School. When we first started school not much road-work had been done, and wherever possible, a track was made around the edges of sloughs. Otherwise the road was a narrow clearing through the bushes. Most travelling was done in wagons or buggies in the summertime; bobsleighs or cutters in the wintertime; all pulled by horses. When road-building began, trees were cut and piled across the sloughs — this was called corduroying. The corduroys were covered with dirt using horse-drawn scrapers. The local farmers did the work so they could deduct the wages from their land taxes. I remember during one summertime seeing Erhard Grondlund driving by our place with four horses and a small grader scraping the roads.

At school we did not have more sports equipment than a ball and bat. Sometimes we played baseball and other times we played "Pee-Wee" when we used a stick about two feet long and a second stick about six inches long. Another pastime was Anti-I-Over over the school building. We always enjoyed our recesses and lunchtimes. There were many bushes around the yard, and in summertime when the gophers came around, we would share some of our lunch with them to see if we could catch them.

Most farmers had six to ten cows. In summer, special corrals were made to use at milking time. The cows were trained to stand still outside while they were being milked. Many different cheeses were made, and were they ever good! Milk was separated by a separator that was turned by hand. The women churned all their own butter and I dare say a lot was used. They also baked all their own bread and pastries. What tasted better than fresh bread and butter! Thick cream was used on all desserts, in coffee, etcetera. Nobody worried about special diets and overweight problems. Wheat was taken to Byers Flour Mill in Camrose and traded for flour. Flour always came in cloth bags which served many useful purposes when empty: teacloths, bedsheets, dish-towels, garments of different kinds, and many other things when cotton material was needed.

To keep much of our food in summertime, special houses were built. They had double walls, insulated with sawdust. In winter, big chunks of ice were sawed from sloughs or lakes to fill the special houses. If

care was taken, the ice would last all through summer.

There were usually lots of wild berries such as saskatoons, raspberries, strawberries, and chokecherries. All these were canned in sealers. Different meats were also often canned in sealers, or kept in some strong brine during the summertime.

There was always lots of work for the women both inside and outside of the house, but they still found time to attend Ladies' Aids and other social events. I especially remember when the women would meet in various homes and hold "spinning bees". Some of the ladies would card the wool, and the others would do the spinning. The yarn was divided out, and socks and mittens were knit to be sold at the Ladies' Aid Sales. A variety of other handwork items were also made and sold. Proceeds went towards purchasing different things needed for the church. Wilhelmina Church observed Midsummer by having a picnic, usually at the lake. Home-made ice-cream, lemonade and a lot of home-baked goodies were served.

My father passed away in 1934 after a short illness. Mother and Vincent continued farming until 1937 when Vincent married Iris Erikson. Vincent continued farming and Mother worked at various jobs in Killam and Camrose. In May, 1945 Mother married Erling Reiersen who had emigrated from Norway and worked at various jobs. They purchased a small house and had it moved to the farm where Ed and I were living (NW 31-48-20-W4). Mother passed away in May, 1968; and Erling in July, 1971.

In June, 1934, I married Edmund Nordin, who had also emigrated from Sweden. When he first arrived in Canada, he stayed with his uncle, John Nordin, in the Lundemo district. For the first few winters, he worked for the Pearson Brothers' Lumber Camp at Breton. In the early 1930's, times were very poor and a lot of tramps would come knocking on one's door asking for food and lodging. Often one could see them riding on the top of freight cars of the railroad to get from one place to another. We cleared our land, and picked the roots by hand and muscle power. We bought our first cows for fifteen or twenty dollars. The price to purchase horses was about the same. We did not buy ponies for pleasure, but heavy work horses to make our work a bit easier. If one wanted chickens, you set some clucking hens on twelve or thirteen eggs, hoping they would stay there for three weeks until the chickens hatched. Usually we had good luck.

We had a very hard frost in August, 1935, which made it very tough for the next year. In the late 1950's, we purchased the farm kitty-corner from us from Axel Dahlin. Axel had previously taken over



Back Row: Donald Fietz, Douglas Kinas and Ron Nordin. Middle Row: Bernette, Gordon and Lila Fietz, Sandra, Ed, Crystal and Dilys Kinas, Ryan and Lillian Nordin. Front Row: Angeline Nordin holding Debbie, Harold and Nancy Nordin, Darrell Kinas and Ed Nordin. Taken September 1979.

this farm from his mother, Emma and stepfather Paulus Matson.

Our family included three children: Ryan born in November, 1937; Dilys, born in April, 1942; and Bernette, born in October, 1945. They all attended Brandland School for part of their education, and also were bussed to Hay Lakes for the higher grades. We were an active family in the Wilhelmina Church where Ed and I served in different capacities for Sunday School, Ladies' Aid, the Church Board, etcetera.

Ryan married Lillian Johnson from Claresholm and they have four children: Ron, Harold, Nancy and Debbie. They continued to farm where Ed and I farmed.

Dilys married Edmund Kinas of New Sarepta and they have four children: Sandra, Crystal, Douglas and Darrell. Since the fall of 1974 they have lived in Edmonton when they sold their farm in the West New Sarepta district.

Bernette married Gordon Fietz of Wetaskiwin and they have two children: Lila and Donald. Gordon farmed northwest of Wetaskiwin until he passed away suddenly in 1980. Bernette and the children now live in Wetaskiwin and the farmlands are rented to a neighbor.

In the fall of 1969, Ed and I retired from farming and moved to Wetaskiwin. For over seven years I worked at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Home for Senior Citizens. I am now retired and we both enjoy it very much in Wetaskiwin with all the other senior citizens attending various functions like bowling, Friendship clubs, etcetera.

Nordin, Ryan

I was born in Camrose in 1937, the eldest of three children of Ed and Angeline Nordin.

My parents farmed six miles east of Hay Lakes on NW 31-48-20-W4. I attended Brandland school from Grades one through eight. My High School was taken in Hay Lakes. While attending Brandland school during the winter time a little trap line was a popular thing for the boys to have, to try and make a little extra spending money. Skis were a popular way of transportation for the children to go to school.

Some years a cent or two was paid for crow and magpie eggs and feet. This was usually paid by the municipal district. Torn pants and coats had to be repaired by the parents after we had checked all the nests in the area.

After finishing school I worked on construction and other jobs, mostly in Calgary and area. While in Calgary I met a Claresholm girl, Lillian Johnson. We were married in July 1961; we both worked there until the spring of 1963 when we moved to the farm at East Hay Lakes. At this time I purchased the home farm and still continue to dairy farm.

We have four children, Ron who was born in January, 1965, Harold born in September, 1967, Nancy born in October, 1969 and Debbie in February, 1979. Ron, Harold and Nancy are presently attending Hay Lakes School and Debbie is still a pre-schooler at home.

The Johan Person Family

Our family history is traced to the Northern Part of Sweden, a small community in the Province of Västerbotten called Skansholm. Here Grandpa Harald Pehrsson was born in 1865. Marta Maria Jonson, who was to become his wife was also born in the same province at Nordansjö in 1861.

There were many such small villages or parishes throughout Scandinavia which supplied the daily needs of the people or parishioners. Although these names and others were mentioned in our home it has become an accepted fact that our roots were in the larger town of Vilhelmina, which was only a few miles from the above named parishes. It is interesting to note that a few years later, when it came time to name their church in the new world, our forefathers had not forgotten their Christian roots as they chose to name their new church "Wilhelmina".

The family of Harald and Marta consisted of two boys and two girls, namely, Peter, Ansholm, Amanda and Sofia.

Experiencing most difficult times in Sweden and hearing of new opportunities in America they decided, along with many other families at that time, to emigrate to Canada. So with new hopes burning within them and visions of prosperity drawing them on, they migrated to Alberta in 1905. They arrived in what was then the Lundemo district and now is re-



Johan Person Family. Standing: Algot, Alver, Ingvar and Albin. Seated: Johan, Judith, Amanda.

ferred to as the East Hay Lakes or Wilhelmina community.

Harald filed for a homestead on NW 6-49-20-W4. It was here that Harald and his family were to carve a home from the wilderness.

Cows, even in the old country, had been a sole provider of milk and meat so these became a priority, along with a few pigs, for the Pehrsson family. With milk one could also make cheese which added much to the family menu.

Then with the hope of growing wheat and other needful crops, Harald proceeded to clear the heavy brush of the land. It was tedious and laborious work for Harald and his family. To add to the difficulties already facing them, added burdens were experienced as sorrow struck quickly. A father's love and dreams for his children were shattered as their two sons, Peter and Ansholm, were both to die within a year, and only a year after arriving in this new land. Peter was in his budding years as a young man at the age of seventeen years and Ansholm at nine years. Then a few years later, in 1913, their daughter, Sofia, passed away at thirteen years. Peter and Ansholm are buried in the Fridhem Lutheran Church cemetery, northwest of Camrose, and Sofia is buried in the Wilhelmina Church cemetery.

Amanda thus became the lone child and heavy responsibilities were to fall upon her as she was called to be both son and daughter. After a short period of schooling in the Brandland School, mother had to leave home at the early age of twelve and seek work. I recall her telling us she worked both as lady and man, doing a man's work outside and then com-

ing in to do the lady's housework. She worked for several families within the community, as well as at Bittern Lake and the Spicer Coal Mine at Dinant.

In an attempt to aid his income, Harald was to become the first mail carrier from Bittern Lake, a distance of some twenty-five miles, to Lundemo, a small country Post Office operated by another early pioneer family, the Waldums. There were no road allowances in those days and the trails ran crisscross wherever it seemed necessary to have a road between neighbors. Heavy rains in the summer and much snow in the winter made these trails even more difficult and heavy to travel than under normal circumstances.

For some reason, unknown to us, Harald had the "h" and one "s" dropped from his name to make it simply "Person".

In spite of the hardships, Harald and Marta, continued in their struggle to make their home a comfortable and happy one. There were happy times even amongst the difficulties experienced by many a pioneer family. Harald was an accomplished violinist, although he never had a lesson. He enjoyed playing for the neighbors, house parties and often took his violin with him when he went visiting. In later years the grandchildren were to be entertained by the hour as they would sit and listen to Grandpa play his violin.

Some five years after Harald and Marta had arrived, a young man by the name of Johan Persson (no relation), arrived in the Lundemo district from Sweden. Johan was born in Blaikliden, Sweden in 1883, a small parish not far from Vilhelmina. It was interesting to discover at the time of Johan's death, while looking through some papers, he also had his name changed to contain only one "s".

Alver and his family, on a visit to Sweden in 1975, found the Person name commonly spelled with the double "s". So impressed by her roots, Alver's daughter, Kathryn, vowed that her dad should change his name to the original spelling.

Johan was a handsome, powerfully built young man, well qualified for the heavy tasks that were to lay before him. He soon sought work among the other settlers in the community, including Harald, as well as building the railroad between Edmonton and Jasper. Johan was a skilled craftsman in woodwork and this blended well with the need of the neighbors for cupboards, tables and other household requirements.

No doubt it was while working for Harald and his neighbors that a courtship began between Johan and Amanda that culminated in their marriage in 1914. Johan and Amanda were the first couple married in the newly built Wilhelmina Church. To this church

Johan had devoted many hours of work and his craftsmanship can still be admired to the beautiful altar and pulpit which he assembled.

After their marriage Johan and Amanda built a small log house across the road from Harald and Marta. The two couples continued to farm together. To assist in the income and production, Johan bought NW 7-49-20-W4 from the Canadian Pacific Railroad, located just half a mile from Harald Persons' homestead so access to it from the original homestead was not too difficult.

The original farm homes were built on the south edge of the quarter, far removed from any proposed road allowance. Thus when the road allowance was surveyed, the decision was made to move the houses to the north edge of the quarter in order to be close to the surveyed road. This also brought the farmyard closer to the church, which was to serve well, as so much of the Person life was to be associated with the Wilhelmina Church. The moving of the houses was a huge undertaking in those days and involved a machine called a "stump puller". This was a large drum-like apparatus with a long heavy cable. The cable would be some two hundred feet when extended and attached to the house. The drum was solidly anchored and had a long arm or bar attached to it. A team of horses was then hitched to this arm and they would go round and round winding the cable into the drum. In this manner the house would move forward. The men would place rails or logs underneath the house to make it move more easily. My brother, Algot, recalls that many mornings the men had started to move the house while the children were still in bed. Can you imagine the sensation of being awakened and feeling your house was moving? When the cable was all wound up, a new position would have to be taken, which meant unwinding the cable and moving the drum. This was a very slow and laborious process, but in the days before tractors, a rather unique method for moving buildings.

Grandpa and Dad continued to farm and work together. Times were difficult in those early years. Money was hard to acquire and it was hard physical work clearing land by axe and grub hoe, pulling stumps and breaking land with horses.

As the work and years moved along, there came the added responsibilities of eventually caring for the aging grandparents. There were no "Old People's Homes" or "Auxiliary Hospitals" to care for the aged in those days so there was no alternative but for the children to care for the aging parents. Following a stroke and a lengthy illness, Grandma Marta died in 1928.

It was a long, tiresome vigil that Mother and Dad were to keep over Grandma. The houses being about

a hundred feet apart, it meant much running back and forth, so they developed an alarm system between the two houses. A twine was strung between the houses with a bell attached to the one end in our house and through some ingenious method a rubber band was attached to the bell which Grandpa could ring when he needed help.

Neighbors were kind and considerate, however, always willing to assist each other. There were several neighbors who would come and stay with Grandma for a couple of days in order to relieve Mother and Dad. Grandpa Harald continued to live in his own house beside Johan and Amanda until 1936 when he was found dead in his house by his granddaughter Judith. Both Grandma and Grandpa are buried in the Wilhelmina cemetery.

Amanada and Johan raised a family of five children, Algot, Ingvar, Judith, Albin and Alver.

I make no apologies when I mention that we were a poor family. In this, however, we were not alone. We didn't have much of this world's goods, but I have very pleasant memories of much fun and laughter, love and kindness in our humble home. Our door was always open and anyone was welcome to come in for a meal or spend the night with us.

Dad was a fun-loving man, could tell stories by the hour and was always playing pranks on us kids. We used to do our haying on the north quarter, so this meant taking our dinner and lunch along. Thus the operation involved the entire family because the younger ones were too small to leave at home by themselves. I can recall Dad cooking coffee in an old jam tin over the open fire and then somehow making the hot coals explode like a rifle by placing them between stones and spitting on them. We would carve whistles out of willow or poplar saplings and do all sorts of other stunts which certainly fascinated the kids.

Mother's love for us was expressed in knitting, sewing, and cooking, as well as in playing the quieter games, such as "mile play" and "sheep's heaven". Later when the modern game of checkers became available, Mother spent much time with the children.

With dreams and hopes of fulfillment and success in this new world burning within our pioneers, it did not take long before they realized that they must have schools and churches. Coming from a strong Lutheran heritage, these pioneers sought to satisfy their spiritual needs early and a church was soon established. The history of Wilhelmina Church is recorded elsewhere, so I shall only relate some personal recollections of church life.

Our life was to revolve around the church, the imprint which the church made upon us cannot be measured in words. Living only a quarter of a mile

from the church and having parents with a zeal for the work of the Lord and His Church, it was a "must" to attend church regularly. This heritage has stood me well and I can look back with thanksgiving for parents that had a concern for the spiritual upbringing of their children.

Living so close to the church, I guess it was natural that Dad should eventually become caretaker, a position he held for many years. It was passed on to brother Algot, and he still holds this responsibility. Albin was for many years cemetery caretaker and finally "retired" in 1978, receiving a gold watch from the congregation. It would be fair to say that all of us have at one time or another held various responsibilities of leadership in church organizations, Mother in the Ladies Aid, Dad in the congregation and Sunday School, and would you believe Dad was also President of the Ladies Aid at one time? Perhaps the only Ladies Aid to have a man for President!

In those early years, the church was to be the center of the community, and much of our life revolved around the church. I remember with fondness the Sunday School picnics with races, ball games home made ice cream, candy bars, etcetra, Christmas concerts and Luther League meetings when the church was filled to capacity for Sunday evenings.

Then there were the conventions and conferences when many visitors came to Wilhelmina. The conventions lasted a whole week and would draw young people from the entire province. This meant that there would be visitors staying at our home.

With dinner and supper served at the church for all of these people (up to two hundred) it meant hard work and long hours for the ladies of the community. A special lady (Mrs. Lindberg) from the Fridhem church community was hired as cook and she stayed at our place. A huge tent was set up which was to serve as dining hall. I have often marvelled at the determination and stamina of the women who worked so hard to prepare all those meals under very difficult conditions, far removed from all the conveniences of today.

The Sunday School Christmas concerts were a highlight for me. The many beautiful children were all in their very finest and the excitement and glow on their faces were reflected as the church began to fill with people. How well we knew our lines; the Christmas carols lifted our voices beyond all expectations, to join, as it seemed, with that ancient heavenly host of angels to proclaim "Joy to the world, the Lord is come". The huge Christmas tree with lighted candles, laden with gifts and treats for everyone concluded the evening all too soon. Suddenly the evening was over, but the excitement and joy was to linger long after we had placed our tired little heads

upon our pillows and Mother had tucked us into bed with a Christmas kiss.

The school concerts were equally a highlight. It seems as if we would begin rehearsing for these as early in September as we could “talk” the teacher into allowing us. If we were to be Number One in talents for the Christmas concert, of course it was necessary to begin our preparations early. It is noteworthy that for both the school and church concerts, careful consideration was given to the selection of dates, as we did not want to interfere with our neighboring school or church. We would interchange visits the nights of the concerts and this was a big social event to be able to hitch the horses to the sleighs and pick up a bunch of young people to take in other concerts.

For the children participating in the program, the night of the concert reached a new high in excitement. Pretty little girls had hair in curls and nicely tied with colored ribbons, and were dressed in frilly frocks and white stockings. The boys had faces all scrubbed clean, hair slicked down, wore pants pressed or perhaps, for the more fortunate, suits. These were the stars on parade. Certainly the “Oscar Awards” of today never saw a more enthusiastic and excited group of actors ready to do their “thing”.

A large wooden stage would be built, complete with curtains and it was on this stage, before the huge room filled with a sea of people, that star drills, pantomimes, plays, recitations and songs became the order of the program. The “negro plays” were always a must and a big hit with the audiences. We became “negro” by burning cork and rubbing it on our faces.

On returning for a visit some years later I was amazed to discover the modest auditoriums in no way resembled the huge room that we envisioned on the nights of the concerts.

At a predetermined time, unknown to us, a sudden burst of jangling sleigh bells announced the arrival of the fat, old man in the red suit and long, white whiskers. With gifts and treats for everyone, a cherry “Ho! Ho! Ho!” and a “Merry Christmas to all”, a wave and a kiss thrown, Santa was on his way to another school and group of anxiously waiting children — or so we thought.

Christmas in our home was always very exciting and thrilling time. Mother would spend weeks baking, scrubbing and cleaning in preparation for the special day. Even the livestock received special attention on that day, as an extra portion of selected feed and straw were set aside for them.

Visiting, laughing, playing and eating were to play a big part in celebrating this festive season. Swedish meatballs, lutefisk, flatbread, roast pork,

spritz, fruitcake, cinnamon rolls and twists all helped to satisfy the eager and hungry appetites. The sleigh ride home with sleigh bells jingling and bright frost sparkling on trees all added to that warm, cosy feeling of “Peace on earth, Goodwill toward men”.

I recall the early “Jul-Otta” service on Christmas morning. We would light candles and set them in the windows so the neighbors could see them on their way to worship. Dad would have left early to “fire up” in the church. Then, the short walk in the early crisp morning with the stars twinkling above, the smell of spruce boughs, the wax candles burning on the huge tree beside the pulpit and then the festive service, the proclamation: “A Saviour IS born”.

Childhood memories! Yes — but memories which helped to unite, forgive and bring together family and friends, events which helped to erase the hardships, struggles, and burdens, if only for a day, of a people drawn together for a common cause.

Skiing, sleighing and tobogganing were to fill many of our days with fun, laughter and recreation during the long winters. I can remember the warm March days when a group of us boys would use the bob sleighs to slide on. The cast-iron runners made the sleigh slide very lightly on the soft spring snow. We would remove the box and literally push and pull the sleighs to the top of the church hill, then we would fold the pole back over the rear sleigh so we could steer from there. All of us would jump on as we headed down the hill. There were a series of hills so we would slide down one and just barely rise over the next one, then we’d pick up speed again to slide over the next hill and finally onto the flat. The total slide would be almost a half mile. Then it was to push the sleighs back up again and away we would go. We weren’t too concerned about the work involved in getting the sleigh back up when we considered the few minutes of relaxation and fun we had on the ride down.

As kids we counted ourselves particularly fortunate as Dad was able to make our skis. I can recall the ski scaffold and jump at Swanlund’s, Welda’s, and of course the “big one” in Camrose. How we used to admire Justine Nordmoe, a lumberman in Hay Lakes, and the ease with which he flew through the air as he came off the jumps. He and a buddy of his used to come down the Camrose jump together making a very dramatic and breath-taking “twin jump” display. Nordmoe won many gold medals and I believe the Provincial as well as Dominion Championships on several occasions. I can still see his medals and trophies on display in his office.

The all-day ski and toboggan parties at Swanlund’s and Erickson’s on shrove Tuesday with the whole community joining in is recalled with

fondness. The dads would see to it that the big cast iron kettles were kept going and the mothers would be busy peeling and grating the potatoes and getting the “palt” or potato cakes ready for us young people when we returned from the hill, hungry, seat sore, and somewhat worse for wear, from the many toboggan rides, ski jumps and falls which we had taken.

The evening toboggan parties under a full moon and held at any place with good hills is also remembered. There was always a big lunch waiting for us as we returned from the hill.

Hockey also played an important part of our winter recreation. The hours worked and tons of snow pushed and shoveled off Johnson’s slough seemed but a small price in order to play a rival hockey game with Dinant, Sulitjelma, Armena, etcetra, or having a community skating party under a moonlit, star-filled sky. It was fun to skate crosshanded with visiting girls or play tag, darting in and out among other skaters. Thus the winters would pass quickly for youngsters or growing men and women.

Summer was an equally fun time with ball playing and picnics. Much can be said about the Old Breezy League and the rivalry of Hay Lakes, Dinant or Armena with our own East Hay Lakes team. Crowds of several hundred would turn out to witness the games. A local refreshment stand of ice cream (homemade), hot dogs, hamburgers, coffee and homemade pies added to the carnival air.

School days bring happy memories as well. We all attended the Brandland School. It was a large one-room school, with Grades one through eight and with as many as forty-five to fifty kids being taught by one teacher. How did they do it? There was never a dull moment, either in the classroom or at recess time as various games were enjoyed. Some of the games played included Ball, Pump-Pump Pull Away, Anti-I-Over, Prisoner’s Base, Hide-And-Go-Seek, and of course the old standby Cops and Robbers, as well as drowning gophers and chasing the girls.

Pie and box socials, Red Cross programs, geography and spelling contests, and strappings with a willow switch which we had to get ourselves, were all part of school life.

Picnics with races, ball games and various contests for everyone, such as nail driving, potato peeling, egg races, wheelbarrow races, elephant races, as well as the “stand” with watermelon, homemade pie and ice cream, candy bars and pop all helped to close the school year.

Even with no one having an abundance of money, life sure seemed to be filled with fun and excitement. I don’t think life was as hectic and people didn’t have the “hang ups” and frustrations of today. But then

maybe it didn’t take so much to satisfy us in those days either. I’m sure our imagination was considerably keener and more real in our days as we would tune in our “crystal set” to listen to “Lux Presents Hollywood” every Monday evening. What about “The Green Hornet”, “The Shadow”, “Dick Tracy”, “The Lone Ranger”, “Gang Busters”, “Fibber McGee and Molly” and, of course, Foster Hewitt’s “Hockey Night in Canada”. The present day viewers of television never saw a body-check thrown like the one we had in our minds’ eye of Eddie Shore, Red Horner, or Dit Clapper. How about the Colvilles, the Bentleys, Turk Broda or Frankie Brimsek?

There are many “happenings” which one recalls from childhood. Our parents were a persevering type. Mother was equal to Dad as she spun, knitted, sewed and baked for her family needs. Dad was very handy with saw and hammer as well as needle and thread making driving mitts from dog hides. It would be interesting to know how many pairs of mitts he has made, many of them most beautiful and warm. I can remember the tanning of the hides, the scraping and softening of the skin, and the smell of the paste he put on the flesh side before he folded the hide and left it to “cure”. The alum solution for soaking the hide, the combing and brushing of the hair on the finished product were the final touches. I still have a beautiful pair of mitts that Dad made for Mother from a black and white spotted dog of Alvin Forsen’s. My wife, Arlene, has used them occasionally for skiing at Banff and Jasper and they have drawn the envy of many skiers. Dad also made leather from moose, deer or cowhide which served a very useful purpose for harness or shoe repairs.

The “meat rings” were another unique method of having fresh meat in the summertime. A number of farmers (perhaps a dozen or so) would band together and each one would take turns giving an animal to be butchered. Then the meat would be cut and apportioned to each member. A record was kept so that no family received only soup bones or poor cuts but all had a share of good cuts, depending on whose turn it was.

The cutting of ice on Miquelon Lake in order to fill our ice house was rather an interesting adventure. It was fun to see the huge ice chunks float up when it was cut loose from the larger lake ice. No doubt it was heavy work for the adults handling those heavy pieces of ice with ice hooks and struggling to get them into the wagon box, then to unload them, pushing and pulling the big ice cubes into the corners or right place. The ice house itself was quite a building. Really a building within a building with walls about two or three feet apart. In between these walls

sawdust was packed which served as insulation to keep the ice from melting too fast. Thus we had ice for our milk and cream and for making ice cream as late as July and August.

The threshing crews which brought men, horses, wagons and food beyond all descriptions to our farmyards made a lasting impression upon the young minds. The excitement of activity and the smell of fresh straw piles added to the stories and pranks to stagger your imagination. The respect and admiration that the folks had for each other in those days was evident as I recall the threshing rig "shutting down" for a half hour during the funeral service of a neighbor.

I recall our four neighbors, the Carlstroms, Mattsons, Swanlunds, Danielsons and Persons purchasing a tractor and threshing machine together and forming a company called "The Hot Air Company". This outfit did a lot of threshing for these people. This was another indication of the uniqueness and ability to work together in those days.

Speaking of pranks, what about Halloween? Out-houses were upset, wagons and buggies were "moved" down the road a mile or two, cows were harnessed and some "hated" neighbor was hung in effigy.

Another event which became very meaningful and exciting to our community was the installation of the church bell. This project was assumed by the Luther League and was a gigantic financial undertaking in the 1930's. The bell cost over \$200.00 and weighed close to six hundred pounds. To appreciate the magnitude of this venture we must remember that this was in the height of the depression when money was scarce and farm products were practically worthless. Pigs sold for two or three dollars, cows three to five dollars, and wheat ten to twenty-five cents a bushel, so we have to admire the grit of a group of young people assuming a responsibility of this nature.

The bell was hoisted into the tower, a height of some forty feet, by a series of ropes, tackle and pulleys. The bell weighed six hundred pounds so this was no small feat. Then a floor solid and strong enough to support the bell at that height had to be built.

The bell frame had a large wooden wheel attached to it, which when given half a turn would strike the hammer. The wooden wheel had a long rope attached at the three o'clock position and then strung over the top of the wheel, and down to the ground. When one thus pulled the rope, the bell would be tipped and it would ring. There was also a single hammer that could be pulled to make single gongs several seconds apart. These single tollings of the bell took place

when a funeral service was being held and the casket was being carried from the church to the cemetery, a custom which is still being used today. The Wilhelmina Church stands on the highest point of land along the Interprovincial Pipe Line so when the bell is rung, the peels have been heard three to four miles away. The church bell has been rung for Sunday morning services, funerals, Christmas morning Jul-Otta and also for "ringing out the Old and ringing in the New Year".

Hearing the church bell ringing throughout the countryside reminds the community that men and women are gathering in the House of God to worship and praise God — a needed expression of worship desired by our pioneers and passed on to their children and children's children.

During the early years of the depression or the "hungry thirties", the economy of the country failed completely. Although we had no money, the folks on the farm, at least had meat and potatoes which was not the case in the larger city centres. In the city, people by the thousands were jobless, soup kitchens were set up and many "rode the rails" across the country seeking employment or some means of existing.

Peddlers selling various goods from clothing to red liniment would travel through by foot, horse, sometimes car, or by any other means available. I remember Charlie the Peddler, a Syrian Jew who travelled by horse and buggy selling clothing garments which he had obtained from the Hudson Bay Store or Zellers. Then there was a fellow who painted pictures on dinner plates with lamp soot and another who made magazine racks, or flower stands from red willows. How about Mr. Hess, the Rawleigh man, who came from Leduc? In the winter he drove horses, pulling a caboose on the sleigh. He was always a most welcome and delightful visitor as he would bring news from all the homes he visited. The well-known Rawleigh's Red Liniment was a must in household products as this cured both man and beast, internally and externally.

It was during this period that our Municipality initiated the program of paying a bounty for crow and magpie eggs and feet as well as gopher tails. We received a penny for the eggs and tails and five cents for a pair of feet. The Bailey Theatre in Camrose would allow us fifteen cents on a pair of feet toward the admission and twelve cents a dozen on crow or magpie eggs, not bad when hen's eggs were selling for ten to twelve cents a dozen.

We would roam the countryside looking for crow and magpie nests. When we found one it was to climb the tree, rob the eggs, bring them down safely and then poke a hole in either end and blow out the

insides. Then we would put them inside our cap, just above the visor, carrying them until the next tree. The gopher were trapped, snared, shot, drowned, or secured by any other means which we could think of. Some of us would skin the gopher and even try to sew tails from the hide. We saved the tails in coffee cans or tobacco tins and would end up with hundreds. It was a rather unique way of controlling pests and at the same time provided some pocket money for us.

There were other means of making a few dollars, as I can remember us shooting rabbits for the fox farms in Camrose. Rabbits seemed to be in unbelievable numbers and we would take the team and bobsleighs, drive up and down the roads and shoot the rabbits sitting in the willow bushes. If you were a good shot and didn't miss too often, this was a good means of making money. The fox farms paid us a nickle for the rabbits and a box of .22 shells cost only fifteen cents, so with a box of fifty shells we would get forty-five to fifty rabbits or \$2.25 to \$2.50 for a fifteen cent investment. We literally shot hundreds of rabbits.

Being four boys in the family we also did a lot of other hunting and trapping of weasels, coyotes, skunks and muskrats. A good sized weasel would bring us \$1-\$3, a skunk \$3-\$5, or muskrat \$1-\$2, and a coyote \$12-\$15. Not too many other fellows would go after the skunks, because of the smell, so we were pretty well alone for that pelt. We could all skin them without making much of a smell so we managed very well.

It was always fun to go hunting. Ducks, prairie chickens and partridges, as we call them, were always plentiful and we enjoyed shooting and roasting them for dinner. I remember hunting the partridge, which was rather a dumb bird. We had a dog which was very good at flushing the partridge out of the underbrush and then it would fly up and sit in the willows or lower branches. The dog would circle the tree while barking and this would hold the bird's attention. We used to make a snare from some fine wire, attached it to a long stick, slowly bring the snare end up to the partridge and slip it over his head, give a quick jerk and we had our supper!

Many of the early pioneers also ate rabbit, although we never did. I have tasted rabbit and it closely resembles chicken both in taste and in appearance.

It was also fun to find a drumming partridge log, and sit and watch the partridges flap their wings. They would start very slowly, gradually gain speed and end up beating their wings on their breast so fast you could not see the wings move but only hear a whirring sound. I have been told that it was only the

male that drummed and he did this to "show off" and attract the female. Also the same male would return to the same log year after year.

In the late thirties two events took place which changed the course of world history. The depression years were ended and "good times began to roll". Jobs, and consequently money became more available and many things which we had done without now became possible.

It was during this period that Algot attempted to raise mink. A long narrow-wired pen with a small enclosed house on one end was built for each mink. There was a lot of work involved in building the pens, shooting rabbits and mixing food and caring for them. The mink were a delicate and very particular animal, somewhat difficult to care for, so he had the misfortune to lose several of them. He built his "mink ranch" up to about a hundred animals and when he sold them all, perhaps it could be said he "broke even".

Then in 1939 Britain declared war on Germany. A mad Nazi by the name of Adolf Hitler had invaded the Rhineland, Czechoslovakia and Poland while the nations of the world looked on in horror and amazement. When the German tanks rolled into Poland on September 1, 1939 Hitler had gone far enough. Britain and France declared war on Germany. Canada followed shortly. World War II had begun.

Thousands of young Canadians joined the Armed Forces and went overseas for the cause of freedom. Albin and Alver were among those who served overseas. It was not an easy task for Mother and Dad to see two of their sons leave for overseas duty at the same time. In this, however, they were not alone as many other parents were to experience the same heartache and anxiety. Even though there was rationing of certain food products and other commodities (sugar, coffee, gasoline and some hardware; Albin obtained the hay carriage track for the barn when he was stationed in Vernon, B.C.) Canadians at home did not have to suffer a great deal during the war. Algot purchased honey bees and sold honey for several years to compensate for the sugar rations. Many ladies became very adept at cooking and preserving with honey.

In 1937 Judith married Hilding Swanlund and they lived at Stettler for a few years. Shortly after the breakout of the war they moved to Montreal where Hilding was employed by Fairchild Aircraft, manufacturers of the Bolingbroke Bombers which were used throughout the war.

The anxiety and sorrow borne by many Canadian parents as sons and daughters were reported missing or killed in action took a heavy toll. Many homes were disrupted and family life would never be the

same. The contributions made by Canadians, whether it was through Red Cross boxes, knitting socks and mittens, Victory Bonds, or sons and daughters, all contributed to make Canada very proud and envied of her war efforts.

After the war Albin and Alver returned home. Albin carried on where he had left off on the farm, while Alver spent almost two years in a Tuberculosis Sanatorium, then returned to school and completed his Senior Matriculation at Camrose Lutheran College. In 1957 Alver graduated from the Alberta School of Mortuary Science. Judith and Hilding also returned home, worked in Ponoka and Wetaskiwin for a time, then moved to Edmonton and bought a home there where they lived for almost twenty-eight years. In 1976 Hilding retired from his position with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and he and Judith were to take up residence with their daughter and son-in-law, Alice and Michael Lee, on an acreage southeast of Sherwood Park.

Shortly after his retirement, Hilding developed circulation problems in his leg and had to have it amputated. This led to further complications resulting in a paralyzing stroke. He passed away in 1978 and is buried at Wilhelmina. Judith continues to make her home with Alice and Michael and their three sons.

Another event which was to have a great impact and help shape the already booming Alberta economy was the historic Imperial Oil discovery in the Leduc field in 1947. We could say that "Alberta has never looked back" for many improvements came to rural life: better roads and transportation methods, underground telephone lines, and improved buildings and conveniences. Perhaps the greatest improvement in our homes was rural electrification in 1953 and natural gas in 1974.

Dad and Mother remained on the farm along with Algot and Albin. Mother became ill and suffered for many years. Dad remained very faithful and devoted to her, even to the extent of wearing himself out in caring for her. When he finally consented to place Mother in the Bethany Home in Camrose, he had already given so much of himself, that he passed away rather suddenly, completely worn out, in 1960. Mother continued to live under Bethany's excellent care until 1964. Both Mother and Dad are buried at Wilhelmina.

With Albin home to assist with the farming operation, Ingvar decided to leave the farm and seek employment in Edmonton. He was employed at Canadian Equipment Sales and Service Company for several years building oil storage tanks.

While in Edmonton, Ingvar married Leota Moon. In 1968 he had to quit work because of ill

health. After several years of fighting the dreaded disease of cancer he passed away in 1972 and is buried in the home church cemetery of Wilhelmina. Albin married Hazel Johnson from Claresholm and they have made their home on the farm, where Algot and Albin continue to farm.

Alver married Arlene Skaret, daughter of William and Margaret (Heiner) Skaret. They have two children, Kathryn and John. Following his graduation from Mortuary School, Alver became a funeral director and was employed in Camrose. In 1965, he and Arlene purchased the Bugar Funeral Home and they continue to live in Camrose and operate the funeral home. Alver says it's rather interesting to think of himself in the funeral business as he can remember his Dad building caskets and preparing bodies in the days before an undertaker was used in the community.

In conclusion, it may be said that none of us became famous; but to quote Charles Lindberg the aviator, "to gain fame is to lose life". We have enjoyed life, and if we have been privileged to make any contribution to society, it is because of the heritage we have received from our pioneers.

Schaffrick, Dwayne A.

I was the first born as the only son to Art and Reva Schaffrick on December 8, 1947 in the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton and lived with my parents in the village of Hay Lakes.

I attended the Hay Lakes school as far as Grade nine and then quit to go working out. I moved to New Sarepta where I got a job with Westline petroleum with Otto Gutnekt and from there I went to Rosewood Products, also of New Sarepta.

Later on I moved to Edmonton and started driving trucks for Kaps Transport. Kaps worked mostly up north so I was in Zammo Lake and Rainbow Lake most of the time. While working for Kaps I bought my first truck from Rosewood Products in New Sarepta.

After I quit Kaps I came home to Hay Lakes and rented Ivor Lofgren's farm and decided to help Dad with his business, so we formed a partnership together. Later on, I decided to quit trucking for awhile. In 1974 I sold the truck to Dad, which he still has, and we left the partnership.

In 1972, I met Corinne Thompson, born on August 26, 1954, daughter of Loyde and Lily Thompson of New Sarepta and on June 22, 1973, we were married in the St. John's Lutheran Church in New Sarepta with Pastor Frank performing the ceremony.

In March of 1973, I bought Clarence Sware's farm, NE 13-49-21-W4, where we made our home after we were married and I began farming. The first

three or four years we had some bad luck with our crops because of the weather so I went back to work.

In January, 1977, I went back to driving a truck and bought another truck, and also incorporated our business as Schaffrick's Holdings Limited. I went working for Sandy's Light Oilfield Hauling of Edmonton and was sent out to various places from Alsaka to Quebec City. I stayed with Sandy's for a year and then went free-lancing and worked for several other oil companies.

At present we are still on the farm and with farming and trucking taking up most of my time, the little spare time I do have is spent with my family. We have three daughters, Denise, born on August 23, 1974; Dawn, born on October 1, 1976; and Erin, born on June 16, 1981.

Selin, Albert and Family

I, Albert Nelvin Selin, being the sixth child of Axel Selin, lived in the Hay Lakes district all my life. I was born on December 26, 1908 and walked to attend school at Brandland. Then the school house burnt down. I continued school in the Wilhelmina Church until the new school was built.

I attended Sunday School at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church and was confirmed there also on June 28, 1925.

Axel Selin invested in a steamer with his brother and used it for threshing grain and sawing lumber.

As a child I worked at a saw mill built by my dad, Axel Selin, and Anton Pearson. Charlie Carlson operated the steamer which was owned by Joe Kreamer, a partner, who lived northwest of Hay Lakes.

Work was not easy in those times as they threshed with bundles which meant stooking the bundles until the grain was dry. Then threshing started by loading the bundles into a hayrack pulled by horses and hauled to the threshing machine.

I played a banjo and joined in a band with Oliver Selin and Thor Johnson on violins. The drummers were Hugo Hovelson and Norman Welda. Stanley Selin played the accodian. We played at dances throughout the community.

As time went on I figured it was time to start looking for a wife. Four years later on August 18, 1934, I was united in marriage to Alvie Matson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Matson. She was born at Hay Lakes on February 9th, 1911. She had attended school in the district as well as being confirmed at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.

We started our farm on Canadian Pacific Railroad land by taking over payments from a previous owner. We built a home and farm of our own after clearing



Albert and Alvie Selin — 1934.

the land. There were no buildings and no land broken for farming. The farm was and is still located a quarter mile south of Wilhelmina Church which is situated east of Hay Lakes.

In our union four children were born. The oldest daughter is Marylin, then Velma and Barbara. Lelia was predeceased at birth.

As time went on I rented Axel Dahlin's quarter south of mine. We managed to have milk cows, hogs and chickens.

We now faced a real misfortune. Alvie passed away in St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose on November 13th, 1962 at the age of fifty-one years.

As the girls started getting married farming for me became much harder. I decided to sell our farm in 1971. Then I moved to Hay Lakes where I had bought a small house which was known earlier as the creamery house. This is where I still live.



Albert Selin Family. L. to R.: Velma and Theresa, Barbara, Alvie, Albert, Marilyn.

Brattly, Barbara (Selin)

I am the third daughter of Albert and Alvie Selin, born at the Camrose Hospital, May 19, 1947.

I started school in Hay Lakes and finished there also in 1964.

I was baptized and confirmed in the Wilhelmina Lutheran Church.

In 1966, I was married in the Messiah Lutheran Church in Camrose to Donald Brattly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Brattly of New Norway.

We were blessed with two children, our son, Scott, and our daughter, Yolanda. While in Camrose I worked at Bethany Home and Woolworths. We decided to move to British Columbia. Blueberry Creek was the first move, then to Qualicum Beach and then to Lantzville where we now live.

Here, Don works at McMillan and Bodell in Nanaimo, British Columbia and I worked in the Parksville Credit Union and the Bank of Commerce. At the present time I am at home being a housewife.

Wilson, Marylin (Selin)

I was born on November 30, 1941 to Albert and Alvie Selin. I started Grade one in 1947 at Brandland School and skied through the fields of John Person's and Alhard Johnson's in the winter time. I was bused to the Hay Lakes School for Grades two through eleven. I took Grade twelve at Camrose Lutheran College in Camrose (1959-60).

I was baptized, confirmed and married at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church. I married Doug Wilson from Camrose (grandson to Jacob and Anna Watland, formerly of Hay Lakes).

We have two daughters. Theresa, who was married in April, 1981, works for the Calgary School Board. Lynnette is completing Grade twelve. Our son, Allen, passed away at seven months in February, 1967.

I worked at the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool in Camrose for eight years until moving to Calgary in 1969. Doug works through the Ironworkers' Union. Here I'm a housewife and have been secretary for the community for seven years.

In our spare time we enjoy bowling, camping and fishing.

We reside on Radisson Drive in south-east Calgary, Alberta.

We visit Albert Selin, my dad, as often as possible. When in this area we also visit Doug's parents in Camrose.

Fournier, Velma (Selin)

I, Velma Fournier (nee Selin) am the second daughter of Albert and Alvie Selin. I was born on January 14, 1945. I started my Grade one in the Hay Lakes School and completed my Grade eleven there also. I was baptized and confirmed at Wilhelmina Lutheran church, which was one-quarter mile north of our home. In November, 1962 we were faced with the misfortune of losing our dear mother.

On November 24, 1962 I was married to Aime Fournier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fournier of New Sarepta. Aime had also attended school in Hay Lakes for a short time.

Aime helped his folks on the farm, then decided to go to work for Leduc Construction, which meant travelling away from home for long periods of time.

We have three children: Lorene, born in 1963, is completing her Grade twelve in Wetaskiwin this year. Jacqueline, born in 1964, is now in Grade eleven, and Bradley, born in 1970, is in Grade five.

Through the years we have lived in Taber, Warburg, Grand Centre, Slave Lake, Lloydminster, Calgary and now Wetaskiwin. I work at the Wetaskiwin Nursing Home and Aime started his own Livestock hauling business.

We are now situated on a Dairy Farm in the Leduc area.

Our family often comes to Hay Lakes so that we can visit my father, Albert Selin. He looks forward to seeing the grandchildren.

Selin, Oliver and Irma

Oliver Selin was born at Lundemo, Alberta on May 15, 1906. He married Irma Forsen, born May 1, 1913, the third child of Olaf and Mina.

They started farming on SE 36-48-21 W4 for-

merly owned by Peter Peterson. They remained there until 1956 when they rented the farm to Stanley Selin and moved to Camrose. Oliver worked as a carpenter for Jubilee Construction and Irma worked as a cook at St. Mary's Hospital.

Four children: one son and three daughters were born to this union.



Back Row: Reuben and Oliver. Front Row: Leona, Irva, Elizabeth and Irma.

Reuben married Sherryn Westlin of Calmar, Alberta. They live in Calmar and Reuben works for the town of Devon. They have one daughter and two sons.

Leona married Floyd Carpenter of Donnvile, Ontario, and they live in Welland, Ontario where Leona works as a Registered Nursing Aid. They have one daughter and two sons.

Irva married Harold Batke of Kelsey, Alberta. They live in Surrey, British Columbia. Irvan works at Essendale Hospital in New Westminster. They have five daughters and one son.

Elizabeth married Ronald Eliason of Hay Lakes, and they live in Ponoka. Ron is employed as a Treasury Branch Inspector Supervisor and Elizabeth is employed in the Treasury Branch.

Oliver drowned in a boating mishap on June 8, 1958 at Dried Meat Lake.

Irma married Martin Johnson of Landis, Saskatchewan on October 19, 1961. They moved back to the Selin farm until 1969 when they sold to Barret Clark and retired to live in Ladysmith, British Columbia.

Gordon and Ruth Simonson

My parents, Nils and Anna Johnson, along with my brother Chall and sister Brith came to Canada from Sweden in 1925, arriving in Kingman. They settled on a quarter of land near Armena, known later as the Hans Palm farm, NW 25-48-21-W4. I was born in 1929 at home, with Mrs. Lindberg as midwife.

My father developed double pneumonia and passed away when I was two years old. The task of managing the farm and raising us children became difficult for Mother, and we went to live with my uncle, Axel Dahlin, until she found employment keeping house for various people.

I grew up in the Brandland-Wilhelmina district during the so-called "hungry 30's". I believe there was more feasting and socializing all year round then. Money was scarce but who needed money for watching ball games or attending an outdoor skating party on Hansel Johnson's slough or tobogganing and skiing on the beautiful hills of the Swanlund and Jaycock farms.

I recall weekends spent with my best friend, Ardis Johnson, her sister, Doreen, and brother, Ernie. On Saturday morning after the chores were done, Ardis's dad, Sture, would hitch the horse to the buggy and let us go to Hay Lakes. I'm not sure what we went for but no doubt Mabel and Sture thought it was a good way to get rid of us for a few hours.

Fond memories go back to Thora, Alma, and Agnes Johnson who were so artistic in helping us many times to decorate boxes for box-socials.

Walking in the woods was a favorite pastime. In the summertime we would look for pretty butterflies and rocks for a collection. Or crow eggs. It was always good to have Ernie with us to climb the trees. In the wintertime we would spend hours having fun on the crusty snowbanks.

Many fond memories of my childhood days come to me when we pass the Brandland School building which was moved to the west shore of Miquelon Lake. It is presently being used by the United Farmers of Alberta.

I took my High school in Kingman and at the John Russel school on to the Marvel School of Hair-dressing in Edmonton.

On April 7th, 1947, I married Gordon Simonson, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Simonson of

Kingman. Prior to our marriage Gordon spent four years in the Armed forces and a couple years with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

We lived in Edmonton and rented a two-bedroom house for \$25 a month. Gordon was employed by the Canadian National Railroad as trainman until a train mishap at the Forestburg Coal mine in 1952. Due to his handicapped hand he was unable to return to his regular job and went to work at the MacDonald Hotel as an elevator man. It was not exactly Gordon's taste to be standing in an elevator shaft all day as he liked the outdoors.

Both of us were young and ambitious and full of vim and vigor, and having been raised on a farm we decided that maybe farming wouldn't be a bad idea. Little did I know then what life would be like when we traded our nearly new gas stove for a milking machine.

The next few years were busy ones. In 1953 Gordon bought his first tractor, an Oliver 77, from Eric Lofgren and rented my stepfather's Albanus Johnson's, farm, SW 4-49-20-W4. In 1960 we bought the half section and planted a windbreak on each side of the farmstead. The following year we added another eighty acres.

We raised everything from goats and sheep to hogs and chickens but our main source of income was our dairy cows.

Gordon and I worked side by side until I decided there had to be an easier way to make a living than milking cows. In 1968 I went to work as an Institutional Aide at the Rosehaven Care Centre and Gordon continued milking until a farm accident forced him to sell our herd. So now after twenty-five years and with no cows to milk it seems like we're semi-retired farmers. We have three children.



Taken 1981 — Camrose. Back Row, L. to R.: Blaine, Gordon, Bryan. Kneeling: Robin, Brenda holding Shane, Ruth, Kari, Kelly, Linda.

Our oldest son, Bryan Gordon, was born in 1947 at St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose. He started school at Dinant. Mrs. Grace French taught in the one-room school that held Grades one to six. He took Junior High school at Kingman and in 1965 finished High school at Round Hill, in which year he was the county male athlete of the year.

Farm chores were very much a part of Bryan's life during his school years. He would give a good part of his time making hay, and raking in front of Ed Nordin's baler.

In 1965, Bryan enrolled in Exploration Technology at the Northern Institute of Technology, working during the summer months in remote areas of the North West Territories where the only transportation was by helicopter and canoe. He spent one year in Calgary working for Pan-American Petroleum. In 1968 he enrolled at the University of Alberta in Mechanical Engineering. In 1970 he married Linda Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Campbell of Round Hill. Linda is a Registered Nurse. After his graduation in 1972 they moved to Vancouver where he was employed with Shell Canada.

In April 1973 we were blessed with our first grandchild, Kari Leigh, and our second granddaughter, Kelly Jan, arrived May, 1975.

In 1974, Bryan began employment with British Columbia Hydro, where he is presently employed as an engineer. They reside in North Vancouver.

Our daughter, Brenda Louise, Mrs. Blaine Rosland, was born in 1955. Her story is found elsewhere in this book.

Our youngest son, Robin Dale, was born in St. Mary's Hospital in December, 1959. He took his elementary and Junior High school at Kingman. He was active in Cubs and Scouts and attended the Alberta Jamboree at Sylvan Lake. During his years at Camrose Composite High School, he worked at Safeways after school hours and for Dar-West Oil Services in Edmonton during the summer months. After finishing High school he was employed by Dar-West Oil Services and in 1978 started apprenticing as an electrician. He is presently attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, finishing his third year. He lives at home.

Brenda (Simonson) Rosland

I was born in Camrose, Alberta, August 7, 1955, the only daughter of Gordon and Ruth Simonson and "blessed" with two brothers, Bryan and Robin. We live five miles southeast of Miquelon Lake.

I attended Kingman School for Grades one through nine and Camrose Composite for High school. Although I drifted away from the Hay Lakes district when I started school I'll always remember

going to the annual sports days and the creamery days. I attended Wilhelmina Church until I started school and then went to Bethlehem Church. I was confirmed at Scandia Church in Armena.

While going to High school I worked part time at Bethany Nursing Home and full time after finishing High school. In January, 1975, I started working at the Smith Clinic in Camrose. That summer I married Blaine Rosland, son of Ole and Eileen Rosland of Camrose.

We farm six miles northeast of Camrose and Blaine works for Stelco Steele Company. In 1976 I started working at Rosehaven Care Centre until the birth of our son, Shane Douglas, November 19, 1980. At present we farm full time and enjoy what life offers.

The Swanlund Family

Erik Oskar Swanlund 1876-1949

Sara Evelina Swanlund 1887-1960

submitted by Peggy Swanlund

In 1905, the new province of Alberta was named after a Royal princess in far-off London. At the same time, young Erik Swanlund decided to leave Svanäs, near Wilhelmina, Västerbotten, Sweden to seek his fortune in the new and promising land.

To European eyes, one hundred and sixty acres seemed vast, but Oskar, like many of the Swedish immigrants who settled east of Hay Lakes, was to find that the well-wooded acres were hilly and hard to cultivate. He never found the easy life he would have liked to have for his family, but, as one of the children so aptly put it, "We weren't poor; we just didn't have any money." In this they were not alone.

A stream of other settlers followed. Erik Peter and Eva Kristina Christofferson and family arrived in 1907. The following year, their daughter Sara joined them, and in 1909 Sara and Oskar were married.

To this marriage were born fourteen children. Three little girls succumbed to illness in early childhood, and one son was stillborn. The ten children who survived to adulthood were:

Hilding (1910-1978) His widow, Judith, lives beside her son-in-law and only daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lee, of Sherwood Park.

Herminie (1911-1980) Her husband, Professor Arthur Eriksson still resides in Edmonton.

Leonard still lives in Edmonton. His beloved Ellen (nee Lund) died in 1975. In 1981, the family was happy to welcome Katie Nason as the newest Mrs. Swanlund.

Holmfred, who lives in Devon, married Esther Matson.

Angnar, of Edmonton is married to Erma (nee Sikstrom).



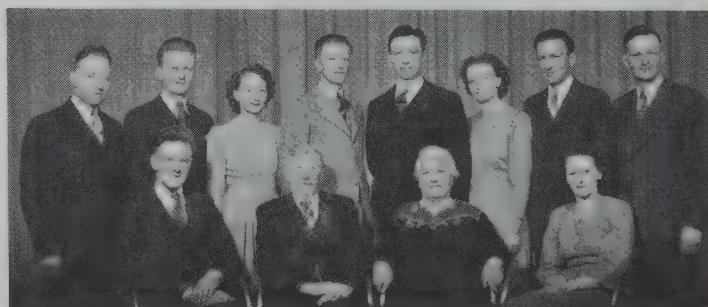
Mr. and Mrs. Erik Petter Christofferson.

Nannie, of Campbell River, British Columbia, married Chester Grue.

Hjalmer, of Drayton Valley, married Adeline Erga.

Verner, of Edmonton, brought home a Scottish war-bride, Peggy Cunningham.

Seena, of Medicine Hat, lost her husband, Everett Day, in 1980.



The Swanlund Family — 1947. Back Row, L. to R.: Hilding, Holmfred, Herminie, Verner, Leonard, Nannie, Hjalmer, Angner. Front, L. to R.: Rudolph, Erik Oskar, Sara Evelina, Seena.

Rudolph, of Red Deer, married Joan Webster.

Life was not easy in the early years. Two-year old Rudy had to be rushed by bobsled to Thronson's, thence by car to Camrose, after he drank from a can of lye. His life was spared, but he has had numerous operations to correct the damage. Leonard survived a ruptured appendix and Verner incurred only a broken leg when a tombstone fell on him. Verner also was rushed to Camrose when he suffered numerous hornet stings.

Oskar was one of those who helped organize the Wilhelmina congregation. Indeed, his land was one of the proposed sites for the church, but it was not chosen. The hilly land, not the best for cultivation, was excellent for skiing and tobogganing, and many community Sports days were held there.

The family owned an organ and sundry other musical instruments and many a winter's evening was spent making music together with any neighbours who dropped in. The soul of hospitality, Sara, opened her home to friends and relatives who sometimes stayed for months or years at a time. Travellers were welcome too, and many a night the children slept on mattresses on the floor so that the adults could be accommodated.

Oskar was well known for his skill as a well driller, carpenter and blacksmith. He also ran one of the first threshing machines in the community.

Three sons served their country with distinction in World War II. Fred joined the Royal Canadian Air Force, Angnar the Black Watch, and Verner served in the 29th Armoured Reconnaissance. Hilding, Leonard and Nannie served in Defence industries while the remaining sons kept the farm going. Angnar was wounded and captured by the Nazis in 1944 but was released nine days later by United States' forces.

Not all of the boys' wartime memories were so sad, however. Verner's favourite memory was of encountering Ted Grahn somewhere in Holland. They were joined by Oscar Grahn and entertained to a sight-seeing tour of the Dutch countryside in his jeep.

The direct descendants now consist of: 8 surviving children, 30 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Winder, Pehr and Family by Mrs. Gail Winder

The Winder family came from Halsingland, Sweden in 1901 to Canada in search of gold. They settled in Manitoba and while their search for gold was unsuccessful, they were quite productive in other areas and there are now many Winders around the country to carry on the family name!

Eric, Inga and Peter were born in Sweden; Hilma, Esther, Lena and Tillie were born in Manitoba. In

1911, they left Manitoba and came to work on the railroad at Edson for a few months, their home at this time being a tent. From there, they moved to Kingman and filed on a homestead, NW 32-49-20-W4 and here too, Signa, Albin and Lily were born. The old house still stands, but long gone are the days when they rowed a boat from their doorway as the lake has receded many, many feet.

The school they attended at this time (not all the family were able to obtain schooling) was Miquelon School. This was located where Irwin Olsen presently lives.

Peter married the former Tillie Eastberg. Peter is now deceased; his widow lives in Kingman. Inga married Magnus Sware; they are both deceased. Signa married Oscar Broen and they now reside in Vanenby, British Columbia. Albin married Althea Ekdahl and they live in Duhamel. Lily married Verne Fox and they reside in Calgary. Tillie married Fred Williams and they also live in Calgary. Esther married Jason Henderson who was later killed in a vehicle accident. Esther lives in Tofield. Hilma married Ollie Sware, and they are both deceased. Lena married Con Johnson who is also deceased. Lena lives in Clyde. Eric married Louisa Hoflin. Eric is deceased, and Louisa resides in Tofield.

As Eric is Conrad's dad, I will enlarge a bit on his history. Eric Lars was born in 1895 in Sweden. After the war, he bought land south of Miquelon Lake, SW 18-49-20-W4, where Ernie Johnson eventually settled. In 1927, Eric married Amelia Louisa Hoflin and moved to this land. In 1930, they left this and moved in with Eric's parents while they searched for a homestead. In 1932, while out walking a long way from home, they found the one they wanted and filed on NE 13-50-21-W4. This land still remains in the family and is presently farmed by the youngest boy, Larry.

To Eric and Louisa were born ten children. One stillborn baby is lying at rest in an unmarked grave at Wilhelmina Lutheran Church cemetery. These children are Elsie, Verne, Ethel, Hazel, Ken, Conrad, Glen, Brian and Larry. Elsie Lillian was united in marriage to Robert Swirhun on February 10, 1950. They have three children and reside at Kelowna, British Columbia. Alfred Vernon was born November 6, 1928. He married Lorraine Hoflin in 1948 and had five children. Verne was killed in a vehicle accident July 20, 1957. Ethel Louise was born September 14, 1931. She married Doug Switzer October 23, 1954. They reside at Sundre and have four children. Hazel Eleanor, born October 2, 1935 married Lloyd Raine on April 17, 1954. They are missionaries for the Baptist Church and reside in Calcutta, India. They have three living children, one having been deceased at birth. Ken Peter was born January 25,

1941. He married Sylvia Wideman and had four children. They reside at Morecambe. Conrad married Gail Gill on November 24, 1962. They have four children and reside at Camrose. Glen Norris was born July 9, 1944. On September 7, 1968 he married Marian Hardy. They reside at Hay Lakes and have two children. Brian Eric was born April 15, 1946. He married Claudette Ouellette and they live at Drayton Valley, with three girls. Larry Arnold was born November 11, 1948. He married Sharon Christensen October 25, 1969. They have four children.

Eric was deceased April 18, 1952. Louisa moved to a house in Tofield on November 16, 1976.

After Conrad and I were married in 1962, we bought a trailer and went to Olds, where “hubby” was to work for the winter. A week later he was off to Fox Creek and I was left to discover the jollies in an unskirted trailer in the dead of winter. The water froze and I, I didn’t dare move away from the furnace lest I freeze up too, as it was that cold in the trailer. In the spring we moved to the Allendale Trailer Court in Edmonton where we resided until July. Or at least I resided as Mr. Winder was seldom able to be home. In July, we moved to Swan Hills where Con was a driller and worked long hours but at least he was home. In December, 1963 Dale Conrad was born at the Barrhead hospital, sixty-five miles away.

The following August we left “the Hills” with much regret as at this time it was a paradise for hunting and fishing. We settled in Edson and there we found a farmer who would pasture my two horses that were still at my parents’ at Tofield, so now the horses joined our family too. One mare is still with us at the time of writing. In 1966, Angela Jeannette was born in the Edson hospital and suddenly our little eight by thirty-six foot trailer was too small so we splurged on a twelve by sixty-foot trailer. A regular mansion after the former one! We spent much time hunting and fishing. On day my hubby pulled a real blunder — he drove us into a creek with a four-wheel drive on one of our hunting expeditions, only to find that out in midstream that the winch didn’t work! There we sat — water up to the running board, with one three-year-old and one baby! Not only did he have to hand-winch us across that creek by the use of a tree, but he had to turn us right around and go back by the same method as we were on a dead-end road. That was one tired man!

After living four years in Edson, we moved to Fox Creek — the end of no-where at that time. The trailer court was just being built and they pulled our trailer in by a caterpillar. Lovely, lovely clay! What a change we saw in that town! We moved our horses along with us and fenced some land in the bush. The Forestry Department was nice enough to turn a blind eye to us, thank goodness. We bought a stallion and

some mares and settled down to raising horses on the side. “Hubby” also got his Guide license and when not working on the rigs, took hunters out. One of our most memorable experiences at Fox Creek was of shooting, from horseback, two moose right at dusk about five miles from nowhere! We had two frightened kids along — Dale being about four and a half and Angela two years old. Con had to clean the animals by flashlight while the coyotes howled around us and then we rode home in pitch blackness — one could not see his hand in front of his face. A good thing was that our trusty steeds knew their way!

Buddy Duane joined our family at Fox Creek. He was born in the Whitecourt hospital, again sixty-five miles away. On his first day home from the hospital, Con took us all out driving and shot a moose. Not every new-born lad can experience that!

In 1970, we bought a farm at Andrew, consisting of five hundred and twenty-two acres with the full intentions of moving there and farming it. However, this did not materialize and we sold this land in March 1981. After living four years at Fox Creek, we moved to forty acres at Ardrossan, where Con would work out of the Edmonton office. This land had a small house on it, so the trailer and we parted company. Douglas Kent joined our family there, being born in the Charles Camsell hospital, only twenty-five miles away this time.

In 1975, we travelled across Canada with Con’s brother, Brian, and his wife. What a wonderful, memorable experience it was right down to the maggot soup aboard the Newfoundland ferry! Needless to say, soup was not on our menu the rest of the trip! Luckily, it was a trip with few worries as they would all begin after we arrived home.

All these many years, Con had been working for Baldwin and Knoll Limited. A couple of years previous they sold to another company and suddenly all employees were laid off and the new company was sold out. After much stewing and worrying, Con talked to brother Glen and his wife Marian, and it was then that the idea of going into business for themselves was born. Thus it was that in September 1975, C and G Oilwell Services Ltd. came into being. In an effort to be closer to the job, which mainly operated in the Camrose area, we decided to move. We eventually found the Ernest and Ethel Nordin farm to our liking and on the market, so in June 1977, we moved to the Camrose area and proceeded to farm and run the service rig business also. For a short period of a year, Con had a hot oil unit which operated under Con’s Hot Oil Services Ltd., but we found we were being snowed under so we sold that unit. In 1978, Glen and Marian moved to the Art Grahn farm and the cycle is complete — the Winders are back around the Miquelon Lake again!

G. Sych sr.
W. Sych
I. Sych



Ellswick School District 2203 researched by Pauline Maruschak

Ellswick School District 2203 was organized in 1909 and the school was built in 1910. School opened for classes in January 1911 with Mr. James Alexander McDougall as first teacher.

The school was situated in the north-west corner of SW 7-48-21-W4 on the land then owned by Arthur Henry Ladell. The school opened with an enrollment of about thirty-five pupils, ranging in age from seven years to the late teens. Some of the pupils had to go as far as five miles to attend school.



Ellswick School No. 2203. Located in the north-west corner of SW 7-21-48-W4. Built in 1910 and closed in 1950.

We do not have a record of the length of time some of the following teachers taught Ellswick, but we do know that some taught four months, some six months, and so me stayed for a full school year. The teachers that taught Ellswick were: Mr. James Alexander McDougall, Mr. Gordon Fraser, Mr. Gordon

Gemeroy, Miss Bankroft, Mrs. Lederwood, Mrs. Wood, Miss Rufus, Carl Hendrickson, Gordon Gemeroy (again), Miss Maude Anderson (from Easter to the end of term), Miss MacPherson (two months), Mrs. Carthrite, Mr. Becket.

1922-1923	Mrs. B. Freeman
1923-1924	Mr. C. C. Porter
1924-1925	Mrs. Walsh
1925-1926	Mr. Alfred Cameron
1926-1927	Mr. D. Mowe, Mr. Patterson (a few months each)
1927-1928	Mr. Martin Badner
1928-1929	Miss Mary Kawalilak
1929-1930	Miss Helen Shermak
1930-1932	Mrs. Helen Galenza (nee Shermack)
1932 (September to December)	Mrs. Mary Pelz
1933-1935	Miss Anne Balko
1935-1938	Miss Pauline Wynnyk
1938-1940	Miss Helen Kalawsky
1940-1946	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak
1946 (February and March)	Mr. Schultz
1946-1947	Miss Mary Saprovich
1947-1948 (except May and June)	Mrs. Mary Pelz
1948 (May and June)	Mr. Anderson
1948-1949 (except May and June)	Mrs. Mary Pelz
1949 (May and June)	K. O. Dahl
1949-1950	Mr. Steve Antoski

In June 1950 the Ellswick school dismissed its pupils for the last time. In September, 1950, the Ellswick School District was amalgamated with the Hay Lakes village school and the pupils were taken by bus to Hay Lakes. The school building was sold to John Sych in 1953. The site went back to the owner of the land on which the school was built.

Ellswick School

by Maude Wright (nee Anderson)

(Maude Wright was a teacher as well as a pupil of

Western School Supply Co., Regina, Sask.

Ellswick School District No. *2203*

Hayley Alta Dec 9 191*2*

Received from *A. Maruschak*

the sum of *Eight* ⁵⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars

being Taxes for the current year amounting to ... \$ *8.55*

~~and Arrears amounting to~~ \$..

~~and Interest amounting to~~ \$..

Total \$ *8.55*

A. H. Ladell

Sec. Treas. *Ellswick* S. D. No. *2203*

the school, in the early days. She presently resides at McBride, B.C.)

There were five of us children of the Anderson family that attended Ellswick School: John, Edward, Ada, Maude and Charles.

This school was opened in January of 1911, with perhaps about thirty-five children in attendance. There were about six English seven Swedes and the balance were Polish and Ukrainian who knew very little of English at that time.

Our teacher, Mr. McDougall, came from Prince Edward Island. We were supplied with double desks, slates and slate pencils. We each were given a reader suited to our reading level. School was heated with a wood heater.

Discipline was very rigid. At times the hickory stick (only it was a willow) was applied to offenders. This however was rare, and would frighten all of us.

The cloak room was cold. It had a shelf where we had a pail of water, a common drinking cup, a wash basin, soap and a towel which was seldom washed. All this was during the "good old days". I rather think we were not plagued with more sickness then, than in schools of today with all sanitary conveniences.

All the children walked to school. This may have helped to keep them physically fit.

School Days

by Pauline Maruschak

Religion and education moved into our province hand in hand. The pioneers who came to this com-

munity shared common hope for better future for themselves and their children. Schools were often the centre of the community activities.

I did not come into this world until 1913, so I do not know much about education in the early days of our province. However, I have heard and read many interesting stories of the past.

Personally, I have spent forty-one and a half years of my life in a classroom, twelve of them as a student and twenty-nine and half as a teacher. They have been most memorable years. I have seen many changes throughout those years. It would fill a book to tell them all, so I'll just mention a few.

A teacher's job has always been an interesting and a challenging one. Like any other job it has its ups and downs. As you devote your time to the career, it gradually becomes part of your life. The boys and girls in your classroom soon become "your boys and girls". Their joys are your joys, their problems become your problems. You rejoice at their success and your heart aches for their weaknesses. In time you learn to love them all for what they are, regardless of their abilities or their shortcomings.

My first permanent teaching position was in the Ellswick School. It brings to mind a lot of wonderful and exciting memories.

Jobs and money were scarce during the depression years. A person was fortunate to have a job of any kind. It was wonderful to get \$50.00 a month. I was one of the fortunate that got paid each month. Some teachers in the province couldn't collect their



Ellswick School Pupils — Back Row, L. to R.: Victor Galenza, August Bittner, Ernest Russell, Henry Galenza, William (Bill) Maruschak, Helen Galenza, Alice Galenza, Elsie Schoenknecht. Second Row: Peter Maruschak, Peter Pasula, Thomas Peltz, Anton Williko, Stanley Galenza, Ted Russell. Front Row: Ewald Bittner, Alex Nalewayko, Ted Nalewayko, John Galenza, Johanna Nalewayko, Louise Galenza, Cecillia Lickoch, Doris Willisko. 1926 or 1927.

salary even at the end of June. The school board could not afford to pay them.

In those days, teachers and pupils bought all their school supplies. The teacher usually bought a little extra because there was always a child or two that needed a pencil or an eraser, a ruler or a scribbler. Often roads were impassable for weeks at a time in winter, and even in summer people did not go to town very often. If a child lost his pencil or if his scribbler got used up, the teacher usually "helped out" with what was needed.

Tight economy was practiced on all school supplies and equipment. The School Board bought a limited supply of ink, foolscap, powdered paste, and two or three packages of colored construction paper. If you used more than you were allotted, you bought the extra yourself.

Brown wrapping paper was very useful. It made good book covers. Children took great pride in the appearance of their books. They were treasured and well taken care of. Since all books were bought by the children, they were often passed on to their brothers or sisters or sold to strangers. Brown paper was also used for art and other projects. Colored construction paper was saved to be used at special times of the year, such as Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter.

Only those that lived during the "Hungry Thirties" know the value of a dollar in those days.

For most children, getting to school was quite a challenge. Some were fortunate to live quite close to

school. Others had three or four miles to brave the winter frost and blizzards, and the summer downpours and mud. I'm sure some of the six, seven and eight-year-olds would have welcomed a bed instead of a desk when they arrived at the school on one of those unpleasant days. However they came, uncomplaining and eager to learn.

In those days education was taken seriously. A difference of one mark determined whether you passed or failed. To pass, a student had to score at least fifty percent on every subject. Provincial Departmental Exams were written by grades eight to twelve students.

Eight, sometimes nine grades, were taught in one room. In some schools the enrollment was unbelievably high. I again was fortunate. During my rural teaching days, the highest enrollment was twenty-eight students and eight grades.

From grade one, the children learned to work by themselves. While the teacher was teaching one class, the other seven grades worked on their own assignments. Sometimes providing six or seven grades with good seat work was quite a challenge for the teacher.

Older students considered it a treat to finish their work so as to be able to spend some time reading a favorite library book. The little tots used the spare time modelling from plasticine, weaving paper mats, working with building sticks, or sewing sewing-cards.



Ellswick School Pupils, 1924. Back Row, L. to R.: William (Bill) Maruschak, August Bittner, Anton Galenza, Henry Galenza, Anton Pasula, Frank Pasula, Sophie Maruschak, Nellie Maruschak, Helen Galenza. Front Row: Norman Porter, Edgar Porter, Herbert Porter, John Galenza, Victor Galenza, Peter Pasula, Willie Schoenkecht, Thomas Pelz, Louise Galenza, Alice Galenza.

The youngsters did not need any encouragement to go out to play, even if they had walked three miles to school. As soon as class was dismissed, they would rush out to enjoy their favorite game, whatever it happened to be. Soup Can Hockey was their favorite game in winter. Both boys and girls participated. No ice or skates were needed. A soup can served as a puck and a crooked willow stick was a good substitute for a professional hockey stick. When the bell rang they would all come in with glowing cheeks and happy smiles.

The Ellswick School was a pleasant place to work. It had windows that opened from the top as well as the bottom. A window could be left open at the top even in adverse weather. No child sat in a draft. A large pot was filled with water every morning and set on top of the big Waterman heater. This provided excellent humidity in the room for the day.

Upon arriving at school one morning, I noticed the children all outside. As I came nearer I was greeted by the remarks, "Mrs. Maruschak, the stove pipes are down!" On entering the building my eyes beheld quite a sight. The room was full of smoke. Soot filled pipes lay strewn over desks and floor. The good old heater kept giving out heat and smoke.

Minutes later, Mrs. Lester Anderson drove into the school yard bringing Doris to school. She came to my rescue just in time. By setting the teacher's chair on top of the teacher's desk, the two of us, with the help of a few taller students, joined the pipes together, put them up, twisted the wires around them and fastened them in place. Mrs. Anderson went home and the rest of us proceeded to clean up the mess. We did the best we could. We all looked a little "off color" that day. I'm sure all the children got a bath and a clean change of clothes that evening. Thanks to the excellent work of the janitors, the next morning the room showed no sign of what had happened the day before.

Christmas concert was the highlight of the year for all the people of the district, whether or not they

had children at school. That was one function that was attended by the whole community and many outside the community.

The crowd would start gathering around six o'clock, though the concert did not start till seven or sometimes seven-thirty. The schoolroom was always filled to capacity. Many times there wasn't even any standing room. One year the weather was quite mild the evening of the concert. There was no room inside the school so some men opened the windows from the north side and watched through the open windows from the outdoors.

It took time and work to prepare a Christmas concert, but it was an event enjoyed and appreciated by the whole community. The crowd was always an appreciative audience. Everyone watched with interest. The performers could well be heard and seen, regardless of age or size. When the program came to a close, everyone departed for home with a light heart and pleasant memories. Sometimes these concerts were talked about many years later.

I believe that some of the best lessons taught and learned were in the little country schoolhouse. Most of our senior citizens passed through those doors. The little country school prepared them to carry out their particular roles in life. There they learned "the Three R's" and to face the realities of life. The school was the hub of community life and a haven of learning. It is with great pride today that we look on what these men and women have accomplished. Though now the little country school is just a memory, love for it is still treasured in many hearts.

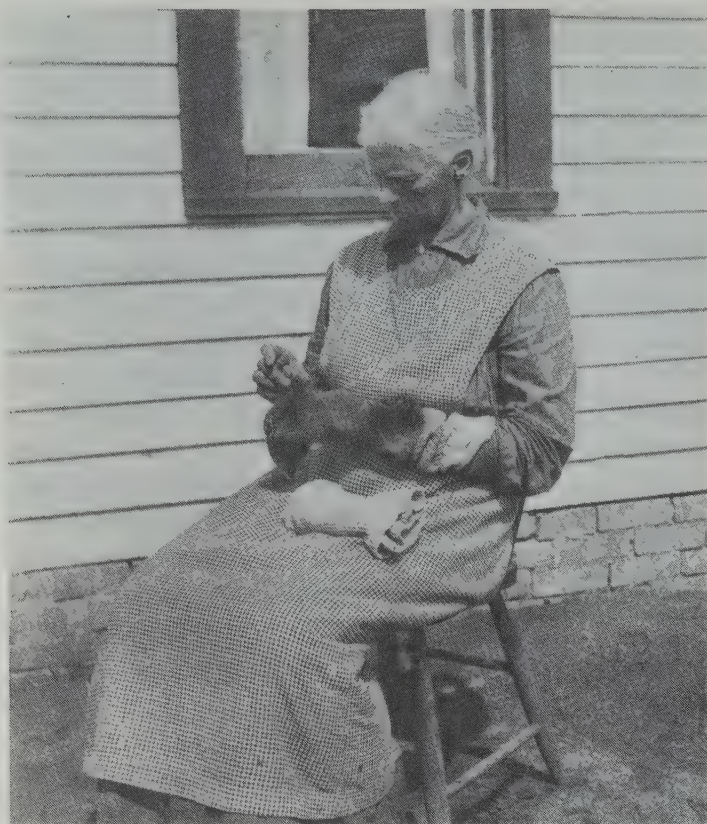
Andersen, John Peter Family

John Peter Andersen was born on the Island of Jealand, Denmark on March 5, 1843. He was the eighth of eleven children. When John was eight years old his father, a wagon maker by trade, died. John's mother was unable to support the family. It was then that John at the age of eight supported himself as a sheep herder. John had had one year of schooling but he obtained books and studied while herding the sheep. He learned to read and write Danish very well. In fact, he even wrote a bit of poetry.

At the age of fourteen, he started work in a flour mill. This was an old fashioned stone mill driven by wind power. He learned the miller trade and could make all the grades of flour that could be made with a stone mill. At the age of twenty, John was drafted into the Danish army and fought against the Prussian invasion of 1864. John was an extremely strong man: an excellent wrestler, high jumper, and broad jumper. He could also lift considerable weight. John married while serving on the Copenhagen police force. However, his wife and baby daughter passed away in



Moving the Ellswick teacherage in May 1918, from John Peter Nelson's farm to the Ellswick school yard. Carl K. Lyseng and Brothers tried moving it with their steam engine but couldn't move it, so Oscar Hendrickson assisted with his Rumley Oil Pull (Kerosene Burner). The teacherage later became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hamula. They still reside in it.



Anna Andersen (Mrs. Peter Andersen). Picture taken in the early twenties.

1871. At this point he became very restless and decided to go to America, "the land of opportunity" of which he had heard so much. He landed in New York in 1873.

Life in America was not easy at that time as Wall Street was in a panic and industry was suffering a depression, and John knew nothing about farming or homesteading. He drifted from New York to Michigan, to Memphis, and to Chicago getting work whenever and wherever he could. He finally settled in Denver Colorado and again became a miller in a stone mill.

Anna Sophia Carlson was born on October 21, 1859 at Four Corners, Iowa. Anna was only seven years old when her mother died. Anna had one sister who had suffered an eye and permanent brain injury when falling on a pair of scissors as a child, so much of the housework fell upon Anna. There was the father, who was a lay preacher and farmer, five brothers and a sister so Anna had much work to do. Anna never attended school but did learn to read and write English. About the age of twenty she went out to work as a housemaid. Wages were \$2.50 per week plus board and room for a ten-to-fifteen hour day, seven days a week. Finally she went as far as Denver and it was here she met and married John on August 17, 1882.

John worked at the mill another year until it was destroyed by fire and he was again left unemployed.

John and Anna decided to go homesteading. By this time land was difficult to obtain and he only obtained a very poor quarter near Elwood, Gosper County, Nebraska. This was not a homestead but could be purchased for the price of the improvements. Part of the improvements was a house dug into a ravine or coulee bank. Into this dugout, John, Anna and baby Lulu moved. Life was difficult and hard on the homestead, however Anna did find time to teach John to read English using the Toledo Blade newspaper as a textbook. John learned to read and write English reasonably well. John's and Anna's children Lawrence, Ellen, Mary, Edith, Lester and John were born in the dugout before the family could afford a house built of lumber. They were followed by Edward, Ada, Maude and Charles.

Nebraska was hit with several years of drought, this making it even more difficult to provide for the growing family of eleven children. John was not enjoying good health and he felt if he moved the family to Alberta that land would be easier to obtain and that life would provide more and better opportunities. The decision was made: the land was sold and an auction sale held. In March, 1905, John and Anna and all the children, Lulu the eldest, who was about twenty-one years old, to Charles, the youngest at fourteen months, together with their personal possessions boarded the train for Canada.

The trip as remembered by Ada and Maude was fun. Trying to walk in the swaying cars provided entertainment for them. Their sunbonnets, together with a lack of washing facilities, provided an excellent breeding ground for head lice. Upon arrival in



Anderson home 1917. L. to R., Back: Lawrence and Maud Anderson, Oscar Hendrickson. Front: Jorgine Hendrickson, Marie and Ada Anderson, Olianna Hendrickson.

Calgary, they were obliged to spend one week in the Immigrant House. This gave Anna the opportunity to give the girls the usual treatment of coal oil and lard to eradicate the lice. It was also here that baby Charles took his first steps. When the family had completed their immigration requirements it was on to Wetaskiwin to look for land.

They arrived in Wetaskiwin too late to get any homesteads so John purchased a quarter of land, the SW 1-22-48 from a Mr. and Mrs. Erickson. This land was about one mile from the north shore of Bittern Lake. There was a partly finished one room house with a low upstairs room and a shanty on one side. Into this moved the family of thirteen, only to find it already occupied by bed bugs. Anna fought the bed-bugs with coal oil and a feather every summer. She went over the wooden parts of every bed once or twice a week to kill all the newly hatched bugs. She also papered all the walls to seal in the bugs.

John worked very hard that year and got an addition built on to the house. They then had two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs and a shanty. The house was finished inside and out. He also built a lumber barn which was still in use in 1981. The winter of 1905-1906 was beautiful with little snow, allowing the stock to graze all through till spring.

Exactly a year after settling on the farm, John made a two day trip to Wetaskiwin with a team and wagon to buy about ten one-hundred-pound bags of flour. Flour at that time was about \$2.00 a bag or perhaps even less. When he arrived home he started carrying these one-hundred pound bags, one at a time, upstairs for storage. When lifting about the fifth bag, he had a heart attack and fell to the ground by the wagon and died. Maude, a little girl of about five, can remember Poppa being kept in a black box in the living room of the house until burial a few days later in the Old Scandia cemetery at Armena. Friends and neighbours, particularly the Grants and Blakelys were very kind and sympathetic but things indeed looked bleak for Anna and the nine children at home. Lulu and Ellen had returned to Nebraska by this time. The A. P. Anderson family (no relation) offered to adopt Ada and find homes for Maude and Charles, but Anna and the eldest son Lawrence, who was about twenty, decided the family should be kept together.

It turned out that the second winter in Alberta, 1906-1907, was one of the longest and coldest winters on record. The snow was so deep that fences were completely covered and there were drifts as much as twenty-feet deep. The winter started in early October and there were still snowdrifts left in the sheltered spots in June. The temperature was well below zero much of the time. The family was com-

pletely snowbound and never saw a soul outside of their own family all winter. For food, they had some hullless barley which was ground up for porridge on a little coffee grinder nailed to the top of a big block of wood for stability. The kids took turns at grinding. They had very few vegetables and no milk or butter. Nor were there eggs, because the hens didn't lay eggs when it was that cold. But they had plenty of rabbit meat. Fried rabbit, baked rabbit, boiled rabbit and as a special treat, rabbit stew with dumplings! Old rabbits, young rabbits, tough rabbits, tender rabbits! Not until spring when the rabbits started to die off like flies did they learn that "snowshoe" rabbits were unfit for human food. They had contacted some sort of disease. In February the cow freshened and they had milk, cream and butter. Oh, what a treat! But this lasted for only two weeks. One very cold day, the cow slipped, her hind legs falling into the water hole. By working with a tripod and pulleys, they finally got the cow out of the hole and placed on straw on the ice. They built a fire nearby and rubbed the cow dry and covered her with a horse-blanket but the cow died. They had no more milk or butter until June when a heifer calved.

The potatoes in the cellar froze but the younger members of the family never felt concerned. They had plenty to eat: porridge, frozen potatoes, home-made bread and rabbit. What more could they wish for? They spent comfortable nights sleeping on ticks filled with straw and covered with plenty of quilts. That they were covered with some frost each morning from their breath was unimportant. Also the bed bugs were dormant in winter. It took about five years till all were eliminated.



Children of John Peter and Anna Andersen taken outside the original home in 1951. Back Row, L. to R.: Charles, Edith, Lawrence, Mary and Lulu. Front Row: Maude, Ada and Lester.

John and Anna both felt that the key to their children's success would lie in their obtaining an education and speaking fluent English. John spoke Danish and Anna spoke Swedish at home and thus the children could understand both. The older children had learned the English language at school in Nebraska. Using textbooks that the family had brought to Canada with them, Mary and Edith taught the younger ones arithmetic as well as how to read and write English until Ellswick school was opened in 1911. The school was about two-and-one-half miles from the farm. John, for a few months, and Edward, Ada, Maude and Charles attended Ellswick. Maude can remember being in school about 1914 when a car came down the road. Every child rushed to the rail gate and climbed up to get a good look at the strange object.

The Bittern Lake farm was always fun for the younger ones. They made sleds for hillside sliding in winter and rafts for boating in the large slough behind the house. They also went swimming among the blood suckers in the slough and in Bittern Lake. Skating was fun and as they became teenagers or older they had skating parties, bobsleigh parties with double or triple box, and horses with sleigh bells. When their sleighs upset in the snow, it was still fun. Usually they would land at some neighbor's home and have a lunch. There were also home dances and house parties. The children helped their mother by picking quantities of wild raspberries.

Ada writes . . . "I remember when Mother used to drive in a wagon to Ernest Roper's store, about five miles from home. She would take with her several dozen eggs packed in oats to keep them from breaking and also a large roll of delicious homemade butter to trade off for groceries and other items. She had no money but would figure out her shopping list so the eggs and butter would be sure to cover the cost of the things she bought, with usually a little credit left and with this she'd say, "rice for the balance". We kids considered a trip in a wagon to Roper's Store a real event in our lives. I remember once when Ernest came out to help Mother climb out of the wagon her long full skirt caught on something on the edge of the wagon box and there she stood on the ground with her skirt caught up top. Ernest unhooked it for her and said, "Arkward, wasn't it?"

Life became easier as the family grew up and left home to fend for themselves, and Anna with the help of her sons, Lawrence and Lester, became established. Lawrence and Lester tilled the land, increased their meagre herd of cattle and as a source of cash revenue cut and stacked tons of hay on Big Hay Lake. They hauled this hay by team and sleigh to railroad construction crews. In later years, they baled

the hay and shipped it by rail to Edmonton where there was found a ready market for it at the livery barns. They also shipped hay to Southern Alberta.

By 1925, all of the family but Lester had scattered. Anna, although she liked Alberta, decided to move to Sherwood, Oregon, to be with her younger sons, Edward and Charles, who had a strawberry farm there. She held an auction sale but kept her quarter of land. She passed away suddenly on May 3, 1931 and was buried at Newberg, Oregon.

The living members of the family in 1980 were:

Edith (Mrs. Warth) in a nursing home in Spokane, Washington.

John, retired in Brady, Texas.

Ada, (Mrs. Bennett) retired in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Maude, (Mrs. Wright) retired in McBride, B.C.

Charles, retired in Bristol, Connecticut.

Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. L. C.

Lester Carl Anderson was born October 3, 1892 at Elwood, Gosper County, Nebraska, the sixth child of John and Anna Andersen. He attended school there for three or four years before his family moved to Bittern Lake in 1905. His first summer in Alberta was spent helping his Dad and brother Lawrence with building the house and barn as well as helping with other tasks. Following his father's death in 1906, it became imperative that he help his mother and brother Lawrence keep the family together.

About 1909 Lester realized the necessity of establishing a cash income for the family. There was an abundance of wild hay on Big Hay Lakes (about six miles to the northwest) that could be taken by anyone who would put it up. Seeing a potential market, Lester approached Mr. C. T. C. Roper who was the International Harvester dealer, general merchant and postmaster in Bittern Lake, to purchase a horse drawn mower and hay rake. Lester had no money but made arrangements to pay for the equipment when the hay was sold. Mr. Roper could see the practical aspects of the project and sold him the necessary equipment "on time". This was the beginning of a long and satisfying association between Lester and Mr. Roper.

Lester took his new mower and rake home. With a crew made up of his brother Lawrence, John and Edward, they cut and stacked many tons of hay. For the first few years, they hauled their loose hay by team and sleigh to Camrose where it was sold to construction crews working on the railroad. When the free grass on Big Hay Lakes was no longer available he used tame hay from his own farm. In subsequent years the hay was baled and shipped by rail from Hay Lakes to a ready market at the livery



Lester and Lilian Anderson, Bertha, Edna, and Doris. Picture taken in summer of 1931.

barns in Edmonton. The first custom baler was driven by two horses walking in a circle. A crew of at least six men were required: two forked hay to the machine; one fed the machine; one man fed the eight foot wires with a loop on one end around one end of the bale and a man on the other side threaded the wires back to be tied by hand. The sixth man carried the one hundred pound bales away and stacked them. The bales were then loaded on sleighs and hauled to boxcars where they were again loaded by hand. Lester continued selling hay until the very early forties.

In 1919, he bought the NW 36-22-47-W4 which was across the road from his mother's farm and on the north shore of Bittern Lake. On this virgin land Lester built the usual style of house for that day: two rooms downstairs, two rooms upstairs, and a cellar and wood stoves for heat and with no plumbing or electricity. This was the first home of he and his wife, Lilian Russell.

Lilian was born in London, England and came to Canada in 1904 as a little girl. Her parents, George and Minnie Russell, settled first in Campbellford, Ontario, and came to the East Bittern Lake area in 1907.

Lilian and Lester were married in St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Camrose on June 25, 1919. They made the trip to Camrose by car which had been

borrowed from Lawrence, together with Lester's mother, Lilian's parents and her brother Ted who was about three and one-half years old. Along the way they picked some wild roses which were their only wedding flowers. Following the ceremony they returned the Russells to their home. After supper with Lester's mother, they proceeded to their new home.

Lester and Lilian worked very hard on their raw land. They cleared the brush, blasted the stumps, while little Bertha and Edna played in the prairie grass and eagerly waited for lunch of lettuce sandwiches and lemonade. They plowed the soil, sowed the finest seed that they could obtain, and reaped their crops. They encountered the usual problems such as drought, hail, and frost. In the year 1932 or 1933 they even had frost on the 20th or 21st of July. Frost was also recorded in July of 1918. Over the years, Lester and Lilian acquired more land until they had 960 acres.

From the beginning Lester was always very interested in clean land and pure seed. To accomplish this, Lester and Lilian hand-picked the seed every winter over the edge of the table top. Each year the growing crops were rogued by hand to remove impurities. They later obtained a portable seed cleaner and in 1939 built a 30,000 bushel storage elevator with modern seed-cleaning equipment.

Lester was particularly interested in growing oats; Banner, Victory and Eagle were his favorite varieties. He also grew, in lesser amounts, wheat, barley and flax and in later years, some grass seeds. He became a member of the Alberta Seed Growers' Association in the early 1920's and about the same time became a member of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. He kept abreast of the methods and techniques of good farming practices, and the stringent rules and regulations of the registered seed business. His aspirations were fulfilled when he finally became an elite seed grower and was made a Robertson Associate, the highest honour bestowed by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association.

Lester won a number of prizes for his seed oats over the years at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair, the Regina World Seed Grain Fair and the Chicago International Hay and Seed Show, as well as provincial shows in Edmonton and Calgary. Preparing a sample for a seed fair required many hours of tedious work. Seeds of uniform size and maturity were first selected and then polished to a uniformly high gloss by placing a small quantity of seeds in a flannelette bag and rubbing them by hand until they shone. A finished sample would weigh thirty pounds. Lester had no hesitancy in saying that in his opinion hand-prepared grain did not really represent the grain actually produced and that the more intensive process of hand



L. C. Anderson elevator, built in 1939.

selection failed to reveal the general quality of the product.

Large quantities of seed were cleaned, sacked and sold across the prairie provinces and during the 1940's Lester shipped several train car loads of seed to Iowa. This grain was handled by hand and hauled by team and sleigh to rail cars at either Hay Lakes, Armena or Bittern Lake. When the grain cars were "spotted" at the siding for loading, the sleighs would be loaded with grain (sometimes sacked but often bulk). Early the next morning all would leave together for the eight mile trek across the lake. This trip was usually uneventful but there was always the danger of unexpected blizzards or cracks in the ice. Boards were taken along in case cracks developed that were too wide for the teams to cross. Emergency "bridges" would then be built. Carl Galenza recalls once (about 1930) when he and two others were caught in a blizzard shortly after leaving with their three teams and loads. They lost the trail on the lake so gave the horses their "heads" and hoped for the best. The horses delivered them safely to the station at Bittern Lake.

Life on the Bittern Lake farm was never easy but about 1937 electricity was installed in the house and out-buildings. Lilian purchased an electric washing machine and a few years later a radio was bought, the only electric appliances she had on the farm. The farm was isolated as roads were always bad: rain in the summer turned them into a sea of mud and drifted snow in winter closed the roads for months. Distance from medical help proved almost fatal when Lester suffered a burst appendix during the spring of 1936. Lilian and Carl Galenza took him the seven miles to Hay Lakes in a Bennett buggy by travelling over snow banks, through the fields, around the sloughs

— the horses often wading in water. The trip to Hay Lakes took all afternoon and it was still necessary for Lester and Lilian to travel via evening train to Edmonton before medical assistance could be obtained.

In 1945, Lester and Lilian sold the farm and retired to a home in Camrose. Lester passed away suddenly in 1963 and Lilian in 1977 after a lengthy illness.



Lilian and Lester Anderson.

The couple's three daughters are: Bertha (Mrs. William Fowler), Edna (Mrs. Louis Francoeur), both of Camrose, and Doris (Mrs. Thomas Campbell) of Rosalind.

Blakely, Newton

Newton Blakely was born in January, 1873 in Minnesota, U.S.A. In 1881 he moved to North Dakota with his mother, sister and brothers. In 1884 the family moved to Morley, Alberta, where he and the family had a ranch and raised horses.

In about 1895 they all moved to Hay Lakes. Here the family split up — George and Bud Blakely took up homesteads, Will and Newton moved to Bittern Lake. Newton bought out Tom Adam's NE 2-48-22-W4. He lived on this place for a number of years. One day when he was not at home, the place was destroyed by fire. He moved to the next quarter south, a homestead that he had bought from Charlie Grant. He lived there in an old log shack till he got a house built. Here he lived out the rest of his life. All his adult life he raised horses. He died in April 1935 and is buried at Armena in the family plot.

Blakely, Roy Family by Mary Blakely

Roy Blakely was born in the Hay Lakes area on August 30, 1911, and resided in that area until 1936,

when Roy's father, Budd Blakely, and his uncle Newton Blakely, passed away and left their farms to Roy and his brother Robert. The farms were the east half of 2-48-22-W4 near the north shore of Bittern Lake.

On October 8, 1936, Roy married Mary Robertson and they took up residence on the N.E. 2-48-22-W4. Four children were born to this union: Rosemary, Catherine, Alvin and James. Rosemary married Victor Johnson and they live in Camrose. Catherine married Simon Crljen and they have made their home in Melbourne, Australia. Catherine and Simon have five children, ranging in age from three to twenty years. Alvin passed away and James lives in Camrose.

Several years ago, Roy suffered a stroke and since then has been a resident of Bethany Auxiliary Hospital in Camrose. Mary presently resides in Camrose.

Editor's note: Roy Blakely passed away September 4, 1981.

Blawuciak, John

John Blawuciak was born December 1, 1924 at Spedden Alberta. He was one year old when he came to the Hay Lakes district with his parents, Mike and Mary Blawuciak. On September 19, 1925 his father purchased the family farm SE 7-48-21-W4 where John and his family still reside.



John Blawuciak — age four years, with a tricycle he received as a gift from his aunt.

John attended Ellswick school with Mrs. Anton Galenza as his first teacher; later others followed: Annie Balko, Pauline Wynnyk (later Mrs. Bill Maruschak), and Helen Kalawsky.

As a young boy he was a proud owner of a bicycle which cost \$5.00. He used to ride it to school.

John received a call to the Army, but being the only boy in the family and because his father's health was failing, he was allowed to stay at home to farm.

On July 28, 1951 he married Helen Sych at the Holy Cross Church. They took over the family farm when his parents retired.

April 18, 1956 was a very special day in their lives — their only child, Wendy, was born. This was the first grandchild for Mike and Mary Blawuciak, also for William and Pearl Sych. Wendy is presently employed at the Worker's Compensation Board in Edmonton.

In November of 1958 the family moved into a new house, built by Gordon Mayhew. John bought and moved it from Bawlf. Morris Aspell and John Wentland were the carpenters doing the basement and the addition, with some help from relatives and neighbours. The old house was remodelled into a combine shed.

Gradually more of the necessary improvements were made, like Calgary Power, water works, and natural gas.

In 1968 John bought the Edward Galenza farm SW 7-48-21-W4 which included the Ellswick school yard. In 1977 he subdivided the farm yard and sold it to Ed and Muriel Parkin of Edmonton.



John Blawuciak Family. Taken July 28, 1976 on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. L. to R.: Their daughter Wendy Blawuciak, John and Helen.

On July 28, 1976 John and Helen celebrated their Twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary at the Crystal Springs Hotel in Camrose. They were very honored to have Father Hrynshyn, the priest that married them, present. Also all their former bridal attendants helped them celebrate. The original Metro Radomsky orchestra supplied the music as at their wedding.

In the winter months John goes commercial fishing. Other hobbies include playing cards or having a game of pool. Another favorite pastime is attending auction sales. Along with Ernie Wahl, one of his many friends, he sometimes travels many miles to attend a sale.

Life on the farm, living in harmony amongst friends, family and neighbors, has been very fulfilling. What more can one ask?

Blawuciak, Mike

Mike Blawuciak came to Canada with his parents, Philip and Josephine Blawuciak, from Drohobitz, Delva in 1913, just before the war. They arrived in Stry and lived with their Uncle, Nichola Mazur, for about a year, then they took a homestead two and a half miles from Spedden, on the shores of Cache Lake.

Mike was born September 11, 1901. He was the oldest of five children: Kate (Mrs. K. Kreacul), Bessie (Mrs. Z. Tchir), and Rosie (Mrs. E. Mazur)



Mary and Mike Blawuciak in 1954.

(deceased). He also has a brother, Nick, born in Canada and presently residing in Edmonton.

When they first came to the homestead they had no oxen but a cow was bought first. They had to cut hay for her with a scythe. They put the hay in small piles and covered it with sticks; later they carried it home.

A small plot was dug with a spade for a garden. 1918 brought the flu, but the family was fortunate with only Bessie getting it. At first there was no school or church; eventually Cache Lake School was built. The first teacher was Bill Chesny. For the first two years, school was only held four months of the year, as they couldn't afford to pay the teacher, also the children didn't have clothes or shoes to wear to school. Concerts were held at the school.

The first church services were held at the home of Fedorko Evenyshyn, but soon a Catholic Church was built.

As a young man Mike worked for the C.N. Railroad. Charlie Meketsell was the section foreman he worked with. Charlie had a wife and several small children, so Charlie's wife had her sister Mary Rubis, visit and help with the children. When Mike met this young lady, romance blossomed, and on February 23, 1924 they were married.

On December 1, of the same year, their first son, John, was born.

A year later they decided to move to Hay Lakes where the bride's former home was. They came to the Anton Pelz farm where Mike helped with some of the work.

On September 19, 1925, they bought their own farm, SE 7-48-21-W4. They stayed at the Pelz farm till their house was built. Mike walked across the fields to build the house. It was built of logs. He was quite a capable carpenter and later put up several more buildings.

Cutting hair was one of his gifts and neighbors, friends and friends of neighbors would come and visit and have their hair cut.

The farm work was done by horses as on surrounding farms. One by one necessary pieces of machinery were purchased. Later a tractor was bought. Mike was one of the first farmers to own a threshing machine and would do custom threshing.

On February 21, 1937 a baby girl named Eleanor was born. She is now Mrs. Nick Pacholuk.

The family attended the Holy Cross Church. Many a winter night a group would take a sleigh ride and get together for a choir practice. It was also a custom to go carolling during the Christmas Season.

Mike's health was beginning to fail but he managed to farm for twenty-seven years. In 1952 they purchased a home and retired to Camrose. By then



Nick Pachaluk Family (former Eleanor Blawuciak). Picture taken July 28, 1976. L. to R.: Janet, Nick, Eleanor and Teresa.

his son John was married and took over the family farm. Mary was used to work and couldn't just retire. She found employment at St. Mary's hospital where she worked for a number of years. Their daughter Eleanor worked in the office at St. Mary's Hospital.

Mike took sick while visiting his sister Kate in Calgary and was hospitalized there.

On April 18, 1956, their first granddaughter, Wendy, was born. His only glimpse of her was through a hospital window. On July 11, the same year, he passed away at the age of fifty-five years. He was buried at the Holy Cross Church Cemetery at Hay Lakes.

Eleanor met Nick Pacholuk of Spedden and they were married August 29, 1957. They have made their home in Edmonton. They presented Mary with two granddaughters, Janet, born April 20, 1960, and Teresa, born October 11, 1963.

On March 3, 1971 Mary suddenly passed away at the age of seventy years. She was laid to rest by the side of her husband.

Theodore Elgert Sr. **by Gertrude Schatschneider**

We cannot call ourselves a pioneer family of this district, as we did not arrive until 1944. The area was well settled by that time. However, my parents are true Alberta pioneers, immigrating to Canada and living nearly all the time in Alberta.

My father, Theodore, was born in Sitomor, Russia in the year of 1899 and came to this country in 1924. My mother, Olga Kwant, was born in Nu Tauche, Germany, immigrating in 1928. Both came to Alberta. Father joined his brothers, Robert, Gus, and Henry, who had already taken up farming in the Bittern Lake area. Father worked at various jobs around Bittern Lake. Mother, longing for her sister in Canada who was married to Henry Elgert, came for a visit and decided to remain in Canada. Here they met and married in 1929. Following their marriage they rented land. My parents speak of those days as harsh

and difficult. Nearly everyone living in the thirties can recall the drought, dust storms and poor prices during the depression years. Parents rented land north of Wetaskiwin and again moved to northwest of Bittern Lake, where father had purchased his first quarter section of land. It was mostly all bush so that had to be cleared. Then father decided he needed more land. He sold that quarter and bought 3 quarters at the north end of Bittern Lake. One quarter was purchased from George and Ted Russell, one quarter from John Anderson and another quarter from Robert Blakely.

Dad farmed this land until ill health forced him to give up farming. In 1958 he sold one-half section to Peter Maruschak and the other quarter to his son Ted. Mother and Father moved to Wetaskiwin.

A warmer climate beckoned my parents and in 1960 they moved to Kelowna, B.C. Theodore passed away in Kelowna in April of 1969. Olga still lives in Kelowna and has since remarried. In 1977 she married Paul Radke.

Theodore and Olga have six children. Gertrude married Raymond Mikulecky in July of 1948. To this union four children were born: Albert, Donna, Adele and Bruce. Raymond was killed in a farming mishap in July 1958. Gertrude later remarried to Alfred Schatschneider in December 1961 and they live on an acreage at Mulhurst. Alfred is employed as a steam engineer at the Bonnie Glen Gas Plant.

Margaret married Cst. Al Moore in June 1954. After serving with the R.C.M.P. for 25 years in postings as Wetaskiwin, Red Deer, Banff, Edmonton and Peace River, they are now retired. Margaret and Al now live in Edmonton where Al is a Security Investigator with A.G.T. Margaret was employed with the Bank of Commerce for many years and is still a part-time employee. Al and Margaret have two children, son Larry and daughter Myra.

Martin resides in Wetaskiwin. Martin married Joyce Huolt and they have three children, son Rocky and daughters Sherry and Laurie. Martin later married Wanda Mann and they have a daughter, Jody. Martin, whom most people call Art, has been working in the oil fields most of his life. He is a consulting engineer for oil companies.

Manfred makes his home on a farm near Eckville, Alberta. He is married to Diane Zessel. They have a son Randy and a daughter Tammy. Manfred (Fred) operates a fleet of trucks under the name of Fred's Trucking and Oilfield Service Ltd. This is a family operation in which Diane does the dispatching accounting.

Ted farms on the west side of Bittern Lake. He is married to Bernice Dumkee. They have a son Merle and a daughter Linda.



Hard At It — Margaret, Martin, Manfred, Ted, and Walter Elgert in 1944.

Walter accompanied his parents to Kelowna, B.C. where he now resides. Walter is married to Pat Roberts and they have a son Jason and a daughter Holly. Walter is a plumber and works in Kelowna and surrounding area.

Ted Elgert Jr. S.E. 2-48-22

Ted assisted his father with the farming operations until he purchased his own quarter section of land from his father in 1958. Ted's first crop was covered by a heavy snowfall on September 22, 1959. With no harvesting done and financial commitments, Ted was forced to join the outside work force. This commenced his association with the oil drilling industry.

In 1960 Ted was united in marriage to Bernice Dumkee. Ted continued to farm while Bernice taught in Hay Lakes School.

In 1962 Ted began employment with Carnation Milk Company. He purchased a truck and van and established his route in the Rolly View-Gwynne area. This was a daily can pick-up that operated regardless of weather or road conditions, hauling to the plant in Westaskiwin. In 1964 he sold this business.



Ted Elgert Jr. Family. Back, L. to R.: Ted, Bernice. Front: Linda, Merle. Picture taken 1978.

Trucking was Ted's interest and he ventured into hauling water for various oil rigs throughout Alberta.

In 1964 they sold the farm to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stevenson and moved to the Gwynne area. Bernice discontinued employment at Hay Hakes to begin a family. Later they moved to a farm in the Bittern Lake area where they reside at present.

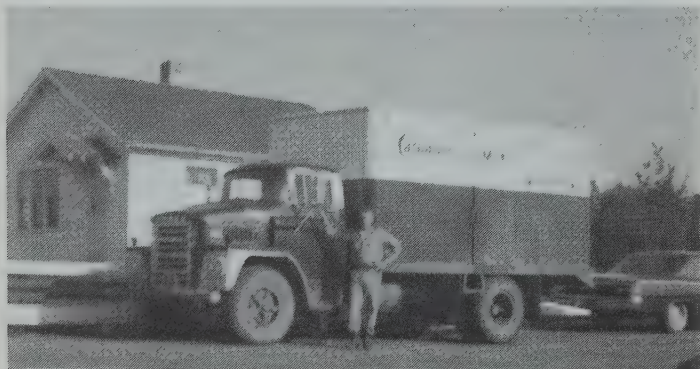
In 1971 Ted sold his trucking business and has since entered into full time farming.

Ted and Bernice have a son Merle, born in 1964 and a daughter Linda, born in 1967.

Famulak, Frank

Frank, the fourth child of John and Sophia Famulak was born in the Ellswick district and received all his school in the Ellswick school. After he finished school he stayed home and helped his Dad on the farm.

Doris also went to Ellswick school. Later she went to Plante school in the Beaumont district. After finishing school she went to work for a farmer for \$10.00 a month. She also worked for another farmer for a month for three weaner pigs. She took these



Another load hauled. Ted Elgert and his milk truck — 1964.



Frank and Doris Famulak, 1931.

pigs home and fed them till they grew to weigh two hundred pounds. Then she sold them for \$3.95 a piece.

Frank Famulak and Doris Willisko were married in 1931.

Frank and Doris started farming when Frank took over the farms and the mortgage from his Dad. They started farming with horses. Their machinery consisted of an old binder, an old shoe drill and a gang plow.

During the hungry thirties money did not come in very easily. They bought a milking cow for \$10.00. A year later they sold that same cow and her calf for \$10.00. Eggs sold from five to ten cents a dozen. A five gallon can of cream brought from \$2.75 to \$2.95. Oats sold at eight cents a bushel and barley from twelve to fourteen cents a bushel. "The Hungry Thirties" was a good name for those years of depression.

Frank and Doris raised a family of three boys and one girl: Rudy, Sig, David and Irene. Rudy and Sig

started school at Ellswick. In June of 1950 Ellswick School was closed and after that the children were bused to Hay Lakes. Irene and David received all their schooling at Hay Lakes.

Rudy married Pat Vioncek. They have two girls: Barb and Lori. Rudy works in the wood workshop at Rosehaven.



Frank Famulak Family. L. to R.: Irene, David, Doris, Frank, Rudy and Sig.

Sig married Aloysia Blatz. They have two boys: Timmy and Danny. Sig also worked at Rosehaven but a few years ago he lost his eyesight so presently he is at home.

Their daughter Irene married Bob Lowe. She worked in Safeway store in Camrose and later in Edmonton. They have two boys and a girl: Darcey, Dale and Lisa. They reside in Edmonton.

David married Ginny Barrie. They have two children, a girl named Stacey and a boy named Shane. David works at Syncrude Oil Lab in Edmonton.

Frank and Doris have now retired and are living in Camrose.

Famulak, John

by Nellie Hamula

John Famulak was born at Ostrov, Poland on June 10, 1861. In 1886 he married Sophia Galenza. They immigrated to Canada in 1898 and settled in Edmonton. In 1902 they moved to a farm in the Ellswick district, south of Hay Lakes.

John and Sophia raised a family of five children: Mary, Michael, Stanley, Frank and Nellie.

Mary was born at Ostrov, Poland and was eight years old when she came to Canada. She married Albert Pelz. For a number of years they lived in the Ellswick district, then they moved to the United States. They have seven children.

Michael married Sophie Hamula. They have two children.



Sophia and John Famulak.

Stanley married Louise Willisko. They had five children (two passed away in infancy). Stanley died on January 1, 1979.

Frank married Doris Willisko. They have three boys and one girl.

Nellie married Carl Hamula. They have two girls.

Mr. and Mrs. John Famulak celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on October 23, 1937. Mass and blessing of the renewed marriage vows was con-



Family of John and Sophia Famulak. From L. to R.: John Famulak (91 years old), Mary (Pelz), Frank Famulak, Michael Famulak, Nellie (Hamula). Missing: Stanley Famulak.

ducted by Rev. Rosiecki in Saint Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church.

After the service a dinner for the family and friends of the honoured couple was held at the home of their son Michael and their daughter-in-law, Sophie Famulak.

Sophia Famulak passed away in 1944 at the age of eighty-four years.

John Famulak passed away January 2, 1957 at the age of ninety-five years and six months.

Famulak, Michael by Sophie Famulak

Michael Famulak, son of John and Sofia (Galenza) Famulak was born on July 23, 1898 in Edmonton, Alberta. He came with his parents to the Ellswick district, which is south of Hay Lakes, at the age of four years. They settled on the NW 6-48-21-W4. Later they moved to the NE 1-48-21-W4. Michael, being the oldest boy in the family, was of great help to his parents during the early years of homesteading and farming. Later his father acquired more land to there was plenty of work for the whole family.

In 1917 Famulaks bought the SW 7-48-21-W4 from Arthur Henry Ladell. This was the quarter of land on which the Halley post office and Ladell's store had been located. This place had a large house with a number of large rooms. The Famulak family then moved to his location.

The Ellswick School was situated in the northwest corner of this land.

On November 23, 1927, Michael married Sophie Hamula. They were married in St. Peter and Paul church with Rev. Miksia officiating. After marriage they made their home on the SW 7-48-21-W4, known to most people in the community as the Ladell farm.

For many years the home of Michael and Sophie



Spring 1933. Edwin and Marjorie Famulak examining their father's disc.

was a boarding place for teachers who taught Ellswick School.

The parish priests that served St. Peter and Paul Church, often spent the night with them or stopped for a rest during their travels from parish to parish.

During the latter thirties and the early forties many local dances were held at their home. The house had a large living room with a hardwood floor. It was also the place where the farewell parties were held for the boys who were going away to war.

In 1939, Michael and Sophie remodelled the house. They removed the store area and the large verandahs that surrounded the house on three sides. They also changed the roof and remodelled the rooms upstairs.

In 1946 they sold the farm to Edward Galenza who had returned from serving overseas in World War II.

Michael and Sophie purchased a farm in the Armena district and farmed there until Michael's failing health forced him to rent it to his sons Edwin and Donald. Sophie found employment at Rosehaven, working in the dining room. She still works there when called for sick relief.



Mr. A. Soderstrom presenting a lamp as a gift to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Famulak on their 30th Wedding Anniversary.

In August 1930, a daughter, Marjorie was born, followed by a son, Edwin in March of 1932. In 1952 Michael and Sophie adopted Donald at the age of four years.

Marjorie married William Wickland. They live on the former Stark farm in the East Bittern Lake district. They have four daughters and two sons: Monica, Michelle, Bart, Jacqueline, Annette and Scott.

In May 1977 Michelle married Keith Guild. They built a house and live on an acreage near William and Marjorie.

In March 1978, Monica married Wade Weller. They live in Edmonton. Monica is a graduate nurse of the Foothills Hospital in Calgary.

Edwin married Malina Fraser. They reside in Sherwood Park. They have two children Neil and Janet, both of which are married. Neil and Teresa have a son Bryan, born December 8, 1979.

Donald is a registered electrician and has a small business in Hardisty. He is married and has one son.

In 1977, Michael and Sophie celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with an open house at their home at Armena.

Michael passed away in October 1978 at the age of eighty years. Sophie sold the farm in April 1980 and is now residing in Camrose.

Famulak, Stanley

Stanley Famulak was born in Edmonton. He is the second son of John and Sophia Famulak. The family moved to the Ellswick district south of the present village of Hay Lakes in 1902. Stanley went to Ellswick school. After he grew up he helped his father and brothers with the farming.

In 1931 he married Louise Willisko and after marriage he worked in a number of places in Alberta at different jobs.

In the forties, they moved to Vancouver.

They have a family of two boys and one girl: Raymond, Joe and Eleanor. Two daughters, Lorna and Verna passed away while they were living in the Ellswick district; Lorna at the age of three and Verna at eleven months.

Stanley died January 1, 1979. Louise passed away in 1973.

Galenza, Albert

Albert, the son of John and Barbara Galenza, was born in the Ellswick district. His parents homesteaded on the SE 12-47-22-W4.

Albert attended the Ellswick School until the eighth grade. After leaving school he was employed at the Lester Anderson farm for seven years.

In 1935, he and his brother Carl purchased the NW 31-47-22-W4. This they farmed together for six years.

On November 4, 1936, Albert married Victoria Kupka. Their first son Jim was born there.

In the thirties and forties everyone depended on wood and coal for cooking and heating their homes. Albert sawed a lot of wood in the Ellswick area. His work was much appreciated. Anyone that lived in those days remembers the unpleasant job of sawing

wood with a "buck-saw" when the thermometer registered thirty to forty degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

Albert sold his share of the farm to his brother Carl in 1942, and they moved to Lester Anderson's farm yard where the family lived and Albert worked for Lester Anderson.

In 1943, he and his wife bought a farm in the East Bittern Lake area. Here they farmed for twenty-four years.

Around 1952 Albert found winter employment with various oil companies and worked as a "boiler-man" for fourteen winters.

In 1967, Albert and Victoria sold their farm and moved into Camrose. Here Albert found employment with the Steel Company (Stelco) and worked for them for nine years.

In January 1976 he retired from his job. They continue to reside in Camrose.

Albert and Victoria have five children: Jim, Reg, Lynne, Debbie and Dale.



Family of Albert and Victoria Galenza. L. to R.: Debbie, Lynne, Victoria, Albert, Jim and Roger (missing is Dale).

Jim is employed by the Royal Bank. He and his wife Dyan were married in 1963 and they have two sons. Dyan is employed by the Edmonton Public School System.

Reg is a school teacher and teaches High School in Bashaw.

Lynne married Mark Morrison in 1971. She is employed at the Misericordia Hospital where she works with the medical records. Mark is employed by CFRN-TV. Lynne and Mark live in Edmonton and have two daughters.

Debbie married Gordon Martin in 1976. They reside in Edmonton. Gordon is employed by the Toronto-Dominion Bank and Debbie works for Imperial Oil Company.

The youngest member of the family, Dale, also works in Edmonton.

Galenza, Carl

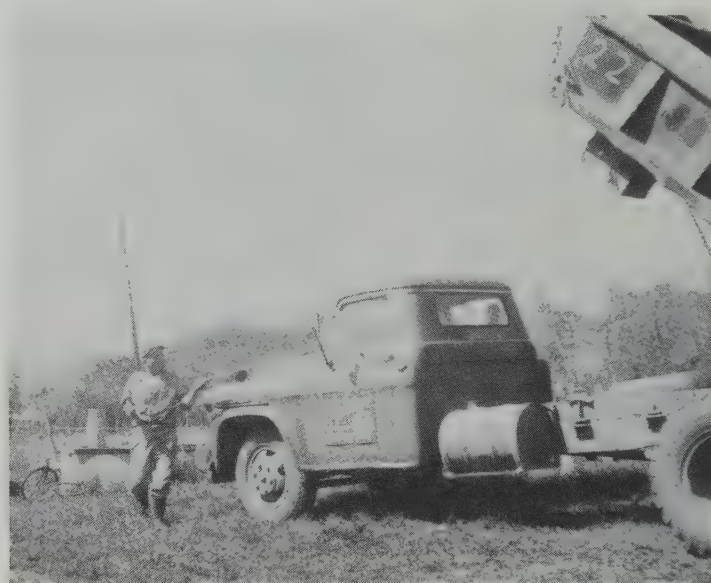
Carl was born 1909, the fifth child to John and Barbara Galenza of Halley, Alberta. He attended Ellswick School till he was fifteen years old, then he went out working in different places till about 1933. After that he worked six years for Lester Anderson who was a registered seed grower of Bittern Lake.

In 1935 Carl and his brother Albert bought the NW 31-47-21-W4. They farmed that together for a few years. In 1942 Carl took over the farm and farmed himself for two years. He continued to work for Lester Anderson whenever he had time and Lester needed help.

In spring of 1944, Carl married Sophie Sawula from the Leduc district. They were married by Father Zenko.

In the fall of 1944 Carl bought a three ton grain truck. Besides farming he hauled grain, cattle and hogs for the people in the district.

In spring of 1956 he bought a gravel box. For two years, between his farm work, he worked on the government highways.



Carl Galenza unloading gravel.

In 1958 he started to work for Border Pavement Company of Red Deer. They worked in different towns paving streets and parking lots. He worked with that company till 1972.

In 1972 Carl got a job with Brager Transport of Camrose so that he could be closer to home and be able to attend to his farming better. A few years later he started trucking on his own in Hay Lakes and district around home. By 1980 he wore out four new trucks.

Carl and Sophie were blessed with three sons and one daughter: Leonard, Douglas, Roger and Shirley.

Leonard was born in May, 1945 at Camrose. He took all his schooling at Hay Lakes, graduating from High School in 1964. He started work with the Royal Bank of Canada in July 1964. He stayed with the bank for about two years, then worked at a few different jobs till 1969. In 1969 he married Patsy Strynadka of Edmonton. They have two children, one daughter and one son.

In 1969 Leonard started to work with Bralorne Resources Limited. He completed the Course of Study with the Certified General Accountants Association and received his C.G.A. designation in 1975. Presently he is employed by Bralorne Resources Limited as corporate controller in Edmonton.

Douglas was born in August 1949 in Camrose. He attended Hay Lakes School till Grade Eleven. He spent the next three years in Weyburn and Rosetown, Saskatchewan. In those three years he played hockey for both Weyburn and Rosetown. He graduated from High School in Rosetown. After three years he returned to Alberta, and in 1970 started to work for Sherwin And Williams at Camrose. After working two years in Camrose, he was transferred to Edmonton for three years. Then he went to work for Firestone Store in Wetaskiwin. In March 1976, he moved to Camrose where he managed the Camrose Colour Centre until December 1976, at which time he purchased the store.

On April 23, 1977 he married Mary Popowich of Camrose. They have three children, Karlan, Ryan and Scott.



Carl Galenza Family — 1977. Standing, L. to R.: Leonard, Sophie (Mrs. Carl Galenza), Carl Galenza. Sitting, Back: Douglas, Front: Shirley and Roger.

Shirley was born in 1955 in Camrose. She took all her schooling in Hay Lakes, graduating from High School in 1973. She took her Nurse's Training in Edmonton at Grant MacEwan Community College. She graduated in July 1975. After graduation she worked at the Royal Alexandra Hospital from 1975 to 1977. She then joined the nursing staff at the University Hospital for one year.

Being interested in travel, Shirley decided she'd like to see more of the world. In 1978 she went to Bermuda where she lived and worked till December 1979. Upon her return to Canada she found employment in Jasper, Alberta till July 1980. Presently Shirley is employed at the University Hospital Emergency Department in Edmonton.

Roger was born on January 7, 1953 at Camrose. He attended Hay Lakes School for twelve years, graduating from High School in 1971. After graduation he worked for three months for Marshall Wells in Edmonton. On December 17, 1971 he started working for Sherwin Williams in Edmonton as a clerk. Then he was transferred to Red Deer as manager at the Plaza Shopping Centre. He worked at Red Deer for six years. On June 30, 1980 he was transferred as manager to a store on 11220-142 street in Edmonton where he is still employed.

Roger has always been greatly interested in sports. At the age of six years, while in grade one at Hay Lakes School, he started playing hockey. He played in an organized team. Since then Roger has played many games of hockey. He played in Hay Lakes on Pee Wee team (Camrose County League) for two years. He played in Camrose with Byer Millers (Bantam Team), for two years; played in Camrose with the Midget Team for three years; played in Camrose with Lutheran College (Vikings-Junior B) for two years. In the summer of 1971 Roger went to Swift Current to try to make the Junior A Burno Team, but did not make it. From 1971 to 1974 Roger played with the Maroons (Senior Team). In 1971-1972 he received a trophy for Most Popular Player. He moved to Red Deer because of work. From 1975-78 he played with Sylvan Lake (Senior). During that time he received two different trophies for Most Valuable Player. In 1979 he played with Bentley (Senior) and received a trophy for Best Defenceman. In 1979-80 he started playing with Bentley but the team folded so he played the balance of the year with Sylvan Lake. Then he moved to Edmonton because of work and retired from hockey.

Besides hockey, Roger also played baseball and fastball. From Grade One to Grade Ten he played softball with Hay Lakes School Team. Then he played with Hay Lakes Bantam Baseball Team for two years; after that he played three years with Hay

Lakes Senior Team. For six years he played in Camrose with Windsor Hotel (Senior Team) then moved to Red Deer because of work. In 1975 he played in Red Deer with the Elks until July when the Edmonton Monarchs asked him to play with them. That year the team won the Tanish Cup (League Title) W.M.F.L. In 1976 he played with the Red Deer Elks. In 1977-78 he played in Red Deer with Corvets W.M.F.L. The second year the team won the Ganish Cup (League Title). In 1979 he again played in Red Deer with the Elks. In 1980 he played in Red Deer until July, then the balance of the year with Camrose Windsor Hotel.

Galenza, Dennis and Elaine

by Elaine Galenza

Dennis Galenza, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Galenza, was born September 22, 1942. Being the youngest of three children, he well remembers many incidents of being both teased and spoiled by his older brother and sister.

Ellswick School was Dennis' first experience with formal education. He started with two other grade ones — Phyllis Kohut and Rodney Skog. In 1950 the Ellswick School was closed and the children were bussed to Hay Lakes.

As a boy, Dennis was always interested in hunting. In summer he and the neighbourhood children hunted gophers, crows and magpies. During the winter he used to set a trapline which extended several miles. This he checked daily after school.

When Dennis was old enough to operate machinery, he began helping his father with the farming. Sometimes, after staying up late Friday night, on Saturday you'd find Dennis propped up against the tractor tire sleeping and the tractor running. Since his father could hear the tractor running he took for granted work was progressing as it should and that Dennis was a slow but steady worker.

After leaving school, Dennis first went to work for Hansen Construction as a carpenter's helper. Later, for several years, he worked in the oil fields (Eckville to Ft. McMurry). In 1964 he started with Stelco in Camrose and continued with the company for nine years. He continued farming on weekends and in the evenings.

I also grew up in the Ellswick district, only a mile from the Galenza farm where we presently live. I took all my schooling at Hay Lakes.

My father died when I was eight years old. My mother joined the teaching staff at Hay Lakes a year later. If Ken or I misbehaved in any way, mother always knew, and we heard about it when we got home.

After completing high school, I entered the Royal

Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing. Being the second youngest student in training (out of over three hundred girls) it took a little time for me to adjust to the "motherly" advice of my co-students, who were a few years older than me. They counselled me wisely on such matters as exams, money, men and how to sneak back into the Nurses' Residence after midnight, when the doors were locked. Under their careful coaching I soon became accepted as one of the tribe. Some of my most cherished friendships were those I formed with the girls in training.

Dennis and I knew each other from childhood. We were married by Rev. Campbell on August 5, 1972 at St. Peter and Paul Church, a little country church just half a mile away from our home.



Elaine and Dennis Galenza, August 5, 1972.

A week before the wedding, Dennis moved the house we live in, to its present location. To start with we lived like pioneers — no stove, no cupboards, no phone, no running water and hardly any furniture. I cooked on a hotplate, we carried water from the well, and we used the "outside plumbing". Little by little we accumulated the modern conveniences and now, although our house is small, we find it quite comfortable.

Along with his farming, Dennis continued to work at Stelco. In 1974, he took a job with Alberta Government Services in their Mechanical Mainte-

nance Department. For several winters he took night classes at N.A.I.T. to get his welder's ticket and machinist certificate.

In 1974 I resigned from my job at St. Mary's Hospital and moved across the street to Rosehaven. I am presently a supervisor on one of the wards there.

After attending University for a few years on a part-time basis, later October I received my Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Alberta.

In 1977 we spent a six week vacation in the South Pacific, following the sun to Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. Seeing the sun shine from the north instead of the south was a little confusing at first, as was learning to drive on the left side of the road. For Dennis, the high-lite of our trip came on Christmas Eve. We were deep-sea fishing off the Fijian coast and he caught a Black Marlin weighing two hundred and eight pounds. The trip was expensive, but well worth the lovely memories we have of it.



Dennis Galenza with a two hundred and eight pound Black Marlin which he caught Christmas Eve 1977 off the Fijian Islands.

Farming has always been part of Dennis' occupation. He has helped his father with farming since his childhood and after his father's retirement, Dennis took over the family farm. We live on the SE 13-48-22-W4 and Dennis still farms the quarter homesteaded by his grandfather.

Galenza, Edward

Edward, the youngest member of Martin and Anastasia Galenza's family was born December 13, 1922.

His father passed away when he was two years old. He grew up on the family farm with his widowed mother, three sisters and two brothers. He attended Ellswick School which was almost across the road from their home.

On September 6, 1940 he enlisted in the Canadian Army, at the age of seventeen years. He served overseas in England, France, Belgium and Holland with the Army of Occupation in Northern Germany.

Edward married Edith Elvina Sears of Bognor Regis, Sussex, England on September 1, 1945.

He returned to Canada in February 1946 and was discharged on March 15, 1946. His wife arrived in Canada on May 5, 1946.

Edward and Edith have three children: Janet, Bruce and Ralph.

They purchased a quarter of land from Michael Famulak. On this quarter the Halley Post Office and Ladell's Store were located in the early days. Later they purchased another two quarters of land and farmed for twenty-two years. In 1968 they sold their farms and dairy herd.

They now reside in Rimbey, Alberta. They own and operate two jewelry stores — one in Rimbey and one in Lacombe. They find the work interesting and enjoyable.

Galenza, Frank

by Frank Galenza

I, the fourth child of John and Barbara Galenza, was born in the Ellswick district in 1907. I attended Ellswick School. After finishing school I stayed home and worked on the family farm, and for a number of years worked off and on for Lester Anderson, who was a Seed Grower in our area. In fall I always came home to help with the threshing. I ran my father's threshing outfit for many years. Besides threshing our own grain we did a lot of custom threshing too. I farmed with my father until his death in 1937. After his passing I continued to live on the family farm with my mother.

In 1940 I married Anne Kawalilak of Holden.

In 1943 I left the family farm and bought some land close to the city of Camrose. We lived there until 1951 when we sold that land and bought a larger farm in the North Ohaton area. We farmed there until 1974. In 1974 we sold the land, had a farm sale, and retired to Camrose.

In our family we have five girls and twin boys. Doreen and Carolyne were born while we lived in the

Ellswick district, south of Hay Lakes. The others all were born in the Camrose area.

Doreen married Kenneth Wancho. They have two girls and one boy, and live at Ohaton, Alberta.

Carolyn is a registered nurse. She married John Williams and lives at Red Deer, Alberta. They have two boys.

Betty is a registered nursing assistant. She lives at Provost, Alberta.

Genevieve married Bob Wesley and they live at Viking, Alberta. They have two boys and two girls.

Eleanor married Wayne Martin. They have two boys and live at Stettler, Alberta.

Robert is an electrician. He married Julie Stang and they live in Innisfail, Alberta. They have three girls and two boys.

Daniel is a motor mechanic. He lives in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Editor's note — Frank Galenza passed away September 1, 1981.

Galenza, John

John Galenza was born in Ostrov, Poland in 1867. He served four years in the army. After his release from the army he married Barbara Trichon, a girl from his native village. Barbara was raised by foster parents as her mother and father died when she was very young.

In 1898 they decided to try their fortune by migrating to Canada. After selling their property and paying taxes to their elders, they realized they did not have enough money for both of them to come to Canada. It was decided that John would go with his married brother Martin, and Barbara would stay behind in Poland until John would send for her. She joined her husband a year or so later.

John came to Canada in 1898. That same year he filed a homestead SE 12-48-22. His brother Martin filed on the quarter just north of John's land.

Together they built a log house with a sod covered roof on Martin's homestead. John made this his home until his wife came to Canada.

After her arrival they built a log house on their own land. The first few years were spent in improving the homestead and working for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

In 1903 John was working as a track watchman for the C.P.R. near the town of Frank. The cabin in which he stayed was about two miles from the village. Wednesday, April 29, 1903 was a day he never forgot. He often talked about it.

At ten minutes past four that morning he was awakened by a terrifying roar, louder than any thunder. In a matter of seconds the noise was over. He rushed out from his cabin. It looked as if a heavy fog

was rising from the mountain and over the village of Frank. The dust was so thick it was hard to see far ahead. He saw pieces of rock still hurtling down from the mountain over the tracks. Farther down the things looked a lot worse. Part of the Turtle Mountain had slid down into the Crow's Nest, causing the deafening roar.

The town of Frank proper had been left untouched but the area east of Gold Creek was covered by ninety million tons of rock, some blocks as big as houses.

Beneath those rocks lay the railway track, the mine entrance and the people who lived in that area.

The slide occurred on Wednesday morning. On Saturday Frank was a deserted village. After nine days the citizens of Frank could return to the village if they wished.

For weeks the Frank School was used as morgue, as parts of human bodies were found.

What caused the disastrous slide no one knows. Some think it was the result of a combination of causes.

Now the railroad runs on top of the slide. The passengers are still amazed at the desolation.

John and Barbara raised a family of eleven children, nine boys and two girls.

Marie married Mike Lichoch. At present they reside at Hay Lakes.

Peter married Josephine Macohonic. Since 1935 they have made their home in the Ellswick district.

Joe passed away in 1955.

Frank married Annie Kawalilak. They have now retired and live in Camrose.

Carl married Sophie Sawula. They also live in the Ellswick area.

Albert married Victoria Kupka. They live in Camrose.

Henry married Frances Kupka. Henry passed away November 20, 1961. Frances and the family reside in Edmonton.

Helen married Fred Shipper. They live at Drayton Valley.

Victor married Bessie Sych. They reside in Hay Lakes.

Stanley passed away June 17, 1976.

Ted married Emily Nalesnik. They live in Edmonton.

John Galenza passed away on July 1, 1937 at the age of seventy years. His wife Barbara died June 10, 1951 at the age of seventy-four.

Galenza, Johnnie by Johnnie Galenza

I was born and grew up in the Ellswick district and had all my schooling there.

One day in the afternoon, when I was about three-and-one-half years old, I got lost on the farm. My grandmother and Auntie were coming down the road to visit us. When my older sister saw them, she ran out into the field to get my mother, who at the time was stooking. I must have decided to follow her, but I couldn't keep up with her, and got lost. After a couple of hours, after my mother got home, she noticed that I was missing. She looked all around the farm yard and couldn't find me. She became very worried and went out into the field to look for me. After running around all over the farm, she found me in another field close to the lake where I had cried myself to sleep in a binder wheel track, with my hands folded together under the side of my face. I still can remember the water that was in front of me and I couldn't go any farther.

My father died in November, 1924 from an accident while breaking up some new land and left my mother to farm with six children. I was seven years old and my oldest brother was thirteen years old. My mother stayed on the farm and farmed with the help of neighbors, mostly the Hamula's. My brother Anton farmed until he got married and moved away. I was fifteen when I started farming with my mother. There were very hard times for us in the 1930's. When war broke out things began to be a little better. We had good crops and all the prices came up. We were able to save some money, and in 1945 I bought the farm from Mr. Mathew Shawaga. I farmed my mother's land until she sold the home quarter to Edward in 1961. In 1965 I bought the other farm from my mother and she moved into Camrose. When Edward quit farming, I bought the home quarter from him in 1969.

On November 14, 1950 I married Carol Musialek



Johnnie and Carol Galenza on their 25th Wedding Anniversary with their family. L. to R.: Terry, Gail, Joyce, Garry. Sitting: Carol and Johnnie.

from New Sarepta. We lived with my mother until 1953, then we built a house on my own farm and we moved there in the fall.

We have four children: Terry, Garry, Gail and Joyce.

Terry was born March 20, 1953. He took all his grades in Hay Lakes School. He worked for the Department of Highways and Shell Oil. At the present time he is half owner of a G.M. General Truck and is employed by Bar K of Edmonton, moving Oil Well Drilling Rigs.

Garry was born April 9, 1954. He went to Hay Lakes School but took grades eleven and twelve in Camrose Composite High School. He took Heavy Duty Mechanics in Camrose. He worked four years for the Department of Highways. At present he is working for Seisform Drilling of Wetaskiwin as a driller in Nevada, U.S.A. He also takes care of two other rigs.

Gail was born August 23, 1955. She took all her schooling in Hay Lakes except grades eleven and twelve, which she took at Camrose Composite High School. Gail married Garry Pryske on August 23, 1975. They have two children: Scott, four years old and Nancy two years old. Garry Pryske owns and operates a backhoe and also owns the other half of the truck that Terry operates. Gail and Garry live on an acreage north of Camrose.

Joyce was born August 16, 1957. She took all her schooling in Hay Lakes except the last two years, which she took at the Camrose Composite High School. She took her Hair Dressing Course in Camrose. She worked in Camrose, Calgary and St. Albert. On November 26, 1977 Joyce married Wayne Twizell. They have a two year old daughter, Kristy. Joyce does part-time hair dressing. Wayne is employed by Sefel Geophysical Exploration, Calgary. Joyce and Wayne live in a trailer at Daysland.

We raised from twelve to fifteen hundred turkeys on contract for a number of years, trying to make extra money, but when we sold the turkeys the Feed



Johnnie Galenza grinding chop for his 1500 turkeys — Alex Karpowich holding a turkey.

Company took most of the money so we finally changed to cattle and grain.

We hauled water in cream cans from a well by the old buildings. In 1958 we drilled a well beside the house and in 1961 we got the power put in. We bought our T.V. in 1967. In 1974 we put water works in. In 1976 we bought a new car and a new truck and a bigger tractor.

In the spring of 1978 an agent came to see me and asked me if I wanted to sell my land. He offered me a fair price, and due to health reasons, I sold. I am now enjoying my retirement in Camrose. I take care of the lawn, flowers and do some household chores. I also enjoy my grandchildren.

Carol started to work at Rosehaven in Camrose in 1969 as an Institutional Service Worker and is still employed there.

We enjoyed our first plane trip to Hawaii in December of 1978. Since then we have travelled to other places.

Galenza, Martin

**by Mrs. Anastazia Galenzia, Mrs. Louise Pelz,
Mrs. Caroline Skog**

Born in Ostrow Austria, Martin Galenza and wife Eustina Maria immigrated to Canada in the year 1898. Because of the dense population of his native land, he came in search of land in Canada. Martin and his wife first settled in the Sandy Lake area where they lived approximately two years. Then they moved to the Hay Lakes district where he filed on a homestead in 1901. His homestead was located five miles south of the village of Hay Lakes on N.W. 12-48-22-W4. He was one of the first settlers in that area.

The first buildings on the homestead were built of logs taken mostly from his own land. Martin constructed a two room house, a barn and two chicken houses, one with a sod roof which was later used to shelter young calves. A large two roomed granary was also built to clean grain for seeding purposes. There was also an outdoor oven erected in which one could bake as many as fourteen loaves of bread at a time. Most fences around the yard were also built of logs where many years later the children would love running barefoot on the top log all around the corrals.

From the start, Martin owned three work horses and a couple of light horses which were used for menial work as well as trips to the local store. A democrat or wagon was used for transportation. Martin also acquired some machinery which included a sulky plow, a seed drill, a disk, some harrows and a binder. He later bought a mower and a hay rake, all of which were horse drawn.

Martin and Eustina had three daughters and one

son born to them. Frances, the oldest daughter married Stanley Hamula of south Edmonton in the year 1914. She passed away in 1966. Annie married Michael Sarnecki of Leduc in 1915. She passed away in 1922. Victoria married John S. Halwa of Leduc in 1925. They reside in the Devon area. Son John passed away at Sandy Lake at the age of four.

Martin Galenza's wife, Eustina Maria passed away in March of 1909. In the month of November, 1909, Martin was united in marriage to Anastazia Malik. The marriage took place in Glidehurst, Alberta.

Anastazia arrived in Canada in 1903 from Austria with her parents Peter and Anne Malik. She was eight years old. The Maliks settled in the Thorsby district for a few years, then moved to the Hay Lakes area.

In 1910, Martin and Anastazia built a two storey house with three rooms. A carpenter by the name of Loveseth did most of the construction for the sum of \$90.00. Martin, with the help of his wife and a relative put the roof on the house. In 1928, the house had a shingled siding put on. It stands on the homestead vacated to this day.

Six children were born to Martin and Anastazia, namely Anton, Alice, Louise, John, Caroline and Edward.



Children of Anastasia and Martin Galenza, 1924: Anton, Alice, Louise, John, Caroline, Edward.

Homesteading was not easy during those years. Land had to be brushed and cleared by hand with an axe or grubhoe, and stumps had to be pulled out with horses and a cable. It was slow and all hard work clearing a few acres at a time. Ploughing the land was done with either a sulky or walking plow and a team of horses. The roots were then picked, the field disked and harrowed, and then the land was ready for seeding. All implements were horse drawn in the early years until the gas tractor came to use which cut

labour to quite an extent. There was no more harnessing or unharnessing, hitching, feeding or watering horses to contend with. The daily chores on the farm consisted of milking cows, feeding pigs, chickens, besides carrying water in and throwing water out. The milk and egg cheques brought in the groceries, while harvested wheat was taken to the mill and ground into sacks of four. Coal oil lamps were used for light which meant the lamp chimney had to be washed regularly. Later, Aladdin lamps, which gave a somewhat better light came into use. Coal and firewood were brought into the house daily and ashes taken out. Large gardens were planted with many different vegetables, and lots of potatoes. Farmers would dig from 30 to 50 sacks per year. Vegetables were stored in outdoor root cellars where they kept well into late spring. Potatoes were taken to the local store and exchanged for either groceries, clothing or shoes. The surplus would be cooked in large outdoor cookers and fed to pigs or cattle. Sauerkraut was made in wooden barrels to last the winter. Wild berries were often plentiful and were picked and canned for fruit or made into jams or jellies. Cream or milk was put in creamers or covered buckets and lowered by rope into well pits, at times partly immersed in water to be kept cool in the summer. Clothes were washed on scrub boards and wrung by hand using homemade soap bars, coming out snow white without Tide or Oxydol, and hung outdoors to dry.

In the early spring, grain had to be cleaned for seeding. It was cleaned on a small hand cranked fanning mill. The grain was shovelled in and out by hand. It was slow but efficient.

In the fall after harvesting the bundles were hauled into high round stacks where they waited until a steam engine would arrive. As times progressed, several farmers obtained their own threshing machines and threshing was done in the fields. The bundles were hauled with as many as six, eight or ten teams, depending on the size of the separator. There was a field pitcher who helped to load the bundles on the rack and a spike pitcher whose job was to help unload at the threshing machine. There were two wagons with boxes hauling the grain in grain sacks which were hooked under the grain spout one after the other, and as each sack was filled and arranged, and the wagon box loaded, it was hauled to a granary on your farmstead. Years later, granaries were built and moved out into the fields where the grain was put directly into the granaries. The straw was blown into huge piles, usually close to the farmstead where it provided food and shelter for the animals.

Winter months was the time for hauling logs in from the bush, sawing them up into blocks then

splitting them into firewood. The crackling and the scent of wood burning in the stove is a cherished memory.

In the year 1922, Martin Galenza purchased another quarter of land located two miles south of the home place, N.E. 31-47-21 W4. In the late fall of 1924 Martin was injured in a farm accident and later developed pneumonia. He passed away November 30, 1924 leaving Anastazia with six children. Anastazia kept farming even though she was advised to move to town. Anton, the oldest son assumed responsibility of farming along with Anastazia and the rest of the family. In those years it was a heavy burden on her to raise the children on her own. During the depression it was more difficult, but there always seemed to be enough food for all. All problems were brought to the attention of the children and discussed openly.

With Martin gone, both boys and girls had to pitch in with the farm work. In due time, we were capable of handling horses. We also helped with the haying, in the building of stacks, raking of hay and running the hay sweeper. We also helped stook the grain bundles at harvest time.

All six of Anastazia's children attended the Ellswick school which was conveniently located across the road from the home place. Because of the easy access to the school we were often in charge of janitorial duties for the wage of ten cents a day.

For a short period of time, one of the Ellswick school teachers, Mr. Gemeroy, kept the Halley post office as well as a few groceries at the teacherage. That was where us youngsters would go and exchange farm produce for a candy bar, apple or orange.

The Ellswick school was also a place for community gatherings. One highlight was the annual Christmas concert where all children could participate and eagerly look forward to each year, with Santa Claus, tree, gifts and candy for all. There were also dances, box socials and pie socials held off and on through the year.

Those were the days when people walked more and visiting neighbors was more common. When you walked out on the road, especially Sundays, and looking both directions, one would often see adults, children, even older folk walking down the road either alone or by two or more, stopping to chat with one another on meeting. Walking five miles in one day was nothing unusual.

People also found time for enjoyment. There were skating parties held in the winter, some on our large lake where we lived and others on different large sloughs with usually a big bonfire going at one end where one could warm up. A popular game

played was crack the whip. Neighbours would also get together in the evenings where they spent several hours in card games. The boys would also make their own skis which were used for skiing across the fields and through the bushes, setting out snares in hopes of catching a few rabbits. The girls were as interested as the boys in their venture.

During the summer there were many ball games to go to. Every community had a ball team. Swimming was also done in the nearby lakes by the younger generation. There were also a few rafts constructed and used on the water.

A popular game played among the neighbourhood kids was "Moving Base", where not too many participants were required as compared to a regular ball team. Another favourite game was "Kick the Can", and "Anti-I-Over", which was always fun for the younger folk.

Growing up on the farm, there was one tiresome chore that had to be done for several years. Having acquired more cattle as years went by, we were in need of more pasture, so we had to chase the cattle two miles to another quarter every morning, then bring them back in the evenings to be milked. Often, our water well would run dry, so then came the extra chore of taking the cattle to a lake at one end of the home quarter for another half mile to get their fill. Happy was the day when the well was redrilled and we discovered there was plenty of water for all purposes. When taking the cattle to pasture, we went past a small Anglican church situated a half mile south of our home place. A meadowlark was often seen perched on the roof of the church chirping away, returning every summer. A few years later the church was moved by several sleighs that were joined together and taken across the lake to the village of Bittern Lake. We, as children were sorry to see the meadowlark's favourite perch taken away.

Some time later, we came in possession of a bicycle which a family had apparently brought out with them from the United States. It was a dandy and the family was very delighted with it. This partially solved the long distance walking to get our cows every day.

In the early days of her marriage, Anastazia acquired a knack for sewing and in due time became a fairly good seamstress. On her Beaver treadle sewing machine, she made many clothes for the family as well as for relatives and neighbours. She made dresses for some special occasions as well as curtains, dishtowels, and bedding. In some cases, she was able to make a dress identical to one pointed out to her in a catalogue with very little trouble. Her skill was passed on to her daughter Caroline who has put in many years doing alterations for a couple of shops in Camrose.

Language was another obstacle which Anastazia overcame. With self determination, she attempted to learn English on her own and did so quite successfully. She did not have the opportunity of attending school in the early days because of the lack of schools. She took an interest in her children's school work where she picked up many words and gradually improved to the point where she got by quite well. Later, Anastazia obtained a Polish primer or a beginner's book with illustrations and the pronunciation of each word. We also had a subscription to a Polish weekly newspaper which helped Anastazia acquire the mother tongue. This enabled Anastazia to correspond with distant relatives. A couple of family members also took interest, and learned the Polish language.

Our first car was a Model T Ford touring that was bought in 1927, which the family was thrilled to own. It provided a faster mode of transportation as well as providing many pleasure rides. Each member of the family in turn learned to drive. After the first snowfall, the car was put away for the winter as the roads were not suited for car travel with no gravel or snowplows in those days.



Anastasia Galenza and Family — March 1980. L. to R., Standing: Edward, John, Anton. Seated: Caroline, (Skog), Mrs. Anastasia Galenza, Louise (Pelz).

In the year 1930, Anton married Helen Shermack of Camrose. Helen taught at the Ellswick school at the time. After a couple of years, Anton purchased a quarter of land south of Camrose and went farming on his own. After several years of farming he sold his land and moved to Camrose where he worked for Byers Flour Mills for many years while Helen continued teaching at St. Patrick's School. At present they are both retired and living in Camrose. They have two children, Jerry and Pat.

Prior to her marriage, Alice worked in Edmonton and in the Leduc area. Alice married Alex Karpovich in 1934. They resided in the Hay Lakes area for a

number of years, then moved to a farm in the Bittern Lake district. They had three children, Gerald, Allan and Eunice. Eunice passed away in July, 1979. Alice passed away in 1961.

Louise worked in Edmonton for a year and also in the Camrose area. She also worked locally in several places for several months in the years when help was needed, but often returning home in the fall for the busy season of harvesting and threshing. In 1942, Louise married Thomas Pelz. At present, they reside in the Hay Lakes district. They have eight children, namely Geraldine, Connie, Don, Brian, Richard, Wayne, Gordon and Sheila.

In the year 1945, John purchased a quarter of land a half mile north of the home place. In 1950, he married Carol Musialek of New Sarepta. They built a house on their land, and moved there in 1954. In 1978, John sold his land and moved to Camrose. John and Carol have four children, Terry, Gary, Gail and Joyce.

Caroline worked locally for several months after which she found employment in Camrose. She worked in St. Mary's Hospital for a couple of years, then for a time at the Alice Hotel. Caroline was also employed as a seamstress for fourteen years. In 1942, Caroline married Alfred Skog. Alfred was employed at Rosehaven for twenty-two years until retiring. The Skogs have two children, Rodney and Wendy.

Edward assisted with farming until he enlisted in the army and served overseas. In 1945, Edward married Edith Sears of Sussex, England. At present, they reside in the town of Rimbey. They have three children, Janet, Bruce and Ralph.

Anastazia stayed alone on the farm for approximately five years, raising turkeys. In 1959, she moved to Camrose where she resides in her own home. She is 87 years old.

Galenza, Peter

Peter, the eldest son of John and Barbara Galenza, was born July 27, 1903 in the Ellswick district.

At the beginning their nearest store and post office was Ernest Roper's Store on the north-east corner of Bittern Lake. The family carried their produce and their groceries home from the store. This was a distance of about six miles. The produce and groceries got quite heavy by the time a person reached the store or home. Mr. Ladell's store and post office on the SW 7-48-21-W4 in 1910 was greatly appreciated by the people in that area. It was known as the Halley Post Office and Ladell's Store.

While a young lad, Peter used to help his dad break the prairie sod. They used four horses. Peter drove the horses while his dad steered the plow by

holding the plow handles. Peter always tried to step where the horse had stepped and pressed down the grass and weeds. It was less painful to his bare feet.

Shoes were seldom worn in summer. Often while walking to church or town, the shoes were carried to save on wear. If a child outgrew a pair of shoes, they were passed on to a younger member of the family.

In the early years, the grain was seeded by hand, cut with a sickle or scythe, tied into bundles by hand and when dry, threshed by swivelled flails. To separate the chaff from the grain, the grain had to be winnowed. Later binders and threshing machines came into use. Hand turned fanning mills to clean seed grain were used until the late forties.

The people and animals were plagued in the summer by flies and mosquitoes, especially during the wet years. There were no sprays or repellents. Smudges were the common means of keeping the mosquitos away from the cattle and horses.

Transportation was mostly by foot, later by horses. Some roads were made passable by corduroy, that is, laying logs side by side across the muddy road.

Hunting and trapping helped to supplement the income. Muskrats were plentiful. There were quite a few weasels too. Muskrats sold from eight to thirty-five cents each. A good weasel brought about eighty-five cents.

Some winters there was a tremendous amount of snow. To make it easier to get around, Peter made skis from vinegar barrel boards. Later skis from boards were quite common among young people.

Prairie chickens and partridges were snared or shot to provide meat for the table. In fall ducks were plentiful and were greatly enjoyed during the season.

Hunters loaded their own shells, using metal casing, caps, buckshot, powder and paper. Mother's or wife's thimble was used to measure the powder.

Peter always enjoyed hunting, especially ducks and big game.

Around 1922, Peter, with his brothers Joe and Carl, went to work in the lumber camp. This they did for three winters.

In 1925 he went to work in the Dinant coal mine. He worked there for two winters. In 1927 he started to work in the Ryley coal mine, and continued working there for many winters. During the years Peter worked in the Ryley mine, he was the "pit-boss". He got ten cents a car more in pay than the regular miners. The regular miners received ninety-two cents for every fifteen hundred pound car they filled. For that price that had to dig coal with picks, load it into the coal cars, and push the loaded cars to the loading entrance.

On November 3, 1933 Peter married Josephine

Macohonic of Ryley. Before her marriage, and one year after, Josephine worked as hired help for the lady who boarded the miners. Her job was to help with the cooking, baking, laundry by hand for the household and the miners, scrubbing the wood floors and dozens of other jobs that had to be done. Sometimes this ended up in an eighteen hour day. Her wages were \$10.00 a month.

The following spring (1934) Peter and Josie moved to the Ellswick district settling on the SE 13-48-22-W4. Here Peter farmed during the summer and went back to the Ryley mine to work for two winters. After that he became a full-time farmer. In 1945 he bought the homestead from his mother and continued farming until his retirement.



Part of the Ryley mine where Peter Galenza worked for a number of winters in the early thirties.

Peter and Josie raised a family of one girl and two boys: Lorraine, Lawrence and Dennis. The children all attended Ellswick school. Later when Ellswick School was closed, they went by bus to Hay Lakes.

Lorraine entered Royal Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing in 1955. She graduated in 1958 and worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose for a year and a half. From November 1959 to December 1963 she worked at the University of Minnesota Hospital in Intensive Care. She then returned to Alberta to work in the University Hospital in the Cardiac Unit. In the fall of 1964 she took a Charge Nurse position at the University of Alberta Post Anesthetic Recovery Room. She married Harry Beleshko of Edmonton in June 1967 and resigned from her nursing position in February 1968. Lorraine and Harry have two boys, Kendall and Ferrell. The family is making their home in Edmonton.

In the fall of 1955 Lawrence started to work for the S & T Oil Company as a roughneck. Later he worked for Duke Drilling as a driller. Now he is employed as Toolpush for Westburne Drilling Company. Lawrence married Faye Rayment. They have two children, Christine and Larry. Their home is in Sherwood Park.



Family of Peter and Josephine Galenza, July 21, 1979. Back Row, L. to R.: Lorraine (Mrs. Beleshko), Lawrence Galenza, Christine Galenza, Faye Galenza, Elaine and Dennis Galenza. Front Row: Ferrel, Kendall, Peter, Larry and Josephine Galenza.

Dennis married Elaine Maruschak. They reside in the Ellswick area.

Hamula, Carl

Carl, the second child of Andrew and Theresa Hamula, was born in the Rabbit Hill district, which was near the present town of Leduc. He lived there until 1918 at which time his parents moved to the Big Hay Lake district, settling on the NE 4-22-48-W4. He worked and lived at home until he got married in 1932.

In February 1932 Carl married Nellie Famulak, the daughter of John and Sophia Famulak. They were married by Father Miksa at St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic church at Hay Lakes.

Their first home was the Ellswick School teacherage. The house to be used as a teacherage, had been bought from John Nelson by the Ellswick School Board when the school was built in 1910. At the beginning, the teachers that taught Ellswick School lived in the teacherage. Later the teachers preferred to board at the home of Michael and Sophie Famulak, so the teacherage became vacant. Since it was vacant, Carl and Nellie rented it from the Ellswick School Board. In return for the rent, they did the janitor work at the school. Approximately seven years later they bought the teacherage from the Camrose School Division for the sum of two hundred dollars. They then moved it across the fence onto their own land to its present location.

At present the house is over seventy-five years old. It has its third set of shingles and a second siding since Carl and Nellie bought it. Though small, it has



At present this house is over seventy-five years old. It was built by Nelsons at the beginning of the century. After the Ellswick School was built in 1910, the school board bought it from Mr. Nelson for a teacherage. Later it became the home of Carl and Nellie Hamula and is still their home at the present time.

made a comfortable home for the family throughout the years.

Carl and Nellie have two daughters, Vivian and Bernice, Vivian married Raymond Pelz, son of Victor and Mary Pelz of Hay Lakes. At present they live on an acreage south of what was the Alberta Game Farm. They have seven children and one grandchild.

Bernice married George Maisonneuve of Beaumont. Presently they live on an acreage just off Highway 21, near Looma. They have three children.



Carl Hamula Family, L. to R.: Vivian, Nellie, Carl, and Bernice.

Carl and Nellie farmed until Carl retired at the age of seventy-four years. Now they rent out the land, but continue living in their own home on that same farm which they took over from John Famulak, Nellie's father, shortly after they were married.

Hamula, Joe

by Sophie Famulak and Helen Goclon

Our uncle, Joe Hamula, was born in Poland in the year 1868. He came to Canada in 1898 with his two brothers, Michael and Andrew. They lived in the Nisku area for awhile and then around 1903 they moved to the Hay Lakes area. Joe and his wife settled on the NW 12-48-22-W4 in the Ellswick school district. He resided there until 1912 when he passed away at the age of forty-four years.

They were blessed with five children: Mike, Peter, Louie, Katie and Joe, who were all born in Canada.

Mike married Mary Dochniak. They had four children: Joe, Lawrence, Doreen and Jeannie. Mike worked most of the time on the railway tracks in different parts of Alberta. He, his wife Mary, and their son Joe, have passed away.

Louie married Bessie Workun. They had a service station in Edmonton for a number of years. Later they moved to Vancouver, where Bessie and their two children, Lloyd and Bonnie, still reside. Louie passed away a few years ago.

Katie married Walter Zak of Daysland. They had a few children but we do not remember their names. Walter has passed away and Katie is living in Camrose.

Joe is married and lives in Vancouver. He has spent many years working in the ship-yards.

Peter never married. He worked in various places in the Calmar area. When he passed way his remains were put to rest in the St. Peter and Paul cemetery, in the Ellswick district, where his father and baby brother are buried.

Auntie remarried in 1918 and moved to the Daysland area. She passed away a number of years ago.

Klaus, Hettie (Nee Radtke)

I was born in Germany October 10, 1918. At the age of ten years I came with my parents to a farm in the Hay Lakes area. I received all my schooling in Canada at the Ellswick School.

In 1938 I married Edward Gillert. We took up farming on his homestead in the Peace River area, near the town of Enilda. Those were hard years; our first winter we lived on macaroni, as our crops and garden froze.

We had a son Richard, born July 26, 1940 at High Prairie. In 1942 Edward became ill with cancer and passed away September 29, of that year.

I resided a total of seven years in the Enilda area before moving back to Hay Lakes. In October of 1943, I married Ralph Rose from Enilda. We farmed in the Hay Lakes area (Emil Zucht Farm) for ten years. Our son James, was born May 27, 1948. We



Hattie Klaus (nee Radtke) and her first husband Edward Gellert — out for a drive in the middle thirties.

left the farm and moved to Camrose where Ralph was employed with the city. While working for the city, Ralph met with a tragic accident and passed away on September 29, 1968.

I continued to live in Camrose where I met Sam Klaus of New Sarepta. We were married July 18, 1970. Now we have both retired and at present live in Edmonton.

My son Richard served in the RCAF for seventeen years and is presently employed with Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., as Chief Inspector. He lives with his wife Roberta Joan and their three children, Lorrie, Shelley and Dean, in the small town of Pinawa, Manitoba.

My second son James, took up the trade as Partsman and is employed as a Parts Manager for Al Glover International Trucks Ltd., at Red Deer. James lives in Lacombe with his wife Melvina and son Jamie.

Kohut, John Family

John Kohut arrived in Canada from Ukraine in 1921, at age sixteen, accompanied by his grandmother, mother and younger brother Steve. Following an overland journey across Europe, they sailed to Halifax from England. The last leg of the journey was by train to Edmonton where they were reunited with John's father, Mike Kohut, who had immigrated to Hay Lakes in 1913. John's father had already bought his farm in the Hay Lakes area and was preparing for the arrival of his family and a better life in Canada. Once reunited, the first task of the family was to build their first log house which meant hard work in cutting, trimming and hauling logs. The following year, after completion of the house, John's only sister, Anne (Marusak) was born. Anne now owns the original Kohut farm.

Soon after arriving, in addition to his farm tasks, John began working with his father at the Dinant Coal Mine as an errand boy, but he soon graduated to digging coal underground. Over the next fifteen

years John worked in a number of mines across Alberta including Dinant, Ryley, Drumheller, Saunders Creek, and Nordegg on a seasonal and part-time basis, usually after the fall harvest on the farm was completed.

John bought his own farm in 1930, which was formerly owned by Ed Bittner, and is situated one-half mile south of his father's property. Much of the land still had to be broken, which John did with the assistance of his horses and explosives. In 1931, John met Katherina Bigus at Calmar and they were married on January 24, 1932. Katherina Bigus (Kohut) was born in 1910 in Calmar, the seventh of eight children of Maria and Fred Bigus. Her parents started homesteading in the Calmar area in 1902. Kate attended Wilton Park and Riverford Schools in the Calmar area. After completing grade school she remained at home to help her family on the farm until her marriage and move to Hay Lakes.



John and Kate Kohut on the occasion of their 35th Wedding Anniversary — January 1968.

John and Kate started married life on the farm in a one room house. In their early years of marriage, during the Depression, John continued to work in the coal mines on a seasonal (winter) basis to supplement their income, while Kate managed the farm and two small children in his absence. Life for all four Kohut children began in this little one room house. In the summer of 1943, the house was moved and expanded into a modest three bedroom bungalow. Their first two sons, Vladmir Lloyd and Melvin Donald were born at home while their third son, Lorne John and only daughter, Phyllis Joyce enjoyed the luxury of hospital delivery at St. Mary's Hospital Camrose.

The Kohut family had to deal with a number of setbacks during the years. In 1938, John was hospi-

talized for several months when he had his leg almost completely severed at the knee in an accident caused by a misdirected axe blow of a hired helper, intended for a wood stump. Once released from hospital, the rehabilitation was slow but in time the leg miraculously recovered its complete function. Kate, with the assistance of good friends and neighbors, was able to manage the farming, and construction of the barn as it stands today was completed in 1939.

During 1947-1948 disaster and illness struck the family again. The recently completed bungalow was completely destroyed by fire and all possessions were lost in the fall of 1947. Until construction was completed on the replacement (present) house, the family weathered the winter by using a chick brooder and a temporary addition as their home. The family lived in the basement of the new house until the upper floors were completed in 1949. In 1949 illness struck the two oldest sons, Lloyd and Melvin. While Melvin spent eleven months in hospital recovering from acute pluresy, his older brother Lloyd passed away in November 1949, at the age of sixteen, as a result of Meningitis. Again, good friends and neighbours rallied to assist through these crises by providing clothing, utensils and supplies after the fire and support during the illness suffered by the children.

All four children began their education at Ellswick School, travelling the three miles by foot, bicycle or horse and carriage. The three younger children then transferred to the school in the village of Hay Lakes in fall of 1950 when Ellswick closed down.



John Kohut and the children, 1949. Lloyd age 16, Melvin 14, Lorne 9, Phyllis 6 yrs.

The children had the benefit of working with horses and watching the transition to mechanized farming which replaced the threshing crews, the horse hay rakes and wagons. The arrival of the first Case and Oliver tractors stand out as special days but the departure of the last team is remembered with sadness.

Melvin, after completing his high school in Hay Lakes, joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and served ten years in various bases throughout Canada as well as a four year posting in Germany, where he married Inge Pryzware in 1960. Mel resigned from the Armed Forces in 1965 and accepted employment with Alberta Government Telephones where he is presently working as an associate engineer. Mel and Inge live in the Millwoods sub-division of Edmonton. They have two daughters, Connie age twenty and Janet age seventeen.

Lorne, after leaving high school, decided that he would make farming his career. However, before undertaking farming on a full-time basis he spent seven years working on drilling rigs throughout Alberta. The money he earned in the oil fields helped him in acquiring his own farm land which was formerly owned by the Kowals. Lorne has taken over his father's farm, and after several years of dairy farming, currently specializes in beef and grain farming.

Phyllis attended Hay Lakes School through grade eleven and graduated from St. Mary's High School in Edmonton. After completing her business training she worked as a secretary for a number of private firms until her move to the Government of Alberta in 1973, as administrative assistant to the Provincial Treasurer, and later as Executive assistant to the Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care. She is currently employed as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care. Phyllis has recently purchased a home in the Mill Creek area of Edmonton.

John Kohut passed away at age seventy, in 1976, as a result of cancer.

Kate is now retired and spends her time between her mobile home in the village of Hay Lakes and the farm where she helps Lorne to manage the house. She enjoys travelling and looks forward to much more in the years ahead.

Kowal, Nicholas and Katherine

Nicholas and Katherine Kowal (nee Rubis) came to Canada from Austria at the turn of the century. They settled on the SE 24-48-22-W4. Later they purchased the SW 19-48-21-W4, a quarter of land across the road from their home place. This land they farmed until 1940 when Katherine Kowal passed away.

Nicholas then married Mrs. Machowecki, a widow from Round Hill. They farmed for a few years. Eventually they sold the land and moved into the village of Round Hill where they resided until their passing. Mr. Kowal passed away in 1955 and is buried by his first wife in the Holy Cross Cemetery at Hay Lakes. His second wife, who predeceased him, is buried by her first husband in a cemetery in the Round Hill area. Kowals had no children.

Krezanosky, Jacob

Jacob Krezanosky came to Canada as a young man in 1901 from the village of Harasimiew, county of Horodanka in Austria.

He came with his mother, step-father and two sisters. He filed on a homestead, the NW 18-47-22 W4. His step-father, Mr. Mathew Shawaga, filed on the quarter just south of him.

At the very beginning he stayed with his mother and step-father. They worked together helping each other.

Later Jacob built his own little log house on his own land and moved into it. Since money was needed for everything, he had to divide his time between improving his homestead and working out, to earn some money with which to carry on the work on the farm.

He and his step-father started to improve their homesteads with a team of oxen. Working with oxen was quite exciting. These animals had a mind of their own and no human being could change it. If they didn't feel like pulling they just wouldn't budge. If mosquitos bothered them too much, they raised their tails and dashed for the nearest bush or slough, and no one could hold them. It often took a lot of patience and coaxing to get them to work. Later horses replaced the oxen.

In 1909, Jacob married Mary Starchesky of Round Hill. Their first son Mike, was born while they lived in the Ellswick district.

In 1912 they sold their homestead and the family moved to the Round Hill community. Three more sons were born at Round Hill: William, John and Joe.

Jacob and Mary farmed in the Round Hill district till 1955. That year they retired and moved into Camrose.

Mr. Krezanosky passed away on June 10, 1960. Mrs. Krezanosky still resides in her home in Camrose.

Kupka, George

I was born in Thorsby, Alberta and moved with my parents, Stanley and Eva Kupka, to the Ellswick district in the spring of 1943. We settled on the former Harry Rubis place; SW-13-48-22 W4. I took my

schooling in the Ellswick and Hay Lakes schools and then went on to work on the oil rigs and help on the farm.

On July 28, 1961, I married Sylvia Olineck of Lavoy, Alberta. We lived temporarily with my parents during the busy spring and harvest seasons. During the winter months we lived in Edmonton where I was employed on various jobs such as oil rigs, building construction, truck driving, and some plaster and stucco work. In October, 1965, I bought my mother and dad's farm at which time my mother and dad retired and moved to Edmonton. For several years after, I continued to work on the oil rigs during the winter, while my wife managed the farm and livestock. I have since quit the rigs and we are presently engaged in a hog and grain farming operation.

We have four children; Gail, Gary, Randy, and Shelley.



The George Kupka Family. L. to R., Back Row: Gary, George, Sylvia and Randy. Front Row: Gail and Shelley.

Gail was born in June of 1962. She took her schooling in Hay Lakes with the exception of her grade 12 which she took at Camrose Lutheran College. Gail plans to take Architectural Technology at NAIT.

Gary was born in January of 1964 and is now in grade 11 at Hay Lakes. His interests are mechanics, music, and flying.

Randy was born in June of 1965 and is taking grade 10 at Hay Lakes. He enjoys sports, music, and flying.

In December of 1969 our fourth child was born. Shelley is now in grade six at Hay Lakes. She enjoys music and animals.

In 1978 Gary took up playing drums and Randy the dulcimer. Together with my wife on the accordion

and a lead guitarist they formed a four piece band called the "Polka Ramblers". At present they are playing at weddings and social events. Shelley is starting to play the saxophone and maybe in future will join the band.

Kupka, Lawrence Family

Lawrence was born in Thorsby and moved to the Hay Lakes area with his parents, Stanley and Eva Kupka, when he was five years old. As a child he attended Ellswick School. Later when the Ellswick School was closed and the children of that area were bused to Hay Lakes, Lawrence attended Hay Lakes School.

After finishing school he stayed with his parents on the family farm and raised registered hogs. During the winter months he worked on the oil rigs. This job demanded quite a bit of time, so he sold his hogs and devoted all his time to his work in the oil fields as a driller. Any spare time he had was spent helping out on the farm.

In 1966 Lawrence met Carol Glionna in Edmonton. Carol was born and raised in Toronto, Ontario, coming to Edmonton in 1955. In 1965 Carol graduated as a Registered Nurse from the Misericordia Hospital School of Nursing in Edmonton. In April 1967, Lawrence and Carol were married. They made their home in Sherwood Park. Carol continued nursing and Lawrence continued working in the oil fields.

After some careful thinking, Lawrence and Carol decided that 1967 would be a good year for a Centennial Project. The project would be to own a farm of their own. They proceeded with their plans. They purchased the NE 18-21-48-W4 and the SE 19-48-21-W4 from the Peter Pasula estate. Preparations to being building a house were started in the fall of 1967. By the latter part of July 1968 the house was completed and Lawrence and Carol moved from Sherwood Park to their home on the farm where they now reside. Two weeks after the move Gregory was born.

They started farming by raising grain and keeping a commercial beef herd. Lawrence continued working in the oil fields during winter. Carol looked after the family and chores during his absence. Being a city girl, life on a farm was full of experiences for her. In her single days the closest she had ever been to a cow was Bonanza on T.V. Now she had all these animals in the barnyard awaiting her attention.

It took a lot of courage, perserverance and determination to adapt to the new way of life. This Carol did remarkably well. The winter of 1972 was Lawrence's last winter on the oil rigs. Since then he has become a full-time farmer.

In 1972 they started a Registered Holstein Dairy. They were in the dairy from 1972 to 1980. In 1980 they sold out their dairy herd and equipment and went into beef cattle and Quarter Horses.

Lawrence and Carol have two sons. Gregory was born in 1968 and Bobby was born in 1970. At present both boys are attending school in Hay Lakes.

Stanley and Eva Kupka

Stanley came to Canada as a baby in about 1905 along with his parents Albert and Mary Kupka. They settled around the Thorsby area where Albert worked on the railroads.

Albert and Mary had ten children; Kate, Ann, John, Josie, Stanley, Peter, Mike, Frances, Victoria, and Anton. Only the three youngest of this pioneer family are living today; Frances Galenza resides in Edmonton and Victoria (Mrs. Albert Galenza) resides in Camrose. Anton resides in Camrose also.

Stanley farmed six miles south of Thorsby when he met Eva Rubis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rubis. On November 11, 1927 Stanley and Eva were married.

In the spring of 1943 Stanley and Eva moved from Thorsby to the former Harry Rubis farm in the Ellswick district. They were accompanied by three small children; Jean, Lawrence and George. Jean was seven years of age; Lawrence was five and George was two years of age. Their eldest child, Mary, passed away at the age of six and is buried at Thorsby.

The family lived in a two-room log house until 1949 when they built a new home. Jean, Lawrence and George went to the Ellswick school until 1950 when they were bussed in to Hay Lakes.



Back Row, L. to R.: Eleanor Blawuciak, Jean Kupka, Lawrence Kupka. Front Row: Anthony Pelz, George Kupka, Larry Pelz.

On August 20, 1955 Jean married Bill Tchir of Armena and they are presently living in Drumheller. They have three boys; Ken, Larry and Don. Ken is now married and has one daughter. Larry is apprenticing in mechanics and Don is still going to school.

Lawrence married Carol Glionna of Sherwood Park in April, 1967. They are farming in the Ellswick district. They have two boys; Greg and Bob, both attending school at Hay Lakes.

George married Sylvia Olineck of Lavoy, Alberta on July 28, 1961. They are presently farming the home place. They have four children; Gail, Gary, Randy and Shelley. They are attending school at Hay Lakes with the exception of Gail who has completed her grade twelve and is planning on taking further education.

In October, 1965, Stanley and Eva retired. They sold their farm and purchased a home in Edmonton. Stanley's retirement was shortly enjoyed as he suffered a stroke in 1969 which left him partially paralyzed. After some slight recovery he was able to come home for a short while. On December 17, 1970 at the age of 65 he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Eva has since remarried and still resides in Edmonton.



Stanley and Eva Kupka 1961.

Ladell, Arthur Henry and Family

Arthur Henry Ladell arrived from Ontario in 1906 and purchased all of section 7-48-21-W4. On April 5, 1907, the family of Arthur Henry Ladell arrived by train at Wetaskiwin, and moved onto what was known as "Ireland Place" which was located on the NE 6-48-21-W4. There they lived in a log house until they built their own large two storey house on the SW 7-48-21-W4. The lumber and other necessary material for this large house was brought from Ontario in two railway carloads, which brought out settler's effects. This house, when completed, became the home of the Ladell family and also a very prominent place in the community. The Halley Post Office was located here. Mr. Ladell and Mr. Butcher started a General Store also in this building. This store and Post Office were a great asset to the people of the Ellswick community. It made it possible for the people in that area to get their mail, sell their produce and buy their supplies without having to walk or drive long distances.

Freighting for the store was done by Cyril Thoms and Don Roper.

E. C. Roper carried the mail from Rosenroll to Halley. At that time Rosenroll was a large distributing centre for the mail. No less than eight Post Offices received mail from the point. E. C. Roper took the northern route.

THE HALLEY POST OFFICE

Halley's comet comes close to the earth every seventy-six years. It was through the tail of this comet that the earth passed on May 18, 1910. Newspapers carried the news in advance. Many people feared the world would end, but nothing happened. However, the excitement ran high. Everyone talked about the Halley Comet. When it came to naming the new Post Office located on SW 7-48-21-W4 in the Ladell home, Halley seemed the appropriate name.

Four of the Ladell boys served in World War I. They were: Harold Rogerson Ladell, Arthur William Ladell (killed in action on April 19, 1917 at Vimy Ridge), George Herbert Ladell and Andrew Merton Ladell.

In 1918 the Ladell family sold out to John Famulak. The house stood as it was till the middle thirties. Then the area that served as a store was removed. The verandahs that surrounded the house on three sides, were taken off, and the roof of the house was remodelled. Though the land has changed hands a few times since 1918, the house itself still stands as a landmark of yesteryear.

Lickoch, Mike and Mary

Mike came to Canada from Austria in 1911 at the

age of ten years. His parents settled in the Thorsby area.

He attended school for three years in Austria. When he started school in Thorsby, he surprised the teacher by being able to read. He did not understand what he was reading, but he could read. The alphabet he learned in Austria corresponded to the English alphabet in Canada. He could pronounce the words but he did not know what they meant. He went to school at Thorsby for three years.

After leaving school, Mike worked for some farmers at \$10.00 a month, taking care of over fifty head of cattle and some horses as well as doing other farm jobs. He worked for a number of years on a section at Hay Lakes.

Mary, the eldest child of John and Barbara Galenza was born in the Ellswick district on August 15, 1901. She attended Ellswick school. She was fortunate to live less than a quarter of a mile from school, so weather presented no problem going to school either summer or winter.

On June 10, 1922 Mike married Mary Galenza at Hay Lakes Holy Cross Catholic Church. They were married by Rev. Basil Ladyka. They were the first couple married in that church.

After marriage they made their home in the Thorsby area. They farmed there for about seven years, then they came to the Ellswick district, settling on the NE 13-48-22-W4.

In 1930 they moved to the Kingman area, about a mile and a half from Miquelon Lake, and resided there until 1975.

In those years it was not easy to make a living from farming alone so Mike had to work out to supplement the income. He worked in a number of places at different jobs. He worked for farmers, for Calgary Power, at the coal-mine and the thirteen years before retirement, at Miquelon Lake Park. The family continued to live on the farm.

They recall during the dry and dusty thirties, the dust storms would last for days. The dust in the air would be so thick that you would think it was nearly night. The chickens would think it was evening and go to roost at four o'clock in the afternoon.

They both recall many hardships of yesteryear. There was no such a thing as "welfare" in those days. During the depression years of the thirties, you survived on what you had.

Mike and Mary raised a family of three boys and six girls. Steve passed away in 1967. Bernard and Edward live in Edmonton. Cecilia lives in Detroit, Victoria in Edmonton, Greta in Winnipeg, Bertha in Medicine Hat, Delores in Camrose and Florence in Edmonton.

They have thirty-five grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.



Mike Lickoch Family. Back Row: Florence, Delores, Bertha, Greta, Victoria, Edward. Front Row: Mike, Mary, Cecilia, Bernard. Missing is Steve (Deceased).

In 1975 they retired and moved into the village of Hay Lakes where they live at present.

Maruschak, Kenneth Family

by Ken Maruschak

I, Kenneth James Maruschak, was born on November 26, 1946. I am the only son of the late William Maruschak and Pauline Maruschak.

I have resided all of my life on the family farm which is located on the NE 11-48-22-W4. This land location is four miles south and two miles west of Hay Lakes.

I took my first twelve years of schooling in Hay Lakes. Upon completing high school, I was undecided as to whether I wanted to farm or to take up teaching as an occupation. Being undecided, I farmed some land and attended Camrose Lutheran College, taking courses in the Faculty of Education as a part-time student. In this manner I completed one year of university. However, by this time, I made my decision to take up farming as a full-time occupation and discontinued further studies for a teacher.

All of my life I have enjoyed sports. While attending school I played a great deal of fastball. One day, during ball practise, while chasing a fly ball, I ran into the wing fence on the school ball diamond. As a result of this, my tooth imprints are still in the wood, leaving a memory of me to this day. Besides ball I used to do a great deal of curling. I also enjoy fishing and hunting.

In April 1968 I took the Zenon Goclon family to Boyle when Gregory Pelz was getting married to Zenon's sister, Irene. There I met Elizabeth Mikulin, the bridesmaid. She is the daughter of Alex and Francis Mikulin of Boyle. This led to courtship, and on June 13, 1970, Elizabeth and I were married in St. Alphonsus Church in Boyle by Reverend Father Guerin. After a honeymoon to Ontario, we took up residence on NE 11-48-22-W4.

For the first six years of our marriage, Elizabeth (Liz) worked full time on the surgical floor at St. Mary's Hospital as a Registered Nurse. She is a graduate of the Edmonton General Hospital School of Nursing. Her full-time career came to an end in September 1976, and on January 26, 1977, our daughter Kym-Marie was born. Our son Todd, was born September 20, 1978. Both children were born in the Edmonton General Hospital.



Kenneth Maruschak Family 1981. L. to R., Back Row: Elizabeth and Kenneth. Front Row: Kym-Marie and Todd.

After three years of full-time motherhood, Liz went back to work part-time at St. Mary's Hospital. After working a year and a half there, in January 1981 she started part-time employment at Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose.

We are proud to be residents of the Hay Lakes

Community and we are looking forward to reading what interesting gems others contribute to the history book.

Maruschak, Nicholas by the family members

Our parents, Nicholas and Maria Maruschak were married November 20, 1900. They came to Canada in June of 1901 from the village of Harasimiew, county of Horodanka, in Austria. After crossing the ocean, they boarded an immigrant train which brought the early settlers to this region. This train was equipped with wooden seats which could be made into beds. It also had cooking facilities which were shared among the travellers.

Six members of the family came at the same time. They were: Nicholas and Maria Maruschak, Mathew Shawaga and his wife, who were Maria's step-father and mother, Jacob Krezanosky, Maria's brother and Maria's sister Sonia (Kcena), who later married John Klein.

After landing at Strathcona, now South Edmonton, the men each filed a homestead at random from a map at the Land Title Office. This gave each of them more or less, a quarter section of land for \$10.00.

They were brought with their belongings by train to Wetaskiwin. From Wetaskiwin a dray outfit brought them out to their homestead. Not knowing the exact location of the land, he unloaded everyone and everything at Martin Galenza's. It just happened that Mr. Shawaga's homestead was only half a mile away. In due time everything was carried over to the right location.

Dad landed with \$2.00 in his pocket to start life for himself and mother in the unknown land.

The group stayed together at the beginning. They first built a one room shack with a sod roof which housed them all for awhile. While the shack was being built they slept under the wagon and lived outdoors. Jacob Krezanosky, being single, stayed



Nicholas and Maria Maruschak.

with his mother and step-father. Sonia (Kcena) went to work at Strathcona and Dad and Mother moved to their own homestead which was the SE 14-48-22-W4.

They built themselves a shack with a sod roof and a clay stove. Instead of making and using clay bricks, Dad used wood blocks surrounded by clay for the stove supports. This clay stove had a pipe leading from the stove through the sod roof to the outside for the smoke to escape. The first Easter Sunday in the new land, 1902, Mother never forgot. Dad was away at work with a construction gang earning \$8.00 a month. She and baby Jenny were home alone. She melted some snow to make herself a cup of tea. She left the water on the clay stove and stepped outside for a few minutes. When she returned she noticed that the melting snow on the sod roof had seeped along the stove pipe and her tea water was polluted with soot and dirt. What could she do but sit down and cry. Later that day her mother, Mrs. Shawaga, brought her an egg for Easter. An Easter Sunday never to be forgotten.

In time, the wood supports in the clay stove dried out and burnt through and the stove eventually collapsed. It was replaced by a small cast iron stove.

The sod shack was later replaced by a log dwelling, which had two rooms and a shingled roof. All the children except Jennie were born in this two room house. In 1915 a new house was built and the family moved into it before the winter set in. This house had three rooms and an upstairs. Two of the rooms had linoleum covered floors, which was a luxury in those days.

Today, sixty-five years later, the house still stands. It has witnessed joy and laughter, tears and death. It now stands weatherbeaten, forlorn and empty. To the passers by it's just an old house, sometimes photographed from the road by someone interested in old buildings. Regardless of its conditions, to us that lived and grew up in it, it holds precious memories.

Church played an important role in the lives of the early settlers. Perseverance, courage and faith helped the pioneers through the hard days of their lives. When the Ukrainian Catholic group decided to build a church, Dad donated the land for the church and cemetery.

Dad passed away on January 14, 1937 at the age of sixty-three years.

The hardships our parents and other pioneers endured at the beginning of the century are almost unbelievable. Many things come to our mind when we think our childhood days.

Clearing land was hard work. The trees were cut by buck-saw or the roots of the trees were chopped and the tree was pushed over. The stumps were pulled

by horses. Stump powder was used a lot to break up the large roots. The brush had to be piled and burnt. The land then was plowed with horses and the roots were hand picked. Then the land was prepared for seeding. We bought our first tractor in 1938. We used horses for certain jobs until the late fifties.

Wetaskiwin was our nearest town for a few years. A trip to town meant days of travel by foot or horseback over the rough prairie trails. There were creeks to cross, sloughs to surround and the trail went through many wooded areas. Still the people always reached their destination. Very few got lost.

Horses were valuable in the early days. They were well taken care of by their owners. Once Dad went to Wetaskiwin with a neighbor for flour. He was asked to walk behind the sleigh because the neighbor thought the load would be too heavy for the horses if he rode.

People lived mostly off the land. Money was scarce, so only bare necessities such as salt, sugar, flour, matches were bought. Mother made most of our clothes. Later Annie was the seamstress. We were fortunate to have a sewing machine. To start it, you gave a little pat to a shiny silver colored wheel at the right. By putting one foot on the treadle and moving it back and forth the machine hummed away with a wonderful noise. We often watched while Annie sewed. Jennie well remembers her first bought dress. She picked a pail of raspberries and carried them to Larson's store at Hay Lakes, a distance of six miles. For the money she received, she bought herself a dress.

Most of the time children went bare-footed in summer, except on Sundays or if they went to town. Shoes were quite different from the ones we wear today. Women wore shoes that reached half-way up to their knees and were closed with buttons. A special type of hook was used to "button the shoe".

Because there were no storm windows, Jack Frost drew beautiful pictures on the window panes. Sometimes the windows would be frozen over for days at a time. It was fun making peep-holes by melting little spots on the panes with fingers or tongues.

We always planted a large garden, which was our main source of food. The root vegetables were stored in the cellar or roothouse. Peas, corn and beans were dried and stored away for winter use. Sauerkraut — often called the "poor man's dinner and the rich man's medicine" was a great food standby in most homes, as well as ours. It was easy to store. Once cured or fermented the forty gallon wooden barrel could be left outside in a shed or granary during the whole winter. Most housewives had a hatchet with which they chopped out as much as they needed, and whenever they needed that delicious frozen kraut. In



Nicholas Maruschak Family. Back Row: Nellie, Katie, Jennie (Mrs. Mike Schurek), Annie, Sophie. Front Row: Mike Schurek, Peter, Maria Maruschak, William (Bill), Nicholas Maruschak.

olden days kraut is known to have cured indigestion, dyspepsia, lumbago, colic, obesity and the headaches that often followed when someone had too many the evening before.

In spring of 1930 we bought our first car, a Model T Ford, for \$25.00. Many senior citizens still remember the good old Model T. It could be heard a long way when it hit the big ruts of a country road. Sometimes the old car would get balky and stall. They had no automatic starter so the driver or one of the passengers had to get out and crank. Then it would start with a deafening roar and away you'd go again at twenty-miles an hour, speeding over hills and valleys and ruts until it decided to balk again. We only had our Model T for a few months, but we enjoyed it while we had it. Though we thought the Model T was "something great" mother and dad thought differently. In the fall of 1930 we bought a new Model A Ford. The exciting days with the old Model T were over.

Nicholas and Maria Maruschak raised a family of five girls and two boys: Jennie, Annie, Sophie, Katie, Nellie, William and Peter.

Their oldest daughter Jennie was born September 21, 1901. On September 5, 1921 she married Mike Schurek. Mike worked on a section near Round Hill,

so Jennie spent the first three years of her married life in the village of Round Hill. In 1924 they moved to a farm in the Big Hay Lake area. Their three sons, Stanley, Louie, and Adolph were born there. The boys received their elementary education in Big Hay Lake School. Stanley and Louie completed their education in Big Hay Lake while Adolph took two years of High School in the village of Hay Lakes and two years in Wetaskiwin.

Mike Schurek passed away on May 19, 1943. Jennie and Stanley lived on the family farm until Stanley passed away on October 20, 1975. Jennie then moved to Edmonton to reside at the Meadow Lark Apartment, where she still lives at present.

Louie worked for Flint Rig for about seven years. He then went to work for Braidnor Company. He is still employed with them.

On June 24, 1953, Louie married Pauline Scherba of Innisfree and they took up residence in Edmonton. They have two sons, Dale, born June 23, 1956 and Dwayne, born October 22, 1958. Pauline passed away November 4, 1978.

After completing high school, Adolph accepted a position with the Imperial Oil Company and still works for them as a company accountant.

On July 1, 1972 Adolph married Diane Head of

Winnipeg. They have one daughter Carolyn, born December 28, 1978. Adolph and his family now reside at Sherwood Park.

Annie was born December 22, 1903. She married John Ozubko of Holden and they farmed there for many years. Their children, Mary, Eddie, Maurice, Eugene and Emily were all born at Holden and now all reside in Edmonton. John passed away on December 22, 1947. Annie remained on the farm until 1965. She then moved to an apartment in Edmonton.

Katie was born August 11, 1906. On September 3, 1935 she married Jack (John) Nahirniak of Round Hill. They have five children: Thomas, Janice, Marica, Arlene and Harvey.

Thomas married Catherine Fraser on October 18, 1969. Their children are Susan, Grant and Trisha.

Janice married Leroy Paulson of Bawlf on April 30, 1960. They have five children: Shelly, Barry, Darcy, Jody and Kelly.

Marica has made teaching her career.

Arlene married Edwin Feschuk. They have three children: Kyla, Arden and Lane.

Harvey married Marjorie Loewen on April 21, 1979. They have one son, Cody John.

Jack and Kate farmed in the Round Hill area for many years. In 1975 they retired and moved into Camrose leaving the farming to their sons Thomas and Harvey.

Jack passed away on July 10, 1976. Kate still resides in her home in Camrose.

Sophie received her elementary education at Ellswick School. Upon completing her high school at Lamont, she entered the Lamont School of Nursing. After receiving her R.N. she accepted a nursing position at Spirit River. There she met and married Lloyd Bowen of Grand Prairie. They spent the first year of their married life at Spirit River and the next two at Grand Prairie. They then spent two years at Peace River. Lloyd then joined the airforce. He returned home from overseas in 1946 and they again took up residence at Peace River. There they resided until Lloyd's retirement in 1977. Upon retirement they moved to Victoria, B.C. where they are presently living.

Nellie left Hay Lakes in 1941 for London, Ontario. After the war she accepted a position with the London Printers and worked for them until her retirement. At present she is still a resident of London, Ontario.

William (Bill) and Peter continued to farm in the Hay Lakes community.

Maruschak, Peter and Family **by Peter Maruschak**

I, Peter, am the youngest member of Nicholas and

Maria Maruschak's family. I was born on July 25, 1915 and grew up with my five sisters and one brother on the homestead of SE 14-48-22-W4 in the Ellswick district.

I attended Ellswick school and enjoyed walking to and from school, taking time to snare a gopher or two along the roadway. If no snaring string was available I could always depend on the shoe lace. Many a shoe had no lace and the lace would be replaced with some twine for the next day.

After I finished school I stayed at home and helped with the farming which was not very encouraging at that time, as it was the start of the great Depression and drought. Blowing clouds of dust were a common sight. What little you did grow was almost given away. Oats sold for as low as seven cents a bushel and wheat for nineteen cents a bushel. Those were the years often referred to as the Dirty and Hungry Thirties.

We were always fortunate to have enough feed for the livestock and some grain to sell. Mother always grew a large garden so we never had to go hungry.

Work on the farm was a lot harder in those days than it is now. Clearing land was done by hand and horse power. This meant many long days of hard work to clear the bush and work the land to make an acre of field.

Not to be forgotten is the first Model T Ford that was bought for \$25.00. It was soon traded for a newer Model T Ford and this was later traded on a new 1930 Model A Ford. The Model A was the pride and joy of the farm for many years.

For a few winters I worked at a Lumber Camp that some neighbors and I had at Breton, Alberta.

In 1946 I bought an International T.D. 14 and a dozer and spent a number of years clearing land and moving dirt.

In 1952 I married Alice Elizabeth Malik, the daughter of William and Mary Malik of Clover Lawn District. We were married at the Holy Cross Church which is located on my parent's homestead.

For almost six years we lived on the quarter of land my parents homesteaded. In 1958 we sold that quarter to my brother William (Bill) and bought the S½ 14-48-22-W4. We are still living on that same location now.

We have three children. Gloria Alice Marie was born June 27, 1954. She is a registered Nursing Assistant and is employed in Edmonton.

Colleen Anne was born April 23, 1959. She is employed in Edmonton with Computer Data.

Darren Lee Peter was born October 11, 1963. He completed Grade Twelve at the end of January 1981. At present he is employed at Camrose Transmission and Hydraulic Shop. He plans to apprentice for a



Family of Peter and Alice Maruschak. Picture taken 1977 on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. Standing, L. to R.: Peter, Alice. Seated: Colleen, Darren, and Gloria.

Mechanics and Conditioning Journeyman's Ticket and to take up farming after that.

With Alice's help farming has been a lot better. The three children have been company for both of us. As the sun is sinking in the west,
We have more time for the well earned rest,
To think of all the laughter and the tears
That we have had throughout the years.

Maruschak, William **by Pauline Maruschak**

My husband, William Maruschak, known to most people as "Bill" was born on March 25, 1912. He received all his schooling in the Ellswick School and resided in the Ellswick district all his life.

We were married on July 20, 1940. My maiden name was Pauline Wynnyk. As a child I attended Sandstorm School in the Holden area. Later I attended Holden High School and then graduated from the Camrose Normal School. During my years of teaching, I taught both in the little country school, with all the grades from one to eight, and in a village school with one and sometimes two grades. Much can be said for both types of schools.

During the war years teachers were scarce as many of the young teachers joined the forces. After I got married I continued to teach. The Camrose School Division Board offered me the Ellswick

School. This made it possible for me to teach and live at home. I accepted their offer on the condition that I could resign any time they got someone to replace me. This did not happen until 1946.

Teaching school, walking almost two miles to and from school each day, and doing all the things that were expected of housewives in those days, helped me to keep my youthful figure.

When Bill and I were married, the quarter we live on was raw land, mostly covered with bush. There were no buildings and no broken land. We lived across the road from where I live now, with Bill's mother and his brother Peter.

By 1940, the year we were married, the hardest hit years of the Depression were over. It was hard to get used to rationing but everyone soon learned to live with it. What you couldn't buy, you got along without.

In 1941 we built a house and drilled a well on our own land. In May 1942, Bill's mother suffered a heart attack and spent six weeks in bed, four of them in the



William and Pauline Maruschak, July 20, 1940.

hospital. We continued to live across the road. On October 20, 1943 Bill's mother passed away. That winter Peter decided to go to work at a lumber camp. Bill did the farmwork; I continued to teach.

In 1945 we built a barn and Bill broke a patch of land near the house for a garden. In 1946 the Divisional Board accepted my resignation and I became a full-fledged housewife. We moved into our own home on November 19, 1946.

I have seen many changes since I came to live in this community. The hills that tickled your insides when you went up and down the road in a car, have been cut down and are almost unnoticeable. The mud puddles where you had to be pulled by tractor to get across by car in spring, have been filled and the road gravelled. The brush and trees have been cleared, the roots picked and the land seeded to grain.

Homes were heated with wood and coal. Kitchen stoves also burned wood and coal. A years supply of wood was cut, hauled, sawed, split and stacked during the winter months. This type of fuel gave off pleasant balmy heat that no gas furnace can replace.



Elaine and Kenneth Maruschak. Elaine, three years old and Kenneth, eight years old.

It took me over two years to get used to the heat of the gas furnace. I still miss it.

How well do I remember the exercise I got going after the cows the first few years after I was married. The quarter we live on now, was almost all bush. There was no broken land. The site where our house and yard are now, was a "gopher pasture". Maruschak's pastured their cattle on this quarter. The cows had their favorite paths through the bushes. There were days I followed these paths for over two hours and still could not find the cows. Fall was exceptionally bad. Even the lead cow, which carried the bell around her neck, would hide somewhere and not even move her head. Later two cows carried bells — that helped a little. Sometimes one of them would give away the herd's hiding place.

As time went by, the economy of the country improved. We were able to afford a few luxuries. In 1950 we bought a new half-ton Chevrolet truck. In 1951 we got the power. With the coming of the power, the work became easier, both for Bill and me. We soon had running water. Bill was able to use electric motors and I was able to enjoy the electrical appliances. The future began to look much brighter, but not for long. On July 8, 1960 Bill passed away suddenly at his home from a heart attack. This left Kenneth age thirteen, Elaine age eight and me to brave the future alone.

A year after Bill's death, I accepted a teaching position at Hay Lakes, working for the County of Camrose. This job meant a lot to me. It made it possible for me to work and keep my home. It gave Kenneth and Elaine a chance to grow up and finish school among the people they knew.

In 1970 Kenneth married Elizabeth Mikulin of Boyle. They reside on the same yard as I do and Kenneth farms the family farm. They have two children, Kym-Marie and Todd.

After receiving her R.N., Elaine married Dennis Galenza. They still live in the Ellswick district.

I continued teaching until my retirement in June 1978. I still live on the family farm.

Metzker, Waldemar and Margaret by Waldemar Metzker

I was born October 30, 1931 on the farm where I now live, NE 35-47-22-W4, on the north-west end of Bittern Lake.

My father was renting the land from A. C. Lechelt, who had purchased it from the Carter Land Co. in 1927 or 1928.

I am the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Metzker. They got married in May of 1929 in Germany and came to Canada to start their new life together. I have

two sisters and two brothers. I took my schooling at the Big Hay Lake and Harvest Home schools.

In 1954 with the help of my father, Alfred and myself, we purchased the NE 35-47-22-W4 from A. C. Lechelt of Edmonton. The next few years I farmed with my father during the summers and in the winters I worked in the oil fields with the rigs and with oil constructions. In the winter of 1956 I worked with Camrose Transit Mix and the Alberta Wheat Pool Seed Division.

On June 28, 1957 I married Margaret Budd. Margaret was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Budd of the Bittern Lake district. Margaret has one sister and five brothers. She went to school at Thorndenshjord and Armena. When she finished school she worked for the Joe Duggan family and later at the Treasury Branch in Camrose.

We have three children: Terry Lee, born March 24, 1958, is married to Lorne Paul. They live in Edmonton.



Waldemar Metzker Family. Standing, L. to R.: Terry (Mrs. Lorne Paul) Kenneth. Seated: Margaret (Mrs. Waldemar Metzker), Waldemar, Cindy (Mrs. Ted Hansen).

Cindy Lou, born April 2, 1959, is married to Teddy Hansen. They farm in the Hay Lakes area.

Kenneth, born Jan. 16, 1962, is at home.

Terry, Cindy and Kenny took their schooling at Hay Lakes.

In 1968 I purchased the NE 28-47-22-W4 from Mrs. Florence Maygard.

In 1976 Margaret, my mother and I flew to Holland. From there we took a train to Germany to visit

relatives. In Germany we rented a car and travelled to various parts of Europe.

Margaret has been working for many years at the Big M Foods at Hay Lakes.

We belong to Our Savior Lutheran Church. We both curl and are active in various clubs at Hay Lakes.

Miko, John

by Mrs. Maschler (Anne Miko)

We were a family of five: my father John, my mother Anna, my older brother Otto, my younger brother Leo and myself, Anne.

We all came from Czechoslovakia. My father arrived in Canada in 1926 and landed in Hay Lakes where he made some very good friends. He met two elderly farmers who were very good to him. He worked for both of them. They helped him to start farming himself. One of these farmers was Mr. Buss and the other was Mr. Mittelstadt.

My mother, with us three children, arrived at Hay Lakes in the early part of May, 1927. At that time my father and mother were in their late thirties. My brother Otto was sixteen, I was fourteen and my brother Leo was eight.

Before we arrived, my father had made a down payment on a hilly farm three and a half miles south of Hay Lakes. The first year farming was pretty good. We all worked hard. I worked along with the men. We cleared land, made hay and plowed the fields. All the work was done by hand and by using horses. One fall I plowed for five days walking behind the plow. My father said, "You could have walked to Camrose and back by now!"

My father and brother Otto threshed with the neighboring farmers every fall.

A year later I was hired out to a neighbor, an older couple by the name of Kowal. There I also worked in the field with horses. In the evenings it was nice to sit down on a milk stool and rest while you milked the cows. At that time Kowals milked between seven and nine cows.

At home we had a two room house. When I think back now, I don't know how we managed, but we were comfortable at that time.

As I said, the first year it was not too bad farming, but after that it got worse from year to year. Our farm was very hilly. The crops dried out every year. My father could not keep up the payments. Then the Depression came along. When we think of the prices now, it's unbelievable. I used to walk to Hay Lakes and carry butter and eggs to sell. Butter sold around twelve cents to fourteen cents a pound and eggs were six cents a dozen. However we were more satisfied then, than people are now.



John Miko Family. Back Row: Anna and John Miko. Front Row: Anne, Leo, Otto — 1928.

When Depression came dad had to leave the farm. He lost all the down payments. After seven years he had to start all over again.

We moved to Evansburg by two covered wagons. My brother drove one team and dad drove the other. We travelled eight days and it rained all those eight days. Dad took up a homestead there. With nothing but one-hundred-and-sixty acres of bush, it was a very hard life. That's where my dad died in 1962.

Only my brother Leo went to school in the Hay Lakes area. He attended Ellswick School which was about four and a half miles south of the village of Hay Lakes.

Leo married Wilma Tenzer from New Sarepta. They have two daughters and one son. They all live in Evansburg.

Otto is married Gertrud Zigler from Evansburg. They have three daughters. He lives in Edmonton.

I am a widow now. I have two sons and one daughter.

There is an incident I forgot to mention sooner. My brother Otto and I were clearing land. I chopped down small trees and shrubs and my brother chopped down the big ones. There was one tree he couldn't do by himself so I was going to help him. I pulled hard on one side of the tree so he could get to the roots. While he was chopping the axe slipped and went through my rubber boot and half way through my foot. Mother cured it all — no hospital, no doctor!

Mostowich, John by Maggie Gorovich

My father, John Mostowich, was born in Austria in 1870. He immigrated to Canada in 1911, arriving in



Standing, L. to R.: Maggie Gorovich (nee Mostowich), Dora Supsak (nee Mostowich), Dora Supsak (nee Mostowich). Sitting: Anna Mostowich, John Mostowich and Mrs. Mike Kohut. Picture taken 1926.

Winnipeg where he worked as a labourer. In 1913 he came to Round Hill, Alberta, and stayed with his cousin Pauline Naherniak. He worked for different farmers for short periods of time.

He then worked for the Railway as a section man at Round Hill. From there he moved to Camrose and Duhamel and worked as a watchman on the longest wooden trestle bridge in Canada at that time, which spanned the Battle River Valley. In 1918 he returned to Round Hill and started to work in the coal mines.

In 1921, his family joined him in Canada — his wife Anna, one son Harry, and three daughters Mary, Maggie and Dora.

In 1924 he purchased a quarter section of land two miles west and five miles south of Hay Lakes.

Harry and Mary married and settled in the Grand Prairie area on farms. Dora and I moved to Camrose and worked as house-maids. Mary married Mike Krystal and Harry married Nadia Zima. Dora married John Supsak, who worked for the railway. Presently they are living in Edmonton. Harry passed away in 1979. I married Tom Gorovich and lived in Camrose until 1952 at which time we moved to Edmonton.

Tom was born in Russia in 1897. He came to Canada in 1913 at the age of sixteen years. The journey from his native land to Canada took two months. His first employment was railroad building in the Jasper-Prince George area. Work on the railroad stopped when the First World War broke out in 1914. Tom returned to Edmonton and then started working for some farmers in the area near Camrose. In 1916 he received a round sum of \$200.00 for a full year's employment. In the winter of 1917 Tom was hired to shovel snow at wages of \$40.00 per month,

ten hours per day and six days a week. In 1917 he started to work for the Canadian National Railway in Camrose and Edmonton and continued working for the C.N.R. until his retirement in 1963.

Though Tom worked in different places, since 1952 we have made our home in Edmonton.

John and Mary Nalesnik

by Steve Nalesnik

Around 1896 my parents, John and Mary Nalesnik came to Canada from the Ukraine. They settled in Edmonton where my father was a drayman. In 1915 my father decided to find some farmland so we moved by wagon to the Big Hay Lake and Ellswick districts. I was nine years old at the time. We first settled on land location S.W. 4-48-22 W4. Then in 1918 we moved on the present John Blawuciak farm, which is S.E. 7-48-21 W4.

I remember times were tough; there were eight of us children to look after. We went to the Big Hay Lake and Ellswick schools and I can remember times



Left to Right: Joan Nalesnik, neighbour (name unknown), Mary Nalesnik, children: John, Joe, Steve, Henry. Picture was taken in front of John and Mary Nalesnik's house situated east of the Strathcona Hotel in Edmonton. Some people from the Ellswick district used to visit and spend the night with the Nalesniks' on their long journeys to Edmonton. Picture was taken in about 1910.

when mother had to give us boiled potatoes for school lunches. These were the war times and we were only allowed so many coupons for flour and sugar.

A car was very rare in those times and I will never forget the time I went riding with Bill Malik in his Model T Ford. We were going down the Kowal road, the present Keith Radtke road, and as we came over the hill there was a herd of cattle in the middle of the road at the bottom of the hill. I wondered if his car had brakes. Unfortunately not, and there we were in the middle of the herd. One steer landed on the hood of the car, and later on down the road, kicked itself off.

In 1923 we left the Hay Lakes district and bought a farm in the Holden area. My parents farmed there until my father died in 1942 at the age of 72 years. In this same year three of my brothers; Henry, Tom and Mike went to war. My mother died in 1947 at the age of 78 years. I farmed with my brother John until he died in 1963. Then I continued farming with my brother Tom until 1966 when we sold the farm and moved to Camrose. Tom took up employment in Camrose and I semi-retired. With some carpenter knowledge I did odd jobs in and around Camrose district. Now Tom and I are both retired and still reside in Camrose.

There were eight of us boys in the family; only four of us are living today.

Henry was born in 1902 and died in 1974.

Joe was born in 1904 and was killed in 1918 when he was cutting wood with his dad and a tree fell on him. He is buried at St. Peter and Paul Catholic cemetery at Hay Lakes.

Steve was born in 1906 and is retired and resides in Camrose.

John was born in 1908 and died in 1963.

Paul was born in 1911 and operates a general store east of Round Hill.

Fred was born in 1913 and died November 17, 1924 when he fell off a bundle stack and was punctured with a stick.

Tom was born in 1915 and is retired and resided in Camrose.

Mike was born in 1917 and resides at Holden.

The four of us that are living at present are Steve, Paul, Tom and Mike.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nalewayko Hay Lakes, Alberta

submitted by Mrs. Johanne Sum

Henry Nalewayko was born in Przemyśl, Poland on March 17, 1884 and lived there until 1912. He immigrated to Canada by boat in 1912 to join his



L. to R.: John, Joe, Henry and Mary Nalesnik — 1905.



Henry Nalewayko with his wife Mary in the background.

mother and his married sister, Mrs. Anton Pelz in a small village close to Bittern Lake. He stayed with them for awhile and helped with the farming. In 1913 he purchased his own land, N.E. Section 14, Township 48, Range 22 W. of 4 Mer. On this quarter of land he built a one room house and a few other small buildings and started farming.

In 1914 he married Mary Malek, a girl from his native village in Europe, whom he had known for many years. She also immigrated to Canada from Poland. The farm Henry purchased was in the Hay Lake district. Henry and Mary experienced the hardships of the early settlers. Money was scarce so they had to get along the best they could on as little as possible. Henry earned a little extra money by working on the coal chute for the C.P.R. by Gwynne. Their farming equipment was all horse pull type of machinery.

Henry and Mary Nalewayko had three children — Johanne, Ted and Alex.



Harry and Mary Nalewayko with their children, Ted, Johanne and Alex.

As time went by things improved and a bigger house was needed. They built a two room house and drilled a well. They also bought another quarter of land in the year 1919, SE 23-48-22-W4.

Their son Ted managed to buy a Model T Ford. Daughter Johanne married Adolph Sum in 1942. They have two children, Elizabeth and Marian, and live in Edmonton, Alberta.

Elizabeth is married to Ted Mate and has three children. Marian is married to Don Biggar and has two children.

Their son, Alex born in 1919, passed away in

1927 at the age of eight years. Their son Ted born in 1918, passed away suddenly following surgery in 1941.

Mrs. Mary Nalewayko passed away in 1953 at the age of 70 years. After her passing, Mr. Nalewayko lived part time at the farm and part time with his daughter Mrs. Sum in Edmonton. Later he rented out the land and moved to Edmonton to reside with his daughter and son-in-law. In 1960 he was admitted to a Nursing Home at St. Albert where he lived until his passing on October 30, 1961. The land was later sold to Alex and Peter Radawetz.

Johanne and Adolph live in Edmonton in their retiring years.

Nelson Brothers

by Gordon K. Nelson

We have many memories of the Ellswick district as it was here we really began our first years of farming on our own — away from our parents and in a new area. This is where we spent the first years of married life and where some of our children were born. Since our stay in the district was only ten years I shall make our story brief and factual.

We moved to the north shore of Bittern Lake in March 1948, when we purchased the L. C. Anderson seed farm and some adjoining land. I, Gordon, came from Claresholm, Leo from Nanton and Ray from Calgary. Our farming operation was Registered Seed, grass and clover seed and grain. We also ran some cattle on some lease along the lake.

I was married to Mildred Pederson in 1948 and have two sons both born in Camrose, Lynn in 1954 and Greg in 1957. In 1957 we moved to Kyle, Saskatchewan where our parents had homesteaded. We are still farming now with Lynn and his wife Sharon, and Greg.

Leo bought a farm at Namaka, near Strathmore in 1959 and is presently grain farming there.

Ray married Mona Morstad in 1952 and left the Ellswick district in 1958. They have two daughters and two sons. They moved to Calgary, then Saskatoon, Sask. and are now living in Kelowna, B.C.

The John Nelson Family

written by John Nelson's granddaughter, Hazel Albertine Naslund

Hardship and heartache were the bitter travelling companions of many families who left their Scandinavian homeland in the mass exodus to North America in the late 18 and early 19 hundreds.

An inadequate diet, crowded conditions and epidemics of fever, cholera or scurvy marked many of the crossings including the one carrying Kjarste Nelson and her children to North America. There she

was to meet with her husband John Peter Nelson who had gone ahead some months earlier.

Travelling from her homeland province of Skone, Sweden with her 4 children and a 5th on the way, Kjarste Nelson survived the ordeal of the ocean crossing but 2 of her children did not.

Hulda, 2 and Anders, 8, succumbed to typhoid fever and the young mother's despair reached it's Zenith when first one and then the other were taken from her.

She landed in New York in early August of the year 1892 with her 2 remaining children, Selma, 6 and Edwin, 4.



Kjarste Nelson.

The arduous journey she faced in order to meet her husband in Tracy, Minnesota was beset with worry and discomfort as the birth of her expected child was dangerously imminent.

Arriving in Tracy on the evening of August 5, 1892, her race with the stork was successful as her 3rd daughter was not born until the following day. Although nothing could replace the little girl lost on ship board, the young mother took some comfort in bestowing the same name on this new baby.

Hulda Andrina Nelson, born August 6, 1892, at Tracy, Minnesota was the first of 4 Nelson girls to be born in this new homeland.

For the next 10 years, John and Kjarste Nelson resided in Minnesota, initially in Tracy and then in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Two more of their daughters, Hilma and Ethel were born in Tracy and one son Arthur who died of

diphtheria at 5 years of age. Their youngest child, Mabel Josephine, arrived while they were living in St. Paul.

During this decade, John Nelson and his family became somewhat conversant in the English language, while surviving through his tireless effort, industry and long hours of labour as a stone mason and later a sawmill hand.

The dream of owning his own farm and working for himself prompted him to investigate the possibility of a homestead in Canada as the good farmland in Minnesota and other U.S. states had long since been taken.

In 1901, John Nelson left his family in Minnesota while he travelled to Alberta to explore the available options. Before returning to his wife and children, he had filed a claim on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18-Township 48-Range 21-West of the 4th meridian, a fertile, promising $\frac{1}{4}$ section, 7 miles south of the village of Hay Lakes.



John Peter Nelson.

On August 16, 1902, John and Kjarste Nelson and 5 of their 6 living children arrived at the Gust Anderson farm, one mile South of Armena. Their eldest daughter Selma, then 16 years, remained in Minneapolis where she was employed in a Millinery Shop. She joined the family in Alberta approximately 1 year later.

The Nelsons arrived in Canada with abundant hope, boundless energy, strong, willing backs and pitifully meager resources. They began their new life in their chosen homeland with \$3.85 and \$5.00 worth of food supplies.

While Kjarste and the girls stayed at Gust Ander-

sons for 2 weeks, kind and helpful pioneer neighbours assisted John Nelson and his son in cutting logs and erecting a one-room log cabin with a sod roof and a dirt floor. This crude dwelling housed the seven Nelsons for their first 3 years on the homestead.

These early years presented hardships beyond our imaginings as the newcomers worked to improve their lot and provide the basic necessities for daily living.

For the first few summers, John Nelson worked at his stone masonry trade in the town of Wetaskiwin in order to make a living and purchase much needed oxen, tools and implements for farming.

Early Monday morning he would set off on foot for the more than 25 mile walk to his work in Wetaskiwin, returning on Saturday evenings with a sack on his back in which he carried home staple supplies such as coffee, salt, sugar and flour. These few supplies augmented their basic diet of wild game and berries.

Their first crop — a full 3 acres — was a source of more food for the family and was only the beginning of the bountiful harvests that the ensuing years would bring.

The dream they worked so hard to achieve slowly but surely became a reality and their circumstances improved with time and unceasing effort.

In 1905 they built a new 3-room log house with the immense luxury of a wood floor and shingled roof. Several years later 3 more frame rooms were added to this original log dwelling.

Like most of the early pioneer families, the Nelsons learned to accept sorrow and heartache as part of the price of progress and the inevitable by-product of living.

Their greatest loss was without doubt the death of their one son Edwin. Predeceased by his brothers Anders and Arthur, this one living son was the apple of his parent's eye and the delight and pride of his 5 sisters. He had been the man of the family when they first settled on the homestead and John Nelson had been forced to seek work in Wetaskiwin. Kjarste and her daughters leaned heavily on this stalwart teenager who, in addition to all his other tasks managed to catch and skin enough muskrats to purchase a much needed horse for the farm.

Edwin had survived the ship's crossing, the dread diseases of childhood and the early perils of homesteading to reach manhood and establish himself on a farm of his own less than 3 miles from his parents home. He was 26 years of age and had been on his own for several years.

His father's illness at a critical season caused him to come home in order to lend a hand with the Spring's work in the month of April, 1915.

No one really knows what prompted the team to run away while he was discing the fields, but the wildly uncontrollable horses tipped Edwin off his perch and the sharp discs ran over his body. Although medical attention was sought, it was to no avail and for the 4th time in her life, Kjarste Nelson mourned the loss of one of her children.

This was the darkest period she had known since coming to Canada but she had grown strong and resilient through the years of hardship and privation. Furthermore she had her deep faith in her Lutheran religion to support and sustain her. Few were the Sundays even in those early years that Kjarste Nelson missed church although it meant a 6 mile walk to the Gust Anderson home where the community gathered for worship prior to the building of their first church.

John Nelson's masonry skills were put to good use when that time came and the Friedhem Lutheran Church, which still stands in the Armena district, owes its foundation to this pioneer stone mason.

John and Kjarste Nelson saw all 5 of their daughters grown, married and settled in various parts of Alberta before Kjarste Nelson's death in February 1929.

Following the death of his wife, John Nelson sold his farm to Joe Pasula, his nearest neighbor and spent his remaining years travelling about visiting his 5 daughters and a cousin in Vancouver.

He retained a room at the Hay Lakes hotel as a home base and frequently returned there for extended periods. An intelligent, outspoken, individual of strong views and exacting principles, he enjoyed living, travelling and socializing with friends and family until his death in December 1942 at the age of 82 years.

Descendents of John and Kjarste Nelson

Edwin Lawrence Nelson — deceased at 26 years.

Anders Nelson — deceased at 8 years.

Arthur Nelson — deceased at 5 years.

Hulda Nelson — deceased at 2 years.

Selma Natalia Nelson married William Moore — had 6 children.

Hulda Andrina Nelson married Harry Anderson — had 1 child.

Hilma Eleanor Nelson married Gordon Robinson — had 4 children. 2nd marriage to John Davies.

Ethel Victoria Nelson married Henry Bray — had 2 children.

Mabel Josephine Nelson married Thor Grahn — had 3 children.

Hilma Eleanor Davies of Edmonton is the only surviving member of the original John Nelson family. She supplied the writer of this narrative with this information based on her own recollections and early experiences.

Pasula, Anton

by Anton Pasula

Anton Pasula was born June 13, 1909 at Hay Lakes, Alberta, the sixth child of Joseph and Domacila Pasula. Joseph immigrated to Canada in 1900 from Laszki, Austria. Domacila Lucas arrived in Canada from Borchiw, Austria, in 1898. They were married on February 12, 1902 at Rabbit Hill, Alberta, which was near the present town of Leduc.

Anton grew up on the family farm which was located on the NE 18-48-21-W4, about three miles south of the village of Hay Lakes.

He attended Ellswick School at the age of six years. Anton well recalls his first teacher Mr. Carl Hendrickson. Mr. Hendrickson was known for riding horseback to school every day. He used to take Anton on the horse with him when going home. He would let Anton off at the corner, known as Nelson's corner, thus saving the lad a mile and a half of walking.

Anton also recalls Gordon Gemeroy, a teacher who lived in the Ellswick teacherage. Ellswick school was located on the same quarter of land as the Halley post office and Ladell's Store. When Mr. Ladell sold out, Mr. Gemeroy took over the store and the post office into his teacherage for a short time.

While roads were being built in the community, Anton worked with the men to pay the taxes on the family farm. The Pasulas were involved in mixed farming. The only hired help they had was during harvest in the fall.

For recreation Anton played ball for the Hay Lakes Blackhawks in summer and in winter he played hockey for Hay Lakes. Open air dances were quite popular in the late thirties and early forties. A dance floor, known as the "Bull-Pen", was located in the bush on Maruschak's farm. Weather permitting, the dance floor was used almost every Saturday night. Here the young people often danced till daylight. In fall the floor was taken apart and the boards were used to make a skating rink on the frozen slough. Here again the young people gathered to skate and play hockey. A bon-fire on the ice was a good place to warm up.

In 1930, as a young man of twenty-one, Anton bought a farm from John Nelson. This farm, SE 18-48-21-W4 was adjacent on the south side to the family farm. It consisted of 160 acres, eighty of which were cleared.

In 1936 Anton met Kate Sawula and they were married in Nisku on November 22 of the same year. They lived on the family farm for one year and then moved into the house on Anton's farm.

Kate and Anton bought their first car in 1939 from Paul Bittner for twenty-five dollars. It was a 1926 dark green Chevrolet.



Anton and Kate Pasula, November 4, 1936.

In 1945 they added to their land when they purchased one hundred and sixty acres from Harry Willisko. This land was across the road to the south from their home farm.

On December 24, 1950 the Pasulas received an early Christmas present when the Calgary Power installed electricity in the house. The first electrical appliance owned by the family was an iron.

In 1952 Kate and Anton, along with their family, moved into a new house which was built on the same yard. The new house received indoor plumbing in 1966 and a telephone in 1970.

In 1954 they added another one hundred and sixty acres to their farmland when they bought the Kowal's place.

During the years from 1938 to 1959 Kate and Anton had eight children: Loretta, Mervin, Flavian, Reuben, Bernard, Genevieve, Kenneth and Kevin.

Loretta married Robert Beard in 1957. They have six children: Brenda, Sandra, Sharon, Leon, Ronald and Darren. They, at present, live in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Mervin married Marlene Zachowski in 1961. They have four children: Lori-Ann, Brian, Shauna and Brent. They reside in Drayton Valley, Alberta.

Also in 1961, Flavian got married to Valerie Bap-tie. They have two children: Gerry and Corinne. They also live in Sherwood Park.

In 1964, Reuben married Linda Brandt. They live in Leduc with their two children Jacqueline and Catherine.

Bernard married Sharon Schell in 1968 in Kitchener, Ontario. They live, at present, in Yellowknife, N.W.T. with their three children; Michael, Kimberly and John.

In 1975 Genevieve married Roger McInenly and is presently living in Calgary.

Kevin is, at present, living in Edmonton where he is an electronics student at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Kenneth is unmarried and is also living in Calgary.



Anton Pasula Family — 1975. Back Row: Loretta, Genevieve, Kate, Anton, Flavian, Mervin. Front Row: Kenneth, Reuben, Bernard and Kevin.

In 1975, Anton and Kate sold their farms and moved to Camrose. They reside at 4615-45 street, Camrose, Alberta. Kate is employed at the Crystal Springs Motor Hotel as a cook and during the summer Anton works for Border Paving Ltd.

Anton and Kate are also proud great-grandparents. A son, Stephen, was born to their granddaughter Sandra Beard and her husband Pat Howse in Sherwood Park.

Joseph and Domacila Pasula Family

Joseph Pasula came to Canada from Laszki, Austria (near Wroclaw) in 1900, and settled at Rabbit Hill

(near Leduc, Alberta). Domacila Lucas came to Canada at the age of twenty years with her parents from Borchiw, Austria in 1898. The Lucas family settled in the Borchiw, (north of Holden, Alberta). While employed at the Strathcona Hotel in Edmonton she met Joseph Pasula. They were married at Rabbit Hill on February 12, 1902, and took up a homestead at Halley (Post Office near Hay Lakes) which later became the district known as Ellswick. Joseph broke the land by hand and commenced his initial farming operation with two oxen and a homemade walking plow. For the first couple of years he seeded three acres of oats. After three years of farming with oxen, he then purchased horses.

During the years of 1903 to 1915, Joseph and Domacila had eight children; John, Victoria, Caroline, Amelia, John, Anton, Frank, and Peter. The eldest child; John, passed away as an infant.

In June, 1923, Victoria married William Petryshen and for many years they farmed at Westlock, Alberta. Their family consisted of eight children. Victoria passed away in May, 1969.

Caroline married Fred Rubis August 1, 1925 and they farmed in the Big Hay Lakes district until December, 1961 when they moved to Camrose. They had five children.

Amelia passed away in 1920 at twelve years of age.

John married Mary Harrish in June, 1940 and they farmed in the Calmar district. John passed away in June, 1980.

Anton married Kate Sawula November 22, 1936 and they farmed in the Hay Lakes district until their retirement in 1975. They have eight children.

Frank served in the Armed Services from 1939 to 1945 before commencing employment in the gravel crushing business where he was employed until his retirement in 1974.

Peter married Mary Meketsell and they had five children. Peter farmed in the Hay Lakes district before moving to Edmonton where he was employed in the oil industry. Peter passed away in 1966.

Mr. Joseph Pasula was a rather short and slender individual who possessed a pleasant disposition. His motivation and keen desire to succeed was indicative of the pioneer spirit. Joseph was a good farmer and a well respected member of the community.

Mrs. Domacila Pasula was a tall lady who is remembered for her outgoing personality and enjoyment of people. She particularly enjoyed sewing and cooking — the much needed skills of a pioneer woman.

The emphasis of life throughout these years were focused on long hours of hard work combined with close family and community relationships. The Pas-

ula family were active members of St. Peter and Paul Polish Catholic Church at Ellswick and the children went to Ellswick school.

Mrs. Domacila Pasula died on December 9, 1927 at 49 years of age after a lengthy illness with cancer. Mr. Joseph Pasula suffered a stroke in early December, 1940, and passed away two weeks later on December 18, 1940 at the age of 68 years. Their original homestead, (NE 18-48-21-W4), is now farmed by Mr. Lawrence Kupka.

At present, Caroline Rubis, Anton and Frank Pasula are the only remaining children of this pioneer family. Caroline resides in Edmonton and Anton and Frank reside in Camrose.

Pasula, Peter

by Mary Pasula (nee Meketsell)

I lived with my parents in the Big Hay Lake district and went to school there. When I quit school I stayed at home and helped out on the farm until I married Peter Pasula on November 25, 1937, and moved to live on Peter's dad's farm which was three and a half miles from the village of Hay Lakes, and about seven and a half miles from the Meketsell farm where I originally lived. In those days it was a long distance to move.

A couple years later Peter's dad passed away, and we were left to continue farming on which was known as "the home place" to the rest of the Pasula family. We were blessed with four children while we were on the farm.

Gladys was born in 1938. She went to Ellswick School and later to Hay Lakes School. She took a business course in Edmonton and now works for Canadian National Railway in the C.N. Tower. She is following in grandpa Meketsell's footsteps, as he also was a C.N. worker. Gladys lives in Bonnie Doon.

Sylvia was born in 1941. She also went to Ellswick and Hay Lakes Schools. She then attended St. Mary's High School in Edmonton. She worked at the Highway Building in Edmonton as a Key Punch Operator. She married Maurice Ozubko of Holden. They adopted two children, Mark and Tracy. At present they live in Edmonton.

Alvin was born in 1943. He went to school in Edmonton. He enlisted in the Navy and later drove the Edmonton bus for seven years. He married Nettie Spilchen in 1967. They have one son, Peter. They now live in Victoria, B.C.

Eileen was born in 1948. She took all her schooling in Edmonton. She married Robert Hamilton in 1966. They have three children: Theresa, Jefferey and Curtis. They live in Pittsburgh PA.

As we were farming, the oil rigs moved in around



Peter Pasula Family — Picture taken at Eileen's wedding, April 30, 1966. L. to R.: Alvin, Mary, Sylvia, Eileen, Peter and Gladys. Linda is flower girl.

Hay Lakes. They found oil in the surrounding area. Peter farmed in summer and worked at the Oil Rigs as a boiler man in the winter. In 1954 we moved off the farm and bought a house in Edmonton. Linda was born in Edmonton in 1958.

Though we lived in Edmonton, Peter farmed and worked at the Oil Rigs in different places until his passing on June 8, 1966.

The farm was sold to Lawrence Kupka in 1967; Lawrence still lives there.

I am now working at Woodward's in Edmonton Centre and making a living for myself and Linda who is living with me.

Pelz, Albert

Albert Pelz was born in Poland on April 22, 1881. He came to Canada in 1900 with his two brothers, Anton and Larry. For three years the three brothers travelled together working at various jobs.

In 1903 they went looking for land and Albert settled on the SW 12-48-22-W4, approximately seven miles south-west of the present village of Hay Lakes. Here he married Mary Famulak and they resided in the Ellswick district until 1920 when the family moved to the United States.

Albert and Mary had two sons and five daughters. John lives in California. Edwin passed away at the age of twenty-one years. Helen (Mrs. Benham) lives in Batevia, New York. Josephine (Mrs. Halon) and Eleanor (Mrs. Post) both live in Florida. Jenny (Mrs. Nichols) lives in California. Sabina (Mrs. Lippert) lives in Batevia, New York.

Albert Pelz passed away in 1949 at the age of sixty-eight years at Elba, New York. His wife Mary, moved to Batevia where she resided until her passing on June 8, 1974.

Pelz, Anton

Mr. Anton Pelz arrived in Canada from Austria in the year 1900, with his two brothers, Larry and Albert. The three brothers travelled together working at various jobs. One of their jobs was building corrals on the Pat Burns Ranch outside of Calgary. They also worked on railroad construction. In 1903, they came to Edmonton and one of their temporary jobs was turning the hand presses of the Edmonton Bulletin. The Bulletin was a daily paper and every afternoon when the presses were ready to roll, Mr. Frank Oliver, the owner and editor, would invite a few fellows off the street that were hanging around there at the time, to do several hours work at the grand sum of fifteen cents an hour. The presses then in use were turned by hand and it took several men a couple of hours of work to turn the daily paper out.

In 1903, the three brothers went looking for land and settled about six miles south of the present village of Hay Lakes. Anton Pelz homesteaded on the south west quarter of 6-48-21-W4. Larry Pelz homesteaded on the south east quarter of 6-48-21-W4. Albert took the south west quarter of 12-48-22-W4.

In July, 1903 Anton married Mary Rubis and to this union were born four children, Victor, born 1904, is now retired and living in Camrose. Stella born in 1908, is married to John Marek and is living on a farm just east of Camrose. Thomas, born in 1915, is living on the original homestead. Albina, born in 1920, married Robert Irvin and is living in Connellsville, Pennsylvania.

Starting up on a homestead was difficult, and whenever it was possible, the homesteader tried to get work in order to earn some money. During the winter months, the Pelz brothers went to work mining coal in the Banff region, at a mining town called Bankhead. They did this for several winters, leaving their wives on the homestead, returning in the early spring with their winter wages.

One of the happenings during their coal mining days was the Frank Slide. Anton had finished his winter's coal mining and was in Banff ready to come home, when the call came for extra men to help reconstruct the railway line which had been buried by the slide. He worked there for more than a week helping to relay the railroad track over the top of the rock which had fallen during the slide.

The wives that stayed on the homesteads in winter had to be extremely adaptable. They learned to use an axe and a saw to cut firewood. They learned to feed and look after the livestock, and harness their horses to drive to the local store for supplies. They learned to shoot with a shotgun or rifle to kill wild game for food. Sometimes the shotgun was used to keep the howling coyotes a respectable distance from their cabins.

One of the early stores in the area was Roper's store on the north east side of Bittern Lake, on land now owned by Pat Smith. This store served the early settlers for a number of years, taking produce in trade for groceries and buying furs such as muskrat, weasel and coyote.

Larry Pelz passed away in 1904 at the mining town of Bankhead. Anton Pelz took over his brother's land and also purchased the north west quarter of 6-48-21-W4 from John Famulak in 1912, and the north east quarter of 6-48-21-W4 from Mr. Ireland that same year.

Albert Pelz farmed his land until 1920, when he sold his farm and moved to New York.

Mr. Anton Pelz purchased his first automobile in 1921, a McLaughlin-Buick. It was used until 1928. In those days cars were used only during the summer and fall, as the winter roads were not for cars, what with drifts and no snowplows. His first tractor was purchased in 1926, a Hart-Parr, 16-30 model. This tractor broke up a lot of land on the farm. A threshing machine was purchased in 1927 and was used for the next twenty years.

The Ellswick school district was established in 1910. Mr. Anton Pelz was one of the early members of the local school board. He continued as a board member and secretary-treasurer for more than twenty years.

Mr. Pelz passed away in 1952 and Mrs. Pelz passed away in 1964.

Pelz, Thomas **by Geraldine Gumpinger**

Thomas Pelz and Louise Galenza were united in marriage in the Holy Rosary Church in Edmonton on June 23, 1942. The first year of their married life was spent living with Mr. and Mrs. Anton Pelz, Tom's parents. In December of 1943, they moved to their new home, a little three room house located several hundred yards north of the present home place. It was in this home that seven children, two daughters and five sons were born and raised. The youngest daughter, Sheila, was born after the family moved to the big house on the original farm site.

The bad times and glad times as befit a large family were learning experiences not soon to be forgotten in the minds of the children. Living close to their grandparents, the three oldest, Geraldine, Connie, and Donald learned to speak Polish. The children were also able to partake in the fruits of their grandparents garden. Grandpa Pelz started an orchard where he had crabapples, plums, and several types of berries, while Grandma Pelz often planted cabbage, pumpkins, onions, cucumbers, and garlic, to which the grandchildren were always welcome. Grandma Pelz was also popular for her big cabbage

pies, homemade noodles, pyroghi, kutia, cabbage rolls and of course homemade doughnuts, the favourite being the cut out center of the doughnut "hole" which she always saved for the grandchildren.

Farm activities were many and varied because there was more than one major source of income. Cows had to be fetched, fed and milked. After the milk was separated the cream was sold in cream cans, providing one source of income. Pigs were slopped, then at certain market weight sold. Chickens provided meat and eggs with the eggs also taken to market and sold. For a span of about three years, when the family was still young, about five hundred turkeys were purchased and raised each year. This provided another avenue of livelihood and at the same time a learning experience particularly when the gobbler could look you in the eye!

The family strove to have a division of labor but as is natural in a large group, not everyone pulled their load. The biggest was assigned the heaviest or hardest, the smallest or younger had to usually do something more menial (and boring) like washing dishes, washing milk pails, or babysitting. In any case, Tom did the land work and milking, Louise did the cooking, washing, potato planting, and lunch box packing, while the children tried to shirk anytime they could!

Haying was the big summer event. Tom cut the hay with a mower. It was then raked with a drop rake, (later a side delivery) usually by one of the kids. Then the hay was loaded with a hay sweep, loose on a hayrack and hauled to the yard and lifted into the barn with slings. One of the kids was assigned the job of tripping the sling and if he wasn't a fast runner he was partially buried under the hay. While the hay was being cut, raked, loaded or unloaded the kids always amused themselves either gathering garter snakes, picking saskatoons in the coyote bush or strawberries in the ditch.

A large family consumes a lot of food in the span of a year and Louise saw to the needs of the children by always planting many rows of potatoes and other vegetables providing fresh produce for the summer and fall and then preserving quarts and quarts of pickles and fruit to last through the winter. A pot of hearty "thresher's soup" or fresh rhubarb pie was a sought after favourite.

During their years at school, some of the members of the family excelled in some sporting activities. It helped to have a mother who partook in sports during her day too. It was while opting out of washing dishes, while Tom and Louise were milking cows on the other yard that the children played "scrub", a ball game consisting of any number of

players with two batters or "five hundred", a game with a batter batting flies or grounders each worth a number of points.

School days meant riding the bus for approximately an hour each morning to Hay Lakes. In the winter, there were numerous snow drifts to plough through or get stuck in. In the spring, there was flooded roads, road bans and consequently car or truckloads of kids being transported to school. It was that or miss school!

For two weeks during summer vacation in July, each of the children attended catechism at the Saints Peter and Paul Church. A Sister from the Sisters of Service order from Edmonton instructed the parish children. The favorite recess entertainment was a game called "Sow". It was played with sticks, chopped from the bush and a ball. Holes were dug for each player including one extra called the "Sow Hole". The object of the game was not to be it, "the Sow".

The month of August was holiday time at aunt Alice Karpovichs', especially during Camrose Fair time. Aunt Alice entered vegetables and fruits for judging. Being involved allowed the children to go to the fair every day — a real thrill.

It was in the fall of 1957 when the turkeys were being loaded for market that Tom suffered a fall from the truck resulting in a broken and crushed heel. This created some hardship for Louise and the children as Tom was unable to carry on with the farming activities for about a month.

Then in May in 1958 tragedy struck again, this time in the form of fire. During the day a fire of unknown origin fanned by a gusty spring wind destroyed nearly everything in its path. It was first noticed by Johnnie and Carol Galenza who notified the neighbours and fire department, as Tom and Louise were in Edmonton that day and the kids were in school. All that remained of the original farmstead was the house, garage, pumphouse and a chicken coop. Life had to continue, though, and the cows needed a home so consequently a new barn was erected on the same site by the fall of the same year. It was also in this same year that the family moved from the little house into the more spacious two storey house on the home place.

All the children, except Geraldine who graduated from St. Patrick School in Camrose, attended high school and graduated from Hay Lakes School. All furthered their education in various fields. Geraldine graduated from the U. of A. with a degree in education, and today is living in Camrose with her husband Len Gumpinger, two sons Geoffrey and Jason and one daughter, Dena. Connie obtained a science degree in math and today is employed by Syncrude in



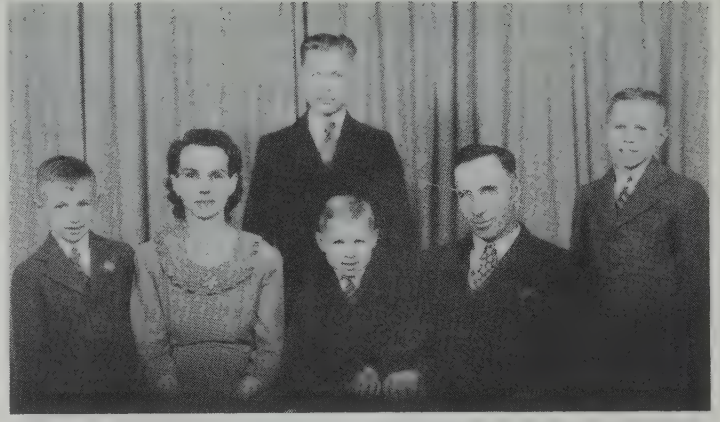
Thomas Pelz Family in 1976. Back Row, L. to R.: Richard, Brian, Donald, Wayne, Connie. Front Row: Geraldine (Mrs. L. Gumpinger), Sheila, Louise (Mrs. Thomas Pelz), Tom Pelz, Gordon.

Edmonton. Donald obtained a science degree in geology and is working for Gildex Company, Calgary. He is married to Nelda Bertelsen and they have two daughters, Melissa and Michelle. Don and Nelda reside in Lloydminster. Brian obtained a degree in civil engineering and is employed with Calgary Power in Calgary. Richard attended University for three years, and is now in the area of surveying with the Department of Highways. He currently resides in Stettler. Wayne obtained a degree in civil engineering and then spent two years as a volunteer with C.U.S.O., in Papua, New Guinea. Presently he is employed with Stanley Engineering and Associates, in Edmonton, and is working in northern Alberta. Gordon studied computer technology at N.A.I.T., and today is working for Sulpetro in Calgary. Sheila is finishing her third year in science at the U. of A. Tom and Louise are still milking cows on the farm.

Pelz, Victor and Family

Victor was born in 1904 to Anton and Mary Pelz at the Pelz homestead in the Halley district. He attended school at Ellswick, then helped out on the farm until 1931. In that year he married Mary Kawalilak, a school teacher he met when she taught at Ellswick in 1929. They bought a quarter section of land and settled down to farming. Four sons were born to them: Raymond in 1933, Gregory in 1935, Anthony in 1939 and Larry in 1941. The boys took their early schooling at Ellswick, but after it was closed down they finished their schooling at Hay Lakes.

Mary Pelz returned to teaching after Larry, the youngest son, started school. She taught for several years at Ellswick and then, after taking a five year break, taught in Hay Lakes until the time of her illness in December 1963. She passed away in May 1964. In 1972 Victor retired to Camrose where he lives at the present time.



Victor Pelz Family 1946. Standing at the back: Raymond Pelz. Front Row: Anthony, Mary, Larry, Victor and Gregory.

To date he has nineteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Gregory Pelz, after completing high school at Hay Lakes and one year at the Vermillion School of Agriculture, settled down at home to farming. In 1968 he married Irene Goclon and they purchased the farm from Victor. They have two daughters, Mary and Ursula.

Raymond Pelz married Vivian Hamula in 1955. They have seven children: Carey, Gerald, Cheryl, Corrinne, Kevin, Veronica and Warren. Three of their children are now married; Carey to Kristine Frost in 1977, Gerald to Darlene Desjarlais in 1978, and Corrinne to Edwin Minnick in 1980. A son, Mathew, was born to Carey and Kris early in 1981 — a grandson for Ray and Viv and a great-grandson for Victor. Ray and Viv live on an acreage north-east of Looma.

In 1966 Anthony Pelz and Francis Voltner were married. They have four girls: Debbie, Theresa, Shirley and Colleen. Anthony and Francis live in Edmonton where Anthony has a job as instructor of Parts Technology at N.A.I.T.

Larry joined the R.C.M.P. in 1969 and that same year he married Jane Gilliland. They have six children: Victor, Robert, Tanya, Luke, Sarah and Joshua. They now live at Clearbrook B.C. where Larry is stationed.

Radtke, Gary (Gerhart)

Gary Radtke was born in Germany on February 4, 1925. At the age of three years (1928) his parents immigrated to Canada and settled in the Ellswick district on the NE 13-48-22-W4. He attended Ellswick School.

In 1945 he married Erna Mantai and they farmed in the Hay Lakes community. They have four children, Dennis, Harvey, Keith and Donna. All four children were born in the Camrose Hospital.



Gary and Erna Radtke. Married June 14, 1945 in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Dennis was born in 1948 at Camrose. Presently he lives in Hay Lakes.

Harvey was born February 5, 1952. On September 2, 1971 he married Judy Tollifson. They have two daughters and one son. Shannon was born March 13, 1972. Scott was born August 27, 1975 and Jennifer was born March 25, 1980. Harvey is presently employed as a carpenter and lives in Leduc, Alberta.



Gary and Erna Radtke Family — picture taken on their 30th Wedding Anniversary, 1980.

Keith was born in 1954. He and his family are living on the same land location as his father and grandfather lived, in the Ellswick district.

Donna was born May 15, 1956. On August 24, 1974 she married Terrence Huebner. They reside at Hay Lakes.

In 1970 Gary and Erna celebrated their Twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary. In 1975 they bought a house in Camrose and moved off the farm.

Gary works for the County of Camrose in the Maintenance Department.

Radtke, John

John Radtke was born April 12, 1892 in Russia. On February 9, 1912 he married Anna Magadans. They were blessed with two daughters, Leokadia and Elsa.



John and Anna Radtke. Married February 9, 1911.

In 1914 the war broke out so in 1916 they were forced to move to Germany. They lived twelve years in Germany. During that time their daughter Hettie and their son Gary were born.

In April 1928, they came to Canada and settled in the Ellswick district. The farm on which they settled was mostly bush. They grubbed the trees and cleared

the land by hand, using the logs to build a house and other buildings. It was a hard life, and everyone had to help.

Two more children were born, Erwin and Rita.

Leokadia married Albert Lachman on February 9, 1932. At present they live at Duncan, B.C.

Elsa married Sigismund Schmidt and is living in Edmonton.

Hettie married Sam Klaus and presently lives in Edmonton.

Gary married Erna Mantai and they are now living in Camrose.

Rita married Walter Soch. They live on a farm near Hay Lakes.

Erwin passed away in September 1947 at the age of sixteen years.

In 1954, John and Anna retired from the farm and moved into the village of Hay Lakes. In February 1962, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, with all their children present. It was also Leokadia and Albert Lachman's 30th Wedding Anniversary.



John Radtke Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Albert Lachman, Walter Soch, Rita Soch, Ralph Rose, Hattie Rose, Erna Radtke, Gary Radtke, Sigismund Schmidt. Seated: Leokodia Lachman, John Radtke, Anna Radtke, Elsie Schmidt.

On January 28, 1971 John Radtke passed away at the age of seventy-nine years. Anna Radtke moved to Stoney Creek Lodge in 1973 where she resided till her death on May 8, 1979 at the age of eighty-five.

Radtke, Keith

Keith Harry Radtke is the youngest son of Gary and Erna Radtke. He was born July 20, 1954.

Keith has always lived in the Hay Lakes district. He went to Hay Lakes School till grade eleven. He then took his grade eleven and twelve at the Camrose Composite High School. He graduated in 1972.

Keith then worked in a trailer factory in Wet-

askiwin for a year. In 1974 he started apprenticing as an electrician in Edmonton. Then, in 1978, Keith became a journeyman and he is still working in Edmonton.

During the time he was apprenticing he met Shirley Spurrell. Shirley is the second oldest daughter of Alfred and Hazel Spurrell from Looma, Alberta. Shirley was raised in the Looma district and took her twelve years of schooling in New Sarepta. She graduated in 1974. Then she went and worked as a secretary-receptionist in Edmonton.

Keith and Shirley were married in Hay Lakes on October 11, 1975. They have two children; Angela Marie, born February 18, 1977, and Kraig Stephen, born February 2, 1980.

Keith and his family live on an acreage one mile west and about three miles south of Hay Lakes. He bought the acreage from his Dad in 1975. The acreage is part of the family farm where his father and grandfather lived and farmed for a number of years.

Keith works in Edmonton but keeps a few head of cattle on his acreage as a hobby to help pass away the time after work.

Rubis, Harry and Katherine Family

Harry Rubis was born May 6, 1870 in Barcz, Austria (near the city of Peremyshel, Austria). He married Katherine Rolla, and between 1896 and 1904 they had four children: Fred, Annie, Mary and Pearl. In 1905, Harry left his job as a shoemaker in Barcz, Austria, and together with his family came to Canada. At this time Harry and Katherine were thirty-five and forty years of age respectively. They initially came to the home of Katherine's brother at Sifton, Manitoba, before purchasing farmland in the Winnipegosis area where they resided until 1913. During this time two more children were born: Eva and Katie.

Due to the poor quality of farmland, they moved to the Ellswick district (near Hay Lakes), after hearing of more prosperous land from Harry's sister Mrs. Mary Pelz. They purchased a quarter section of land from the C.P.R. (SW 13-48-22-W4) and a few years later a quarter section across the road. They cleared the majority of this land by hand; later a breaking plow was used. During their first year of farming they seeded approximately five acres of oats, however, as they cleared more land their acreage of crop increased.

In appearance, Harry Rubis was a rather stocky individual of medium height. A leg injury early in life left him with only partial use of one leg. He was a man of strong character with a very serious attitude toward life.

Mrs. Katherine Rubis was a slender lady of medi-



Ana Rubis, mother of Mrs. Katherine Kowal, Mrs. Mary Pelz and Harry Rubis. Died 1931 at the age of 91 years.



Harry and Katherine Rubis, taken in 1918.

um height. She possessed a very "easy going" personality and enjoyed people. She is remembered as a very ambitious person who worked extremely hard both in the fields as well as in the home.

Harry and Katherine Rubis were active members of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church and their six children all attended the Ellswick School.

Their eldest son, Fred, assisted in their farming operation for twelve years, until August 1, 1925, when he married Caroline Pasula and purchased his own farm in the Big Hay Lakes district. There they farmed until 1967. They then moved to Camrose. They had five children. Fred and Caroline presently reside in Edmonton.

Annie married Charles Meketsell in June, 1916 and for many years they farmed in the Big Hay Lake district. They had six children. Annie passed away August 4, 1978.

Mary married Mike Blawuciak. They had two children. They farmed in the Hay Lakes district for many years, then they moved to Camrose. Mary passed away March 6, 1971.

Pearl married Mike Pastuzyk on November 16, 1922. They had three children. They farmed at Holden, Alberta, until their retirement in 1956. They presently live in Edmonton.

Eva married Stanley Kupka. They had three children. They farmed at Thorsby, Alberta and later in the Hay Lakes district. Stanley passed away on December 17, 1970. Eva presently resides in Edmonton.

Katie married John Kupka. They had six children. They farmed at Thorsby, Alberta, before moving to Camrose. Katie passed away in January, 1966.

In July, 1925, Katherine Rubis passed away at her home in the Ellswick district. She was sixty years of age. Mr. Harry Rubis remarried two years later in 1927, to Mrs. Mary Kupka. On April 19, 1961, Harry Rubis passed away at the age of ninety years.

At present Fred Rubis, Pearl Pastuzyk and Eva Homeniuk are the only remaining children of this pioneer family. They all reside in Edmonton.

Russell, Ernest

by Ernest Russell

My dad and mother, George and Minnie Russell, came to Canada in 1904. I was born in January 1913 on a farm near Armena, Alberta. I attended East Bittern Lake School for a while. In 1925 we moved onto the Anna Andersen farm on the north side of Bittern Lake. From here my brother Ted and I attended Ellswick school.

Some of the teachers I remember were Alfred Camron, Leo Patterson, Donald Mow, and Martin Badner. We used to walk to school. There were a lot of attractions, like snaring gophers, hunting crow

nests, throwing rocks at insulators on telephone posts and getting to school late. The children who go to school on the bus now will never know what they missed.

In 1934, I married Daisy Blakely who was born on the Wolden Hill just north of Gwynne. She lived on a farm on the north side of Bittern Lake and attended Harvest Home School.

On April 10, 1935, Daisy and I moved to the Will Blakely farm south-east of Hay Lakes, known as the Harold Welda homestead. Here we lived in an old log house, which was fine in summer but so cold in winter that water in a pail would freeze over during the night. This is where Stanley was born.

While we lived in the Hay Lakes area we made the best of friends with the neighbors, who were a wonderful lot of people. In winter, in the evenings, we would play cards. In the summer evenings we would play horseshoe. The enclosed picture shows the original Harold Welda homestead house with Dave Willisko, Albert Bittner and Bob Flowerday in front of it.

Our first crop in 1935 froze on the 15th of August. That fall, what was harvested, snowed in, so it was a complete loss. The next two crops were fair.

I worked on the road to pay my share of the taxes. Some of my road bosses were Gus Wahl, Julius Grams and Andrew Schoenknecht. It was hard work but also a lot of fun.

In 1935 and 1936 work was hard to get. Many men and boys rode the freights. They used to stop pretty regular to ask for a meal or for a place to sleep. Sometimes some of them would work for a day or two. After forty-five years I still see some of them who used to stop at our house.

We lived in the Hay Lakes area for two years then we bought NW 27-47-22-W4, where we still reside.

We have three sons, Stanley, Edwin and Allan. Stanley married Shirley Lidgett. They have two children and live at Slave Lake, where Stanley trucks for an Oil Company.

Edwin and his wife Arlene and three sons live in Dawson Creek, where Edwin is employed with the Co-op.

Allan married Vivian Erickson. They have two daughters. They live in Wetaskiwin. Allan is employed by Alberta Engineering.

Russell, Mr. and Mrs. George S.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sidney Russell settled on the SW 1-48-20-W4 in the Ellswick district in 1925.

George, born in 1880 and his wife, Minnie Eliza Chittenden, born in 1882, were married in London, England in 1901. Their daughter, Lilian, was born in 1902. In 1904, the young family sailed for Canada

believing the Canadian climate would be better for their health.

After remaining in Ontario for three years, they moved to the East Bittern Lake district in 1907. They moved several times, to Wetaskiwin and Breton but returning to the Armena — East Bittern Lake area in 1912. Two sons, Ernest and Edward (Ted) were born at East Bittern Lake. Both attended East Bittern Lake and later Ellswick schools.

Minnie was stricken by Spanish Influenza from which she never fully recovered. She passed away in 1932 after a long illness.

In 1945, George and Ted moved to the NE 27-47-22-W4 in the Harvest Home district on the west side of Bittern Lake. George fell in his home and broke his hip. He passed away at Bethany Home, Camrose in 1965.

Lilian married Lester Anderson in 1919. Ernest married Daisy Blakely in 1934 and they live in semi-retirement on their farm north of Gwynne. Ted is semi-retired on his farm on the west side of Bittern Lake.

Schmidt, Elsie (nee Radtke) by Elsie Schmidt

I was born in Russia in August 1915. I came to Canada in April, 1928, with my parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Radtke. We farmed near Hay Lakes, in the Ellswick district. I attended Ellswick School for two years. In those days times were rough. It was all bush, hardly any roads.

In 1934, I was married to Albert Thiel. Albert and I were blessed with one son, Herbert, in 1935, and one daughter, Edna, in 1936. In the fall of 1939 Albert passed away. It was a tough life during those years of Depression, trying to raise two small children as well as trying to manage the farm.

In 1940, I met Sigismund Schmidt. Sigismund had lost his wife and was left to raise his three sons, John, Armin and Helmut by himself. We were married in 1940. We farmed and raised our children in the Ellswick district, which is in the Hay Lakes area. In September, 1952, were blessed with a son, Kenneth.

Farming had its ups and downs, so after seventeen years on the farm we moved to Edmonton. Herbert married Rose Sikora. They had four sons and are presently residing in Edmonton.

Edna married Joseph Sikora. They have three sons and one daughter and are residing in Edmonton.

John married Shirley Walker. They have one son and three daughters and are now residing in Edmonton.

Armin married Dianna Klein. They have two sons and one daughter and are residing in Edmonton.

Helmut married Anne Domke. They have one

son and one daughter and are farming in the Barrhead area.

Kenneth married Joanne Pearce and is practicing dentistry in Westlock.

On November 1978, Sigismund passed away. I am presently living in Edmonton.

Shawaga, Mathew

Mathew Shawaga was born on August 20, 1861. He and his wife, Sophia, migrated to Canada from Austria in 1901. They settled on their homestead, SW 18-47-22-W4.

At first they built a one room shack with a sod roof. Later they built a two room log house with a shingled roof. The remains of the second house still stand.

Mathew and Sophia lived on their homestead until about 1918. They then rented out their land and moved to Lundemo district where they bought a farm. There they farmed till the spring of 1927. On April 6, 1927 Sophia passed away. A month later Mathew moved back to his homestead in the Ellswick district.



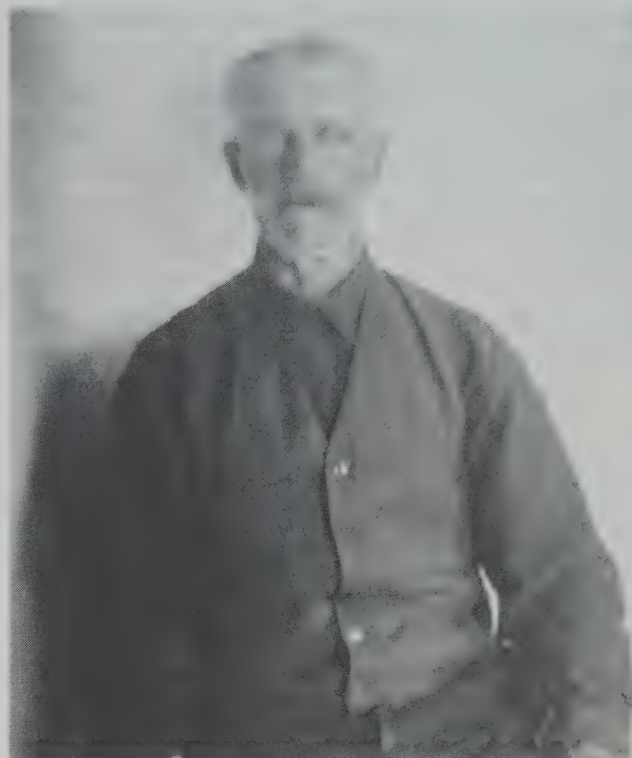
Mrs. Mathew (Sophia) Shawaga. Came to Canada, 1901.

In the summer of 1928 he married a lady from Saskatchewan. They continued to live in the Ellswick area till 1945. That year they sold the farm to John

Galenza and moved to the village of Round Hill. There they resided until their passing.

Mrs. Shawaga died in 1945 and her husband passed away in 1946.

Mr. Shawaga was a step-father to Maria Maruschak. Maria's father died when she was seven years old. After a few years her mother married Mathew Shawaga. Maria always respected her step-father. When she was a young girl he had saved her life.



Mathew Shawaga.

During the latter part of the century a terrible disease spread through the village and community where they lived. A person would get sick, go unconscious and die. To try and check the disease the village council decided to remove the bodies from the homes as soon as anyone died. Maria contracted the disease and went unconscious. The men came to take the body. To make sure the person was dead they'd cover the body with lime. When they came to take Maria away, her step-father, Mathew Shawaga, wouldn't let them take her or put lime on her. A very strong argument took place. They were going to imprison Mathew for disobedience. Just then Maria moved and everyone realized that she was still alive. Whether it was the loud conversation that triggered her back to consciousness or not, no one ever knew. Perhaps it was a Miracle of Faith with the right timing or maybe just a very strange coincidence. The men left. Maria's consciousness gradually returned and her mother and step-father nursed her back to health. She passed away on October 20, 1943.

Smithson, The Sherman Robert Family

Sherman R. Smithson (known as Bob) immigrated with his parents to Canada from Siloam Springs, Arkansas, in the latter part of March 1923, as a boy of ten. They settled at Doreenlee, Alberta. Bob remembers when they left the "south country", the gardens were up and the grass was green. When they arrived in Alberta, they were surprised to see the snow still on the ground, and it continued to snow a skift of snow almost every night for two weeks after that.

Bob bought a quarter of land the winter of 1936-37 on a crop share agreement. This meant, for a small down payment, the buyer got possession of the land and was bound there after to deliver half of the total crop to the elevator in the name of the seller to pay, first the interest and whatever was left after that was applied on the principal. The other half of the crop went for living, farm expenses and taxes, until the land was paid for. The first year the barley produced four bushels per acre and the wheat twelve bushels per acre.

Bob "bached" until the fall of 1939, when he and Elizabeth Peters were married at Edmonton, Alberta. They lived at Doreenlee until the spring of 1944, at which time they and their two children, Lawrence and Eileen, moved to the East Bittern Lake district, settling on what was known as the Langston Place — NE 29-47-21-W4. The first year we farmed with horses and in the spring of 1945 took delivery of an I.H.C. Farmall M. tractor, from Mr. Roper, the I.H.C. dealer at Bittern Lake. An interesting fact is that this tractor retailed for \$1700.00 at that time.

Lila was born the summer of 1944, and our fourth child, Robert Lee, was born in the fall of 1945. Lawrence, our oldest, started school at the old Thornjold School, with the late Mrs. Martin Hendrickson as the teacher. About a year later they got a school bus in the district and then the children were bused to the Armena School.

The first few years the roads were poor, with no gravel on them. Many times the store-keeper at the village of Bittern Lake (Mr. C. T. Roper) used to phone up the families on the mail route, to take their order for a few urgently needed groceries; he would then send them out with the mailman. When we acquired a Jeep we found we could go through roads that no car would travel. It was a bit breezy in the winter months.

In 1960 we moved to our present farm, NW 36-47-22-W4, known as the Lester Anderson Place. Since we came to this area, each year a portion of our grain production has been registered and certified seed grain. We also raised a herd of purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle.

Our two youngest children, Lila and Lee, obtained part of their high school at the Hay Lake School. All four attended Camrose Lutheran College later. Lawrence graduated from Agriculture Mechanics at Calgary Technical School. He farmed with his dad for a few years. He married Florence Rode. They now live in the Cleardale area (Peace River District) where he is engaged in raising pedigreed seed grain. They have two children. Eileen graduated as a Nursing Aid and worked at St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose. She married Randle Broen of Armena. He is employed with Safeway at Camrose and also farms north of Camrose. They have five children. Lila graduated as a secretary and worked in the Camrose Calgary Power office for awhile. She married Darrell Rosland of Camrose. Darrell is now in Real Estate with Central Agencies, Camrose. They have two children. Robert Lee tried a number of vocations. He got his Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta, Edmonton and then taught for a few years. He married Darlene Peter; they have two children. Lee now has his own Real Estate business in Spirit River Alberta.



One of the Smithson children raking hay.

Through the years the family took an active part in the various community activities including the local F.U.A. and the Home and School. The children were all active in the Armena 4H Beef Club at one time or another. Elizabeth has been active in the volunteer service of the Canadian Red Cross Association and the Canadian Cancer Association.

George and Mary Sych by Evelyn Eveneshen

George and Mary Sych, with their two small children, Harry aged six and Rosie, aged four, left their homeland in Galicia (Halychyna), a part of the Ukraine under the Austrian regime, in the early spring of 1902 and headed for the New World. They boarded a freight ship in Hamburg, Germany. The ship cargo as well as passengers. After a grueling 18 days at sea at which time many of the people were



Mary and George Sych.

very ill, they docked in Halifax. From there they boarded a train to Montreal and on to Winnipeg. From there they headed further West, still by train, to Wetaskiwin.

They were met by John Hamula, an acquaintance and neighbor from the homeland, who had come to Canada the previous year and was settled in the Leduc area or Rabbit Hill as it was known then. John Hamula took them and their personal belongings on his wagon to the Leduc district. They stayed there in an old house. George could not find work but later found work at Wetaskiwin on the railroad. There he met Anton Pelz who told him that he could get a homestead for \$10.00 by going to Calgary and applying for one. George went by train to Calgary, paid \$10.00 for a homestead he had not seen. It was in the Hay Lakes district. Then John Hamula took the Sych family in his wagon and drove them to the Hay Lakes district to the home of Anton Pelz. They spent the night there in a single board house. It was so cold the wind blew through the walls and they spent the entire night putting wood on the fire and trying to keep warm. In the morning they went to John Galenza's and stayed there for awhile while their house was being built.

With the help of a few neighbors, John Galenza, John Famulak, and Martin Galenza, George cut logs and built a log house, using sections of hard prairie grass or sod for the roof. They mixed clay and filled the holes. The house had a dirt floor or "government floor" as they called it. For the winter they would cut sections of sod and "bank" the house for extra warmth.

George came to Canada with \$50.00. He paid \$10.00 for the homestead and bought a cow for \$40.00 so that the children could have milk, and all

of his money was gone. They had to rely on the neighbors for food supplies for awhile until he could earn some money. They had one close neighbor one mile to the east by the name of Jacob Welda. The Willisko and Pasula families arrived a year later and were neighbors to the north and south, respectively.

Then George left his wife and two small children and went off to Wetaskiwin to find work on the railroad. He borrowed \$2.00 from a neighbor to get by on until he earned some money. It was difficult work and long hours working with a pick and shovel, much different from the work he was accustomed to as a tailor in the Old Country sewing suits or playing the big bass violin performing in the Austrian army band. Hardships for Mary were not unknown, being an orphan and working as a housekeeper for families before she married George, but to be left in the wilderness alone with two small children and nothing much for food, was a new challenge. Their first son born in the new land was William (Wasył) or Bill as he is known, was born on September 1, 1903, about a year and a half after they arrived in Canada.

After three years working summers on the railroad, George had enough money saved up to buy a pair of oxen, a wagon and a 12-inch breaking plow to break some land. A daughter Annie was born on November 24, 1905. George built a second house using lumber sawed at a neighbor's mill. This house had a poplar wood floor and cedar shingles on the roof and was a two-room structure. John Kryzanowski built it. Their third son John was born on September 10, 1907. Sam, the youngest was born on April 16, 1912.

Though times were difficult the pioneers had a lot of determination. They worked hard and helped one another breaking and clearing the land. They planted grain and raised cattle and gradually they were making progress. They relied on their children to help them also. A school was built four miles away, it was called Ellswick school and the children attended when the work at home was completed. Bill went to school approximately three years in all. Little did he know that his own children would attend the same school.

Rosie was married in 1915 and left home. Harry married in 1918 and moved to the Bittern Lake area. In 1921 George decided to build a new house. This one was a two storey structure of lumber with a full basement and four bedrooms upstairs. Mr. Schmidt was the carpenter. This house is still standing on its original site today. Also the same year George bought his first car — a 1921 Brisco. The Willisko family had bought a Chevrolet the previous year, so George would not be outdone by his neighbors.

When it came to driving, that was a different matter. He managed to drive it into a tree and after that left the driving up to his sons.

The early pioneers had to overcome many hardships when they came to Canada. Not only did they have to work hard and long hours, they were lonely and missed their relatives and friends left behind. They missed their customs and way of life back home and most of all they missed having their own church, a place where they could gather to worship, baptize their children, perform marriages, and celebrate their religious services at Easter and Christmas. The Ukrainian people in particular, being a religious people valued their traditions, customs and beliefs and George Sych saw that it was necessary to build a Ukrainian Catholic Church in the district. With the help of several other Ukrainian pioneers; Nick and Harry Maruschak, Mike Karpovich, Julius Radawetz, Harry Rubis, Nick Kowal and Shawaga, they gave what they could to buy the lumber which was \$36.00 per thousand feed at the time. A piece of land was donated by N. Maruschak. They hired Schultz the carpenter who built George Sych's house and started building in the fall of 1921. Reverend Didyk, a pioneer Basilian priest officiated at the first Mass. From then on the priests visited the parish regularly and stayed at the Sych home when they came for the services as they came from Edmonton by train usually a day or so before.

Bill married in 1928 and lived with the Sych's for five years until 1933 when he moved on his own farm. John married in 1936 and moved on his own land. In 1941 Sam was married and lived with his parents for several years.

George and Mary Sych lived to a ripe old age. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They lived to see 28 grandchildren and one great grandchild in their lifetime. When they could no longer live on the farm alone they lived in a cottage on the yard of their son Bill. George died on September 13, 1951 at the age of 87. Mary died six years later on May 1, 1957 at the age of 91.

Bill farmed their homestead after they no longer could farm it. He in turn passed it on to his son Ignace who, with his wife Tillie and their six children, live there today. The original house is still standing as a reminder of the past.

We pay a special tribute to George and Mary Sych. Through their toil, integrity and dedication, they gained the respect of their fellow men. They contributed to the history of the Hay Lakes community as original settlers and to them we owe our existence. The Sych family is now into the fifth generation and a lot of its members reside in and around the Hay Lakes area.

George and Mary Sych
(1864-1951) (1866-1957)

Harry and Mary Sych
July 24, 1918

Mike
Henry
Bessie
Irene
Millie
Paul

Mike and Rosie Kosovich
Nov. 11, 1915

Annie
Mary



Sych reunion in the late thirties.

Eva
Olga
Bill
Alice

William and Pearl Sych
Oct. 25, 1928

Helen
Evelyn
Ignace
Jean
George

John and Annie Swizinski
Nov. 1924

Peter
Mary

John and Mary Sych
Nov. 7, 1936

Nadine
Patricia
Dianne
Joyce

Sam and Elsie Sych
May 25, 1941

Sylvia
Donna

J. Gerzanich
(1940)

Frank
Mary Ann
John

Sych, George Paul by Maxine Sych

Since his birth on May 4, 1943, George has remained on the original farm of his parents, Pearl and William Sych.

Being the baby in a family of five children, George got a lot of attention, especially from his sisters, Helen, Evelyn and Jean.



George, Maxine and Ryan Sych — December, 1980.

His brother, Ignace, was instrumental in introducing George to the rudimentary procedures of operating the farm equipment, at a very early age, much to the abhorrence of his mother.

Many a summer holiday was spent at St. Basil's Villa at Pigeon Lake, where he attended religious lessons and met many new friends.

George received all his formal education at the Hay Lakes School, with the exception of Grade Twelve. Since Grade Twelve was not offered at Hay Lakes, he journeyed to Camrose and attended St. Patrick's School. This year proved to be a year of making new friends and of developing a passion for the game of billiards. Upon completing school, George remained on the family farm with his parents, tending to their needs as well as to the business of farming.

On August 10, 1974, George married the former Maxine Banack of Round Hill, and his parents moved to their retirement home in Camrose.

Maxine continued to teach at the Hay Lakes School until the end of 1978. 1979, The International Year of the Child, proved very exciting in the Sych household. On February 7, 1979, Ryan George Sych made his debut into our little world. George has proven to be a very knowledgeable and loving father as far as diapers, formulas, gripe water and introducing his son to the tractor seat are concerned.

In July, 1980, a memorable twentieth reunion of the former Grade Twelve students of St. Patrick's School was held, and proved to be a very enjoyable evening of "Remember When".

George's love for the land has infected both his wife, a town gal, and his son; thus we foresee many more years of happiness on the family farm.

Sych, Ignace and Tillie, and Family

Ignace Sych, wife Tillie (nee Synyshyn) and their six children moved from Edmonton to the Hay Lakes District on July 1st, 1974. Ignace, son of Bill Sych of Camrose, was 38 years old when he and his wife, formerly of Leeshore, Alberta along with the children took up residence on the NW-20-48-21-4 quarter of land. The children, four boys and two girls, and their ages upon arrival on the farm in 1974 are as follows: Stephen age 9; Basil, age 8; Daniel, age 6; Theresa, age 5; Benedict, age 3 and Barbara, age 1 year. The children are presently attending Hay Lakes School and are in grades, ten, nine, eight, six, five and three.

Ignace, who is a welder by trade, decided to partially quit the welding industry and desired to achieve his ambition to be a successful farmer. Born and raised on a farm himself and now a father of six children, Ignace knew that the country living was an

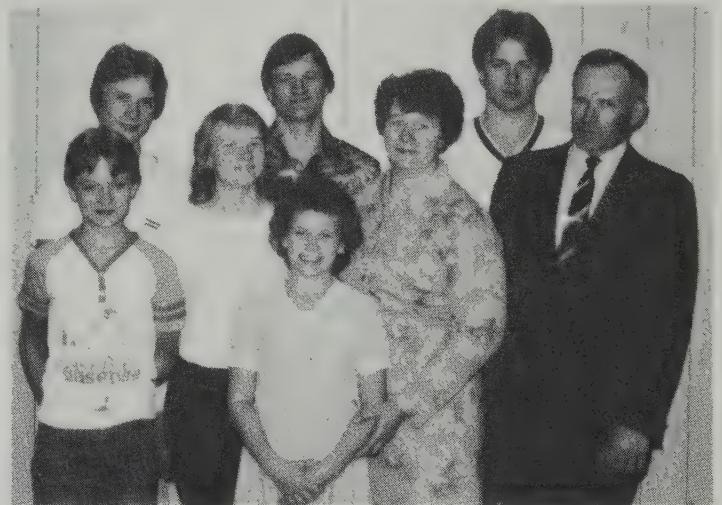
ideal environment to educate and raise a family. The third reason for taking up residence on a farm is that the quarter we live on is an original homestead of the late George Sych who is Ignace's grandfather and who purchased the homestead in 1903 for \$10.00. In the 1950's, the late George Sych's son Bill acquired this original homestead, and in 1967, Ignace, son of Bill received the ownership to that quarter of land. When the family took up residence in 1974, we all had to work hard on this quarter of land to provide ourselves with the modern conveniences of a telephone, electricity, natural gas, and a new sectional home which was purchased in 1979. This house is the fifth house on the same yard. Ignace's wife Tillie, remarks, "It was like starting a homestead in the latter twentieth century; however, it was well worth it!" On August 31, 1980 during the Hay Lakes Homecoming Anniversary Celebrations, the Ignace Sych Family, proudly received a scroll from the Wilhemena Lutheran Church, in recognition of our heritage during this, Alberta's 75th Anniversary, to honor those families that have continued farming on the original homestead. Ignace's dream is to eventually paint, furnish, renovate and upkeep his grandfather's 58 year old house that still prominently stands today and use it as our own museum for our children and future grandchildren.

The late George and Mary Sych, Ignace's Grandparents, were known by families, relatives, and friends to be a gracious host and hostess. Their hospitality is remembered by all. Ignace and Tillie and family quote that we are following the same tradition and wish to do likewise to the best of our capability. Many a friend, family, priest, neighbor, and relative has entered our house already and we hope to continue this hospitality. There is ample room in our home and in our hearts to graciously entertain and provide anyone with food, shelter and clothing.

With the present economic crisis as they are and a desire to provide our children with a good future, the need for expanding our farming operation was imperative. In 1973, we purchased the SW-29-48-21-4 quarter of land from Sam Sych. In 1977 we purchased the NW-21-48-21-4 quarter of land from Willie Schoenknecht and the NE-21-48-21-4 quarter of land from John Dantovic. At present the children are learning the trade and skills of a mixed farming operation which is under constant and necessary improvements.

Ignace's formal education ended at Grade Eight; however he attended the Vermillion School of Agriculture for two consecutive years previous to graduating in 1954. Because the welding trade greatly appealed to him, and convinced by the Reverend Father Benedict Hrynyszyn that welding was a good

trade, Ignace apprenticed under Joe Holowatiuk of Round Hill and received his Welder First Class Ticket on April 10, 1963. One of Ignace's first jobs was the employment under Ralph Hickey of Hay Lakes, in his blacksmith shop for 50¢ an hour. Today a welder's hourly rate has increased tremendously. In 1968, Ignace acquired his "B" Pressure Ticket. Previous to commencing his farming operation in 1974, Ignace was employed by various companies: namely, Ray Parks Welding, Rudyk's Construction, Union Tractor, Baldwin and Knoll, Shaeffer Western Hemisphere, L and M Oilfield, Canada Iron, on the rigs (roughnecking) and he also contracted jobs with his own portable welder for companies too numerous to mention.



Ignace and Tillie Sych Family, November 29, 1981. Back Row, L. to R.: Daniel 13 years, Basil 15 years, Stephen 16 years. Front Row, L. to R.: Benedict 11 years, Theresa 12 years, Barbara 10 years, Tillie (mother) and Ignace (father).

Today's times are stressful and trying and difficult to endure but faith and hope will enable us to serve God's purpose for us and our family in life. To love, serve and honor God, are attributes of the Ukrainian Catholic Faith. The family of Ignace and Tillie worship in the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church near Hay Lakes. Ignace is President of the Church Parish since 1976. We sincerely desire to teach our children the faith, traditions, and culture of the Ukrainian Catholics and fervently hope and pray that they too will transmit these on to their generations just as we have received them from our parents and grandparents.

Sych, John and Mary (nee Sawula) and Family

John was born on September 10, 1907, the sixth child of George and Mary (nee Popik) Sych. His brothers and sisters are Harry Sych, Rose Kosovich,

William Sych, Annie Gerzanich, Sam Sych and a deceased brother born in Austria.

His parents came to Canada in 1902 and settled on a homestead about two miles south of the present village of Hay Lakes.

John was born and raised on the farm. As a young lad he attended Ellswick School. Later, when Hay Lakes School was built, the Sych children attended Hay Lakes School. Instead of three and a half miles, they then had only two miles to school.

As was the practise in those days, the whole family worked together in order to improve their livelihood, so John helped to clear land, pick roots, and work the fields with horses and a walking plow. Later, things became more modern and John's dad bought a tractor. This tractor brings back some interesting memories for John. One time John was discing the breaking and decided that he needed a rest. He decided he would let the tractor work on its own around a slough while he rested. He got off the tractor and sat down in the field to watch the tractor work, since it had no place to go except around the slough. At the time it seemed like a good idea, but when it came time to catch the tractor, it was a different story. It took some ingenuity to get back on the moving tractor. This is one of the memories that John would like to forget, but it was an unforgettable experience.

Another very eventful time was when John's dad bought his first car. The boys were allowed to drive it only if they were careful and brought no harm to the car — and careful was the way this car was treated. One night John and Anton Pasula took a couple of girls to a dance at Round Hill. It started to rain. This caused great concern to John because the roads were not in very good condition at the best of times, and driving a car home for twenty miles of muddy road was sure to bring a few choice words from his dad. Since the girls weren't too concerned about the car and wanted to remain at the dance, it became a choice of girls or car. The car won out. The girls were left dancing and John and Anton headed for home.

John met Mary Sawula in 1935 at a church picnic at Big Hay Lake picnic grounds. Being the brave lady that she was, she needed admission to the picnic grounds, and as everyone knows, girls weren't given much money in those days. If a girl could get a guy to pay her admission, all the better. So, on a dare from a girl friend, Mary took John's admission tag, and along with getting a free admission to the grounds, she also got a future husband.

Mary was born February 4, 1917, the eldest daughter of John and Eva Sawula (nee Stachnik) of Glidehurst, now known as Devon. Her family consisted of five brothers; Andrew, Steve, William, Peter (deceased), Fred; and three sisters: Kate (Pasula),

Sophie (Galenza) and Vera (Dool). Mary grew up on a farm where the town of Devon is now situated. She went to Halicz School and completed Grade Nine.

Mary can remember many happy days spent living next to the North Saskatchewan River and chasing cattle up and down the river banks. Being the oldest daughter, it was her job to help with the younger children, and with as many of the chores as time would allow. Mary usually put in a double shift. By day, it was her job to bring the cattle home for milking. Since Mary walked in her sleep, it was not uncommon to see her out in the middle of the night going for the cattle or bringing in an armful of wood. It's a small wonder she never got lost. She must have had a good compass because it worked by day or night.

John Sych and Mary Sawula were married on November 7, 1936 at St. Josaphat's Cathedral in Edmonton. After spending three weeks at the home of John's parents at Hay Lakes, they moved to their half section located five and a half miles south of Hay Lakes, with only a cook stove and a few dishes which they received as wedding gifts, and no furniture.

John's dad built them a house on their land in the summer of 1936. John built the table and chairs out of a few boards and some apple crates. Apple crates were also used to make the cupboards.

John started farming with two horses, three cows, two pigs and ten chickens. He built a straw barn for his animals. There were no modern conveniences such as power, telephone or indoor plumbing in those days.

With trees growing right next to their windows John and Mary were kept busy for the next few years grubbing trees, picking roots, and clearing more land, as very little of the land was cultivated. The field work was all done with horses. One horse was borrowed from John's brother-in-law, Mike Kosovich. In the olden days life was hard and money was hard to come by, but people were happy and enjoyed many good times too.

Parties were really parties in those days, and their housewarming was no exception. After the housewarming, John and Mary were busy replacing the plasterboard on their walls which had been kicked out by the happy crowd.

John and Mary attended the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church at Hay Lakes, where for many years Mary was an active member of the U.C.W.L. and John spent many years helping with the care and upkeep of the church.

On November 16, 1939, their first child Nadia Evelyn (Nadine to her friends) was born.

Three years later their second child, Patricia Ann (Pat), was born on December 10, 1942. It should have



John and Mary Sych on their 35th Wedding Anniversary — 1971.

been Patrick as far as John was concerned, but after the initial shock he rather grew attached to his tom-boy.

Mary remembers many years of helping John with the land, leaving her two children at the end of the field under a tent of blankets, as protection against the weather.

John still hoped for a son so seven years later, on May 6, 1949, on her grandfather's birthday (George Sych), their third child Diane Georgia was born.

On June 28, 1951, their fourth daughter, Joyce Mary, was born. Knowing they wouldn't have any sons, Joyce became Daddy's little boy.

John continued mixed farming with the help of his wife and daughters and by hiring extra men at busy times, until their retirement to Camrose in June 1974. Due to an automobile accident on December 1, 1973, John and Mary, after farming for thirty-eight years, had no choice but to give up farming. They now enjoy a life of leisure in Camrose, with John enjoying such things as fishing and coffeing with friends, while Mary spends her time at hobby crafts.

Nadine was born November 16, 1939. She attended Ellswick School which was a mile cross-country. Sometimes she walked to school and sometimes went by horse and buggy with the help of their neighbours, Pelz's. One spring a high wheeled

wagon wasn't high enough as the water reached into the box while she was being transported to school. When she was in grade four, Ellswick school was closed and the children were bussed to Hay Lakes. After completing grade eleven, she enrolled at McTavish Business College in Edmonton. Her first job was with the AGT, where she worked for twelve years.

On October 3, 1959 she married Larry Verhun of Thorsby, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Verhun. They lived in Calgary for a short period so Larry could complete his engineer's course. His first job as an engineer sent them back to Edmonton.

On September 24, 1960 their first child, Darcy Larry was born. Darcy was completed an accountants' course at Grant McEwan's College and at present is attending the University of Alberta night courses, while being employed with the Federal Government Tax Department.

On February 18, 1964 their daughter Lori-Anne was born. She attended Austin O'Brien High School in Edmonton and is presently employed by Grand-Toy of Edmonton as typist.

Nadine continued her career and is presently employed by Western Archrib as an accounting clerk. Larry is still employed as an engineer with the AGT. They have made their home in Edmonton.

Patricia was born December 10, 1942. After completing grade eleven at Hay Lakes and grade twelve at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School in Camrose, Patricia enrolled at the University of Alberta, where she chose teaching as her career.

While at University, Patricia became engaged to Ed Zukowski of Sunnybrook, the youngest son of Joseph and Antonia Zukowski. They were married on July 21, 1962. In September 1962 Patricia began teaching at the Warburg Elementary School. They lived on the same yard as Ed's parents, so Ed farmed while Patricia taught school.

On December 20, 1963 they were blessed with a baby girl whom they named Carney Ann Marie. Carney at present (1980) is completing her grade twelve, after which she hopes to go on to University with the intention of becoming a teacher.

On March 21, 1965 they were blessed with a son whom they named Dale Edward. Dale at present is taking grade ten at Warburg High School and is a great help around the farm.

On September 28, 1966 they were again blessed with a baby girl whom they named Tracy Evelyn. Tracy is at present in grade nine in Warburg Junior High School and occupies her spare time with her piano lessons.

On December 15, 1967 they were blessed with another baby boy whom they named Bradley John.

Bradley is at present in grade eight at Warburg Junior High. He is greatly interested in sports.

In the fall of 1968 Patricia and Ed moved to their own farm which was two miles north of Ed's folk's place. They have continued to live there until the present time.

On October 8, 1969 their youngest daughter Corinne Cindy was born. Corinne is in grade six at Warburg Elementary and occupies her spare time with piano lessons.

Patricia has continued to substitute teach occasionally in Thorsby and Warburg, but spends the majority of her time being a housewife and a partner in the farming operations.

Diane was born on May 6, 1949. She attended school in Hay Lakes. Her first two years were spent in the old school house. Diane recalls how they used to line up for a drink from the water crock, also how they shot their cod liver vitamin pills down the aisles until the floor was nice and slippery and good for gliding.

Diane was better known as chatterbox because of her constant stream of conversation. (She hasn't changed a bit in this respect.) After completing grade twelve in 1967 she attended the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Education, for two years.

In November of 1969 Diane married Melvin Stephen Stefishen, son of Alex and Beatrice Stefishen of Winnipegosis, Manitoba. Mel was a first year electrical apprentice at the time, and Diane was teaching grade two in an Edmonton Separate School. In 1973 they both took a leave of absence from their jobs and spent eight months travelling around Europe, where they drove 26,000 miles and visited twenty-three countries.

On November 9, 1974 they were blessed with their first child Staci-dee Lynn. Their second child, a son, Trevor John (named after his grandfather) was born on September 29, 1976.

Staci-dee is a grade one student at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Sherwood Park. Trevor, at the age of four, is at home constantly keeping his mother busy with his mischief.

Diane is a contented housewife spending most of her time in activities involved with her children. She teaches Play School one day a week. At present she is on the Parent Leason Committee at Staci-dee's school and on the Social Committee for the Colchester Community League.

Mel is at present employed as a superintendent for Canem System Ltd. of Edmonton.

They live on an acreage in the Sherwood Park area.

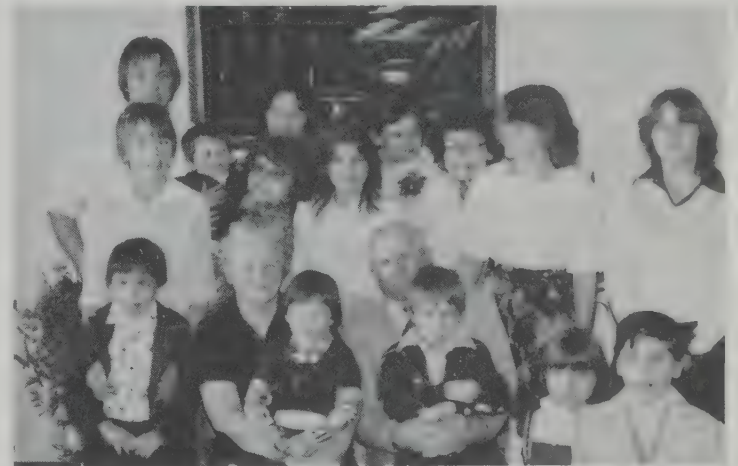
Joyce was born on June 28, 1951. She is the fourth daughter of John and Mary Sych. Joyce went

to school in Hay Lakes until grade ten, and since she was never one who cared for book work, she quit school and enrolled at the Marvel Beauty School in Edmonton. After completing her hair dressing course, she worked at Lucy's Beauty Parlor on Whyte Avenue, Edmonton, for approximately a year and a half.

In 1968, Joyce became engaged to Jim Mudry, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Mudry of Thorsby, Alberta. Jim was born on June 1, 1944, the eldest son of a family of eight. They were married on June 27, 1970, at St. Basil's Catholic Church in Edmonton.

Two months after they were married, Joyce opened her own beauty salon, The Golden Lantern, in Edmonton, which she operated for four years.

Jim had been working for the Department of Public Works in Edmonton, where he began his welding apprenticeship. After completing his training, he continued to work for the Department of Public Works for another year and a half. Then he worked as a welder for Imperial Waters of Edmonton.



John and Mary Sych with their four daughters and eleven grandchildren — 1976.

On June 7, 1972, Jim and Joyce had their first son, Jason James, who is presently in grade three at Our Lady of Mount Pleasant School in Camrose.

Their second son, Jeffrey William, was born on June 16, 1973. He is in grade two and is also attending Our Lady of Mount Pleasant in Camrose.

In September of 1974, Jim and Joyce moved to Camrose, where Jim is presently employed as a welder at the Steel Company of Canada.

Upon moving to Camrose, Joyce quit her hair dressing and is now a full time housewife and mother.

William and Pearl Sych by Evelyn Eveneshen

Religion played a major role in the lives of the early pioneers, they had deep faith in God and the

church was the centre of many activities. It was a place of worship as well as a place to meet your relatives and friends and make new acquaintances. On such an occasion, a feast day or "Praznik" as it was known, William met Pearl Kalawsky at the Round Hill Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Kalawsky and Sych families became acquainted through the priests who came to serve these communities. After the church celebration, the Sych family was invited to Kalawskys and thus Bill was able to get to know Pearl better. Some time later, Pearl was asked to come to Hay Lakes and assist Mrs. Sych during the threshing. Bill became very fond of her and they decided to be married on October 25, 1928, at the Round Hill Ukrainian Catholic Church by Rev. Zadan, OSBM. They lived with Bill's parents for five years until 1933. Their oldest daughter Helen was born on April 7, 1931.

In 1933, with \$250.00 in cash, Bill decided to build a house on his own farm, with neighbors as helpers and O. Olafson as carpenter. Pearl's father, Ignace Kalawsky and brother Paul plastered it and built the chimney. It had two rooms and bedroom downstairs and two rooms upstairs. The lumber cost \$22.00 per thousand feet. They moved into the house on November 8, 1933. Bill bought a cow for \$15.00 and a pig for \$2.75. A triple box of grain sold for \$9.00. Those were the "hungry thirties." Their second daughter Evelyn was born the following spring on April 19, 1934, and a son Ignace was born on August 21, 1936. Though there were no luxuries, there was always food on the table, even baked rabbit

tasted like chicken. Another daughter Jean was born on January 25, 1938. She was born at home because the roads were all drifted and there was no way of getting to a doctor at Camrose. Mrs. Switzer was the mid-wife.

In 1940 Bill bought his first brand new car — a V-8 Ford. It was a dark navy blue and cost \$1,000.00. It did not have a heater and got pretty cold in the winter time. The youngest son George was born on May 4, 1943. The children attend Ellswick school, three and one-half miles away. By the time George started school they were bused to Hay Lakes school by bus.

Like his father, Bill was active in the Ukrainian Catholic parish. He was president of the church committee (about 30 years in all) and looked after the church books for many years as well. Pearl looked after cleaning of the church. She spent many hours ironing the starched church linens. She was also president of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League when it was organized and helped to keep it functioning. Many priests and sisters stayed at the Sych home while serving the Hay Lakes parish.

In 1949, Bill bought a second new car — a Ford Monarch. It was maroon in color and Bill enjoyed this car very much. He and Pearl even took their first holiday trip to Banff and Radium Hot Springs that summer. Helen married John Blawuciak on July 28, 1951 and Grandpa Sych passed away on September 13, 1951.

There were happy memories and some sad ones. Pearl got a heart attack in 1953 just a week after their 25th wedding anniversary party. She recovered and led a full meaningful life always sewing for a friend or neighbor or crocheting a cushion or slippers for someone's birthday, or a pair of mittens for a grandchild.

Pearl and Bill lived on their homestead until 1974 when they retired to Camrose. Their neighbors and friends gathered for a farewell party and paid tribute to them in appreciation for their contribution to the community. In October, 1978 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their children, 16 grandchildren, many friends and relatives. It was a memorable time. They received greetings from Pope John Paul I, the Ukrainian Cardinal Shlipj and many dignitaries. Pearl passed away in the spring on May 15, 1980. In the fall of 1980 Bill was honored with a gold medallion by the Province of Alberta as "a pioneer of Alberta," born and raised in this province.

Bill and Pearl Sych's homestead today is farmed by his youngest son George and daughter-in-law Maxine and young son Ryan. They are living in the original house built on that farm.

Bill and Pearl Sych lived in the Hay Lakes com-



Pearl and William Sych on their 25th Wedding Anniversary, October 25, 1953.

munity for a total of some 46 years. During those years they faced many challenges. They worked together with their neighbors, lending a helping hand when needed. They have contributed to the mosaic of the community and are proud to be a part of its heritage.

The family of William and Pearl Sych are:

HELEN married to John Blawuciak on July 28, 1951. They live at Hay Lakes and have one daughter Wendy.

EVELYN married to Orest Eveneshen on June 4,



The William Sych Family. Back Row, L. to R.: Ignace, Evelyn, Helen, Jean, and George. Front Row: Pearl and William Sych.

1960. They live in Edmonton and have four children; Les, James, Monica and Karen.

IGNACE married to Tillie Synyshyn on May 23, 1964. They live at Hay Lakes and have six children; Stephen, Basil, Daniel, Theresa, Benedict and Barbara.

JEAN married to John Poniewozik on May 9, 1959. They live in Edmonton and have five children; William, Patrick, Paulette, Patricia and Michael.

GEORGE married to Maxine Banack on August 10, 1974. They live at Hay Lakes and have one son Ryan.

Two children died in infancy, Mary in 1929 and the other, stillborn, in 1941.

Willisko, Alex

Alex Willisko was born in Poland in 1876. He married Rosie Wawrynkiewch in 1900. In 1901 they came to Canada. Alex's brother Harry and his wife came at the same time. They came to their friends in the Leduc area. Mrs. Willisko stayed with their friends while Alex went to Exshaw, Alberta to work in a lime mine.

In 1903 they bought the NW 17-48-21-W4 and

moved on that land. Mrs. Tillie Wawrzynkiewich, Mrs. Willisko's mother, stayed on the homestead, doing whatever she could while Rosie went with her husband to Exshaw to cook for the miners, taking her first child Josephine, along with her. They worked there for two years.

When she was expecting her second child, Walter, she returned to their homestead in the Hay Lakes-Ellswick district. Alex worked for awhile longer then joined his wife and family. He began to improve his homestead and started farming.

Mrs. Wawrzynkiewich passed away in 1907 at the age of fifty-five years. There was no church cemetery around at the time. The family did not know where to bury the body. They kept her in a shed for two weeks. They were fortunate the weather was quite cold. When the people of the Catholic Faith in the area decided where they wanted to build the church Mr. Mathew Shawaga donated the land for the church and cemetery. Mrs. Wawryznkiewich was laid to rest in what is now St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic cemetery, in the Ellswick district.

The closest store in the early days was Roper's store on the north-east end of Bittern Lake. Flour and all other groceries had to be carried from there.

Mrs. Rosie Willisko was a mid-wife and helped deliver many babies in the community.



Mrs. Alex (Rosie) Willisko. Ninety-two years of age.

In those days the country was heavily wooded. To keep from getting lost and to be able to find one's way back home, people marked trees with pieces of cloth or string if they went to visit the neighbors.

Trapping and hunting were one way people used to make money. When Alex and his brother Harry were living at Leduc, one day they saw a skunk. They had never seen such a nice animal before so they were sure the skin would bring a good price. When they tried to catch it, the skunk sprayed Alex. They had no soap in those days nor anything to wash themselves with, so for two days he kept soaking himself in a barrel of water before he got the unpleasant smell washed away.

Muskrats were plentiful and sold for five to twenty-five cents a skin. The government paid for gopher tails. Anthony recalls how they used to catch gophers, snip off the ends of the tails and then let them go again. They wanted the gophers to live so that they would reproduce. More gophers — more gopher tails — more money. They felt if they killed the gophers they'd be diminishing their own income.

Alex and Rosie raised a family of eight children:

Josephine married John Dublanko and still resides in the New Sarepta area.

Walter lived in Edmonton and passed away in 1972.

Louise married Stanley Famulak. She was born in 1910 and passed away in 1973 at Vancouver.

Frank lives at Looma.



Family of Alex and Rosie Willisko. From L. to R., Back Row: Walter Willisko, John Dublanko, Carl Macohonic, Frank Famulak. Second Row: Helen Willisko, Josephine Dublanko, Caroline Sarnecki, Pauline Macohonic, Doris Famulak. First Row: children of Caroline Sarnecki.

Doris married Frank Famulak. They have retired and are at present living in Camrose.

Anthony lives in Edmonton.

Pauline married Carl Macohonic. They live in the New Sarepta area.

Albert lived near New Sarepta. He passed away July 5, 1970 at the age of forty-eight years.

Alex Willisko passed away in 1939 at the age of sixty-three years and Rosie died in 1974 at the age of ninety-seven years.



Big Hay Lake #2958

BIG HAY LAKE				
Crown Land		Crown Land		
B. Blakely S. Berkholtz S. Berkholtz C. Berkholtz		J. Klein C. Meketsell E. Schoenknecht		N. Linden R. Schoenknecht E. Schoenknecht
		F. Rubis S. Berkholtz C. Berkholtz		M. Karpowich A. Karpowich R. Berkholtz C. Berkholtz
Ockaner C. Wilson M. Karpowich Bank of Montreal C. Stelmaker R. Stelmaker E. Stelmaker L. Berkholtz S. Berkholtz C. Berkholtz		F. Whitebear M. Kosovich W. Kosovich	M. Trelenberg J. Groeller M. Groeller	S. Berkholtz J. Groeller M. & L. Groeller M. Groeller
P. Buss S. Berkholtz P. Buss A. Schurek J. Shaw		M. Kosovich (80) P. Buss (80) W. Kosovich	J. Gariepy A. Wesenberg J. Augustinski A. Riener	T. Collins P. Malik W. Malik E. Wichman P. Berkholtz G. Maissonville K. Maruschak
S. Berkholtz L. Berkholtz A. Schurek J. Shaw		M. Kosovich W. Kosovich	Robertson A. Hamula F. Hamula I. Hamula	M. Karpowich S. Karpowich Samson Tribal Enterprises Ltd.
A. Hamula I. Hamula		R. McLeod A. Hamula I. Hamula	J. Gariepy H. Karpowich S. Karpowich Samson Tribal Enterprises Ltd.	M. Karpowich S. Karpowich Samson Tribal Enterprises Ltd.
J. Nalesnik G. Schmidt J. Grams A. Grams B. Grams		Labacan H. Sych E. Bauman	J. Hodge W. Hodge G. Milroy	N. Linden R. Schoenknecht E. Schoenknecht
		A. Milroy G. & J. Milroy	J. Hodge W. Hodge G. Milroy	V. Paradis A. Milroy J. Milroy
			A. Milroy G. & J. Milroy	J. Cowan B. Blakely J. Milroy



STATEMENT OF GRANT

(FOR RURAL SCHOOLS)

EDMONTON.

March 27, 1925.

Sir,—

The grant payable to your district for the term that ended.....December 31..1924.
.....192 , is calculated as follows:

GRANT EARNED

Grant under Section 4 of The School Grants Act—

Paid for.....70...days at.....90¢.....\$...63.00.....

Deducted for premium on Treasurer's Bond...\$..... 1.00

Deducted for Officials' Supplies.....\$.....

.....\$.....

Balance \$.....62.00.....

GRANT PAID

To Teacher.....\$.....

To Treasurer.....\$.....62.00.....

Grants are payable for not more than 200 days in the year: see Section 20, School Grants Act.

This Statement should be kept on file.

Your obedient servant,

J. T. ROSS,

Deputy Minister.

To.....Mr. Wm. Szczech.....

Treasurer of....Big Bay Lake.....S.D. No. 2958

.....Big Bay Lake, Alta.....

Big Hay Lake School No. 2958

In 1913 the ratepayers of this community decided they should build a school, so on July 12, 1913 the first meeting was held to determine what to do. Elected to form a school board were John Klein, Alex McLeod and Robert McLeod as secretary-treasurer. They resolved that they borrow \$800.00 and proceed with the building. The borrowing had to be approved by the Minister of Education. They borrowed the money at 8% interest. To pay back the money they levied a school tax at eight cents per acre.

Johnny Turner donated two acres of land for the school. The school was built on the S.E. corner of N.E. 8-48-22. To build the school the following tenders were accepted; J. Moore for building the

school; Samuel Berkholtz for hauling the lumber and G. Robinson for supplying the lumber.

From 1913 to 1923 the taxes ranged from eight cents an acre to thirteen cents an acre. In 1924 the taxation system was changed to using mills. It started with nine mills and by 1930 it had risen to twelve and a half mills.

In 1926 the board decided to build a teacherage. Jacob Schurek was hired to build it. For building, hauling the lumber, and painting the teacherage with two coats of white paint on the outside with green trim, he was paid \$144.00.

In February 1945, the board decided the school was not fit to be used as a classroom any longer. It was not safe against the high winds. They were concerned about the safety of the pupils and teacher.



The McLeod Family taken about 1916 in front of Big Hay Lakes School.



Big Hay Lake School 1922-1923. Back Row, L. to R.: Emma Buss, Sophia Hamula, Katheran Wilson, Mary Schurek, Edith Berkholtz, Mary Grant, Jean Wilson. Second Row: Jessie Trelenberg, Mary Trelenberg, Anton Schurek, Adolf Trelenberg, George Karpowich, Alice Schmidt, Helen Karpowich. Third Row: George Wilson, Sandy Wilson, Gus Schmidt, Joe Schurek, Annie Schurek, Margaret Milroy, Gilbert Milroy, August Schmidt, Bob Hodge, Kenneth Wilson. Front Row: Bill Hodge, Schmidt, unknown, Fred Trelenberg, Ted Berkholtz, Steve Karpowich, Sam Berkholtz, Mike Hamula, Schmidt.



Big Hay Lakes School 1928. Back Row: Elsie Schoenknecht, Gilbert Milroy, Bob Hodge, Ted Berkholtz, Palmer Olson, William Milroy, Mary Trelenberg and Annie Schurek. Row Four: Walter Olson, Gus Schmidt, Steve Karpowich, August Schmidt, Mike Hamula, Robert Berkholtz, Jack Berkholtz. Row Three: Henry Karpowich, John Meketsell, Grace Milroy, Annie Kosovich, Angela Olson, Mary Kosovich, Anne Hodge. Row Two: Eddy Drayos, Isadore Hamula, Art Schoenknecht, Annie Busenius, Lena Meketsell, Margaret Milroy, Malcolm Hodge. Front Row: Mike Sych, Dan Trelenberg, Otto Schmidt, Helen Berkholtz, Eva Kosovich, Myrtle Olson, Helen Hamula, Alice Schurek.



Big Hay Lake School 1937-1938. Back Row, L. to R.: Lawrence Schoenknecht, Leo Schmidt, Stanley Schurek, Edwin Schoenknecht, Leo Rubis, Bill Kosovich. Second Row: Alice Malik, Irene Sych, Bessie Sych, Olga Kosovich, Millie Sych. Third Row: Walter Busenius, Eddie Schmidt, Louie Schurek, Paul Berkholtz, Adolph Schurek. Fourth Row: Martha Schoenknecht, Anne Metzker, Mona Marrant, Alma Pawloske, Alice Kosovich. Front Row: Joyce Stelmaker, Lucy Rubis, Rosie Schmidt.



Big Hay Lake School #2958 used as polling centre in election of 1963.

They approached the Divisional Board about building a new school, but the Divisional Board could not be persuaded to agree with them. So the old school was banked heavily with dirt and continued to serve as a classroom until 1954. In 1954 the pupils

were bussed to a Centralized School at Gwynne. Most of the rate payers of the district served on the school board at some time during the years the school was in operation.

For a number of years Big Hay Lake School had an enthusiastic soft ball team, that won the trophy cup for a number of years in a row. The cup was then given permanently to the school. It is now displayed in the show case at the Gwynne school.

Teachers at the Big Hay Lake School were:

1913-15	Nick Oswald
1916	Eva Symington
1917	Miss Crieghton
1920	Mr. Gemeroy
1922	Mrs. Bernard (I. Luther)
1923	Mrs. Wilson
1924	Gordon Ruddy
1925	Mrs. Walter Schantz
1926	Miss Crieghton
1926-27	Charles Purdy
1927-28	Mrs. Ferguson
1928-29	Martin Langston
1930	Miss MacDonald
1930-32	Miss Nahernik
1932-37	Martin Langston
1937-39	Art Mittelstadt
1939-43	Veydon Weibert
1943-44	Miss McCallister
1944-45	Helmer Larson
1944-45	Helen Sakal
1945-46	Alice Rodgers
1946-49	Ardis Mochulski
1949-52	Audry Bergum
1952-54	Marlene Schnee

Augustinski, John

John Augustinski came to Canada from Poland in 1928. His first work was at St. Albert picking roots. Later on he worked at Trochu, New Sarepta and Hay Lakes as a farm laborer. He bought N.W. 10-22-48 and built a small house on it. He cleared the brush by hand and farmed the land until 1976 when he sold his farm to Andy Reiner and retired to Camrose.

Bauman, Emil

I was born on February 27, 1939 at Thorsby Alberta, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Bauman. In 1955 I started an apprenticeship in plastering. I continued on and became a plasterer for Mr. George Boss and others. Then in 1962 I met my wife, Joan Hirsekorn, daughter of the late Rudolph and Emily Hirsekorn. We were married on July 27, 1962.

The first two years of our marriage we worked and lived in Edmonton. Then I decided to follow a life long dream and take up farming. By chance we found out about the Harry Sych farm from Mr. Richard Price, a friend of Otto Metzker. We bought the farm in 1964 and are living there today.

We had a slow start, with only six sows and two cows yet gradually we worked our way up and now



Emil, Kim, Joan Bauman.

have quite a large number of hogs (although we sold the cows).

Our daughter, Kim Dawn, was born on August 5, 1966 and is now attending Clear Vista school in Wetaskiwin.

Berkholtz, Cecil by Cecil Berkholtz

I was born on January 2, 1950 in Camrose and grew up in the Big Hay Lakes area. Together with my parents Sam and Frieda, brother Morley, and sister Sherryl, we lived on PT. S½ 21-48-22-W4. In 1962 we moved to the SW 16-48-22-W4 where we started a new farmyard.



Cecil Berkholtz dairy herd being fed.

I went to school in Hay Lakes for ten years and then in Camrose for two years. After I finished school, I farmed with my parents and worked on the drilling rigs for two winters.

In 1972 I bought the dairy cows from my parents and then in 1975 I bought the farm which included SW 16-48-22-W4, PT. S½ 21-48-22-W4 and the NW 15-48-22-W4. For pasture I lease some crown land along the south part of Big Hay Lake.

With help occasionally from my parents, the rest

of the family and neighbors, I still operate a dairy along with some grain farming and a few range cattle. With some health problems and the battle of trying to keep everything operating smoothly, it has been quite a challenge and experience.

Jack and Anne Berkholtz

Jack Berkholtz was born on April 27, 1916. He is the son of the late Samuel and Rosalie Berkholtz of Hay Lakes. During his early childhood he and his 5 brothers and 2 sisters attended the Big Hay Lake School.

In the thirties, he and other boys from the Big Hay Lake area formed a ball team which they named the Foxtails. Their ball diamond was located on Kosowich's flat. Large crowds of people attended their region's Annual Sports Day and the evening dances that followed. Competition was keen as teams competed for the top prize money of \$2.00. The Foxtails also kept active in the winter as they played hockey on the nearby sloughs. The boys wore home-made equipment made from horse sweat pads. Sometimes they walked several miles to games, but it all seemed worthwhile if they were victorious.

In July 1942, Jack left his home to serve in the army. He was in the service for approximately four years and when he returned home in 1946, he was reunited with his parents on their farm.

On November 10, 1948, Jack married Anne Metzker, daughter of Otto and Amalie Metzker of Gwynne. After his marriage, Jack purchased the home quarter of land (N.E. 18-48-22) from his par-



Back Row: Neil and Dwayne. Front Row: Sheila, Jack and Anne.

ents. The young couple then settled on their own farm and Jack's parents retired to Hay Lakes. During the first few years, Jack farmed primarily with horse and plow. Then in 1947, he purchased his first tractor. With the assistance of his tractor, he was able to acquire more land, therefore he rented from Charlie Meketsell. After a few years, he purchased another section (S ½ N., W. 48-22-W4) from Leo Rubis.

Jack and Anne's first car was a Model A Ford and later in 1950 they purchased a new truck. Storms in winter were very severe and often the roads were drifted shut. Occasionally, they accommodated several overnite visitors because of the treacherous conditions. The only means of travel was across fields with a sleigh or on foot stopping to rest at the warm home of neighbours.

Jack and Anne have three children: Dwayne, Neil and Sheila. Dwayne, born on January 18, 1950, is now farming on the home quarter of land where he resides. Neil, born February 28, 1954, is a welder and is making his home in Edmonton. Sheila, who was born on January 27, 1962, is also living in Edmonton and is working as a receptionist at the University of Alberta.

After 35 years of farming, Jack and Anne have recently retired and moved to Camrose. There they have purchased a new home and enjoy good health with their friends and family.

Berkholtz, Paul Family

by Paul Berkholtz

I was born on March 1, 1926, and raised in the Hay Lakes district. I am the youngest of the Sam Berkholtz Sr. family, and lived and farmed at home until I reached the age of eighteen.

Then, I was called into the Armed Forces in 1944, taking my Basic Training in Camrose, and my Advanced Training at the Currie Barracks in Calgary. From there I was stationed at Nanaimo, B.C. as an M.P. (Military Police), and then on to Tofino, B.C. where our Sault St. Marie Regiment was on Guard along the Pacific Ocean shoreline; the possibility was that the Japanese may have invaded our country. After V. J. Day (Victory in Japan), we were transferred to Victoria, B.C. There we were helping to strengthen the War Veterans for their flight back to the Homeland. In March of 1946, I was discharged from the Armed Forces at Calgary, Alberta.

Following my discharge, I returned to my home district and worked for William Kosovich. In the fall of 1947 I purchased the SW 14-48-22-W4 from Emil Wickman, where I farmed until I married Albertine Roth from Rolly View, Alberta, on June 25, 1953. I left Hay Lakes and we lived at Rolly View for three years, farming with my father-in-law.

In 1957 we moved to Leduc, Alberta, and sold our farm at Hay Lakes.

We have two daughters: Myrna Joan, born February 14, 1954, who is now married to Lorne Solila; and Brenda Gay, born July 11, 1964, who lives at home.



Paul Berkholtz Family, May 1979: Albertine, Paul, Myrna, Brenda.

I had been employed with "Hilsop Construction", setting up Microwave Towers. After the first tower in Edmonton, I was involved with the erection of a tower in each of the following places: Onoway, Sangudo, Whitecourt, Two Creeks, Little Smoky, Valley View, Donnelly, High Prairie, Peace River (right beside Twelve Foot Davis' grave) and Grande Prairie, with the last one being at Debolt.

As there were no paved roads in any of these areas, often we were pulled to the tower construction sites by caterpillars. Bears were plentiful and many a time we had to throw rocks at them to chase them away before we could continue construction on the tower.

When that job was completed, I started to do carpentry work, getting my training from Wally Klak of Leduc. This included building hotels in Edmonton, Valley View, Peace River and Grimshaw, plus some houses in Leduc.

I left the carpentry work behind and started to work at the Leduc Dry Cleaners, where I stayed for eight years.

Then I became employed at the Edmonton International Airport in Field Operations. From there I

began fuelling aircraft for Gulf Oil Co., and now I am employed with M.O.T. (Ministry of Transport) as a Building Control Operator. Many changes have been made in the last thirteen years while I have been employed at the Airport.

At the present time, the whole family is living in Leduc.

Berkholtz, Robert **by Christine Berkholtz**

Robert Berkholtz was born and raised in the Hay Lakes area. He attended Big Hay Lake School. As a young man he worked in the coal mines and on the pipe lines. He also worked for Peter Maruschak, clearing land and moving dirt with a T.D. 14 crawler tractor and a dozer.

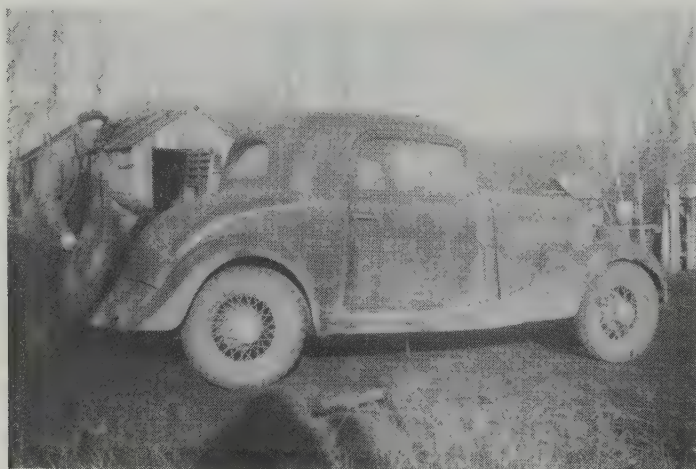
During the war he served a short term in the army.

In 1947 he purchased the SW 23-48-22-W4 from Alex Karpowich and became interested in farming. In June 1949 he married Christina Roth of Rosenthal, which is nine miles east of Leduc, and is known now as Rolly View.

I, Christina, grew up in the Rosenthal area and took all my schooling in the Parkdale School. My first four grades were in the small old school. Then one day the teacher asked us to carry all our books over to the new school which was about a quarter of a mile away. What an exciting day that was!

After Robert and I were married we decided we should go on a little honeymoon to Banff. But not owning a new Chrysler or a Van with all up to date facilities, we decided to go with Jack and Anne Berkholtz.

Jack had a Model A Ford which ran about thirty-five miles an hour. It was a one seat car with a seat just wide enough for three people. Since there were four of us, one of us had to sit on someone's lap, so either Jack held Anne or Robert held me. However we had an interesting and enjoyable trip.



Robert Berkholtz with first car model 1934, picture taken in 1951.

We began farming in the "good old days". We had no gas or electricity so we had to depend on wood and coal to cook our meals and heat our house. We had no power machinery. Horses were used for all farm work as well as binding and threshing.

In the fall of 1949 we purchased our first car. It was a " '34 Model Chevrolet Coupe". It could run about fifty miles an hour, but thirty miles an hour was a good enough speed to clip along on the dirt roads with no heater to keep you warm or defrosting windshields to let you see where you were going. Often in cold weather you had to scrape off a little space on the windshield in order to see the road. To get the car started in cold weather, you had to put some hot ashes underneath the car to warm it up. Sometimes even that didn't work, so you had to use the crank, and then of course, it would back-fire and what a jerk you'd get on your arm!

Next we managed to get a little Massey tractor, and that was the end of the horse-power days. Slowly we got better machinery which made things a lot easier. We raised cattle, hogs, chickens, turkeys and geese. Later we decided we needed a little more land, so we bought eighty acres from Leo Rubis. This helped a lot. Robert's hobby around the farm was welding.

He took great interest in fishing, hunting and all sports as well as church and community work. He also coached hockey and ball.

In the summer of 1956 we built a barn and found the milking chores much easier. In 1961 we went into dairying and then started selling milk instead of cream.



Robert Berkholtz Family. Standing: Brian, Christina, Robert, Karen holding Chad. Seated: Kenneth Willis holding Robyn, Carl Roth Christina's father, age 92 years.

In 1952 Karen was born. In 1971 she married Kenneth Willisko. They have two children, Robyn and Chad. They live in Leduc.

Brian was born in 1956. At present he is not married.

In 1970 we decided we needed something better to live in so we built a new house. We enjoyed living in it for nine good years. In February 1979 we took a five week trip to Australia to visit my pen pal. In June 1979 Robert suddenly passed away from a heart attack, at the age of sixty-one years. Brian and I continue to live on the farm.

Berkholtz, Sam and Family

by Sam Berkholtz

I was born on September 25, 1912 in the Hay Lakes area; was raised, and took my schooling at the Big Hay Lake School. I helped my parents on the farm until, at the age of twenty-one, I left home and began working for other people doing such jobs as hauling ice blocks for the creamery, hotels and cafe in the winter time and helping with farming in the summer.

In the spring of 1939 I rented the C.P.R. S½ 21-48-22-W4. I continued to rent it for five years, and then decided to buy it in 1944.

On April 29, 1948 I married Frieda Roth of Rolly View and continued farming. We have three children.

Cecil Lloyd was born January 2, 1950. He is single and still farms.

Morley Wayne, born July 16, 1951, married

Louise Stabel. They have one son, Ryan, and live in Millwoods, Edmonton.

Sherryl Joyce was born May 8, 1953, and is married to Norman Stabel. They have two sons, Cory and Darren, and live in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Farming has been quite a task sometimes, such as raising turkeys until the coyotes decided it was their turn for feasting!

Trapping muskrats was quite a hobby, and also helped along with the budget. The boys found it very interesting watching how the muskrats were being skinned and stretched on boards.

For almost fifteen years we pumped water from the well with a big wheel called a "Dog Wheel". Instead of a windmill or pump engine, it was operated by putting a dog into the wheel. As he would run, the wheel, connected by a shaft onto the pump, would turn. The faster the dog would run, the quicker the stock tank would be filled with water, especially if someone drove onto the yard! This was of great interest to people who had never seen water being pumped by a dog before — especially interested were duck hunters from the city.



Sam Berkholtz's farmyard showing the dog-wheel which was used for pumping water.

Farming was done with horses and a Jeep, before I had a tractor. The boys thought it was fun riding in the Jeep until they got tired, fell asleep and were covered with dust.

In the years of 1958 and 1959 we were surrounded by water, except for the yard and a few acres around the buildings. Being good, kind-hearted neighbors, the Millroy family permitted us to move with cattle and household, to one of their farms, using the yard and pasture from March till October.

Flooding created quite a hardship for a few years. It was difficult transporting back and forth across the N½ 16-48-22-W4, which is so called "Government Land", wading through the water with horse and



Sam Berkholtz Family. 25th Anniversary April 29, 1973. Back Row: Cecil, Sherryl, Morley. Seated: Frieda and Sam Berkholtz.

wagon, and then switching over to the Jeep, to take eggs and cream to town and bring back food and supplies.

The most difficult episode was getting the crop threshed one fall. However with Mr. Otto Metzker's generosity and quick thinking, we decided to build a platform from planks, loaded the tractor on it, and with eight horses pulled it, and then the threshing machine, across the water.

This life was not very enjoyable anymore. So, then in 1962, I purchased the S.W. 16-48-22-W4 from Emil Stelmaker, moved on to it, built a house and had Calgary Power installed. It was a pleasure to have electric lights compared to mantle lamps and kerosene lanterns.

In 1966, I bought the N.W. 15-48-22-W4 from Leo Rubis and continued mixed farming and operating a dairy.

Work was getting "harder" and age was "creeping up", so we decided to give up farming.

In 1975 we purchased a house in Camrose and moved there in December. We are presently enjoying a life of retirement.

Samuel Berkholtz Family (Senior)

Samuel Berkholtz was born in Poland on December 4, 1873. He came to Canada in early 1900; his wife and two children came later. They homesteaded at Joseph Lake. His wife and infant son passed away there.

On April 26, 1906 he married Rosalie Buss, daughter of Peter and Caroline Buss. They moved to the Hay Lakes district where they started homesteading on the N.E. 15-48-22.

They had nine children and lived in a two room log house. In 1928 they built a big house, installed a light plant and were the first in the area to have electricity. The water was pumped from the well into a huge tank that was put in the basement, so they were able to pump water from inside the house, which saved them much work.

Samuel had a ten horsepower stationary engine which he used for grinding. Custom work was done when the neighbors brought their grain in sacks to grind. A threshing machine was also powered by the stationary engine which was mounted on a wagon; the outfit was drawn by horses. This threshing outfit was used in the neighborhood for many years.

Rosalie raised many ducks and geese and would get up at four or five in the morning to start plucking. A six acre field was planted to potatoes, which kept the family digging for weeks. Potatoes were hauled and sold in Hay Lakes and Camrose. The childrens' clothing were bought from the proceeds of the potatoes.



Samuel Berkholtz Family 1939. Back Row: Helen, Sam, Ted, Jack, Robert, Elsie. Front Row: Ida, Samuel, Paul, Rosalie, Leo.

They retired to Hay Lakes in 1948 when Jack took over the farm. Samuel passed away at the age of 87 in 1961. Rosalie was 76 when she passed away in 1963.

The nine children of Samuel and Rosalie Berkholtz are: Leo, Ida, Sam Jr., Ted, Jack, Helen, Robert, Elsie, and Paul.

Leo married Lena Soch and they have three children; Lawrence, Irvin and Ronald. Lawrence married Irma Boetcher and they have four children and two granddaughters. Irvin married Mrs. Joyce Brown and she has four children. Ron is not married.

Ida married Gottlieb Henschell and they have three children, Lillian, Beatrice, and Harold. Lillian married Bill Burtsma. Beatrice married Robert Hymanykand. They have three children. Harold married Rozanne Berube and they have two children. Both Ida and Gottlieb are now deceased.

Sam married Freida Roth and farmed in the Big Hay Lakes district until 1975 when they moved to Camrose. They have three children Morley, Cecil and Sheryl. Morley married Louise Stabel and they have two children. Sheryl married Norman Stabel and they have two children. Cecil is single and farms at home.

Ted married Mary Kosovich and they farm by Hay Lakes.

Jack married Annie Metzker; they have three children, Dwayne, Neil and Sheila.

Helen married Gus Forsberg and farm near Gwynne. They have two boys, Jerel who works in Kelowna and David at home.

Robert married Christina Roth; they have two children Karen and Brian. Karen married Ken Willisko and they have two children. Robert died suddenly in June of 1979.

Elsie married Art Soch and they have one son Larry. Elsie died in 1951. Larry married Joanne Radawetz and they have two children.

Paul married Albertina Roth and they have two children Myrna and Brenda.

Big Hay Lake Store

by Marian Hanneman

If four walls and a roof do a store make, we had a store. I never did see a fancy cash register or glass showcase in it. It had a door mat but certainly not carpet. Basic food staples and some hardware items are what I remember and of course candies and pop. Big Orange Crush and Fat Emma bars sold for approximately a nickel each.

My teen-age cousins would always enjoy sharing treats. If they arrived late in the evening their quiet voices (tongue-in-cheek) always brought Arden and I scampering down the ladder which later became a staircase. One evening they emptied a large burlap peanut bag and teased us. The last one to finish the pop would be put into the sack.



Anna and Gottlieb Buss.

Getting supplies or stock was a hazardous adventure because of the treacherous coulee road for my father and the truck driver, but I thought it was a thrilling ride. Unpacking was an educational experience for a seven year old. For example the supply of Copenhagen Snuff was never forgotten. So I learned that Copenhagen was a foreign city.

My father Gottlieb Buss and my mother Anna built the store in the fall of 1939 on the S.W. 9-48-22 on the land that was owned by Leo Berkholtz. We moved in before it was completed. It must have been a struggle because our income was supplemented by a small farming operation on the side.

Editors Note:

This store burned in the summer of 1981.



Arden and Marian Buss about 1938.

Buss, Peter

by Mrs. Gus Forsberg

Peter Buss was born on December 5, 1862 in Warsaw Poland. Caroline Perske was born on September 19, 1864 and was married to Peter on January

20, 1883. They immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1901 and lived in Wisconsin for several months. They moved to Canada and lived on a farm at Leduc, and then New Sarepta before coming to Hay Lakes. In 1912 they bought the N.W. 9-48-22 and lived there until 1931 when they sold the farm to Anton Schurek. Peter and Caroline then moved to Bashaw and lived in a house on the farm of their daughter Caroline and her husband Steven Rinsky. Peter Buss passed away in April of 1940 at the age of 77 years and Caroline passed away in April of 1942 at the age of 78 years. They had a family of twelve children.

Julius married Ottiliga Quast, and they had five children; after her death he married Lydia Molzan and they had two children. Julius is deceased and his wife Lydia lives in Edmonton.

Rosalie married Samuel Berkholtz and they had nine children. Both are deceased.

Peter married Emilie Kneller, both now deceased, they had thirteen children.

Pauline married Gotfried Drebert, both deceased, they had two children.

Mathilda married Gottlieb Molzan, and they had seven children. Mathilda now lives in Leduc; her husband is deceased.

Mike left home in 1918 and his address is unknown.

Caroline married Steven Rinsky and they had three children. She is a widow and lives in Ponoka.

Bill married Pauline Radtke and they had five children; both are deceased.

Mina died during the 1918 flu.

Albertina married Frederick Spitzer and they had six children. After his death she married Richard Busse with whom she had one child and are now living in Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

Gottlieb married Annie Martin and they had two children and live in Sherwood Park.

Emma married Louie Moltzahn and they had six children and now live in Vernon, B.C.

There are approximately four hundred and ten descendants now including the in-laws.

Joseph Cowan Sr.

Joseph Cowan was born in the city of Quebec in 1842. He married Philomena Lesperrance. They had a family of two boys and one girl; Joseph Junior, William and Emma.

In 1880 they settled on a homestead near Brandon, Manitoba. In 1890 they moved to Hay Lakes, Alberta, and settled on the S.W. 2-48-22. Here they lived for a number of years. Then they moved to B.C. where Joseph was engaged in a lumber business. Later they returned to Alberta and resided on the S.W. 28-47-22. After farming a number of years,

they moved to Wetaskiwin and then to Edmonton where they both passed away.

Gariepy, John

John Gariepy lived on the S.E. 10-48-22 and also owned the N.W. 10-48-22. He married Eleanor Le Ville. John was never a very strong man so Eleanor did a lot of the farm work. It was quite common to see her riding the plow, seeding and putting up hay. She also cooked for a lot of the men who worked for the sawmill on Karpoviche's and boarded some of the Big Hay Lakes school teachers such as Mr. Gemeroy and Gordon Ruddy.

Both John and Eleanor were wonderful musicians and both played by ear. She played the piano and the violin and he played the violin also. He made his own music but never put it down in theory. They played for a lot of dances around Hay Lakes with Henry Paradis.

The Gariepys had an auction sale in 1928 and moved to the Calgary area. Mr. Gariepy's half-brother Mr. Campion rented the farm and their children Sandy, George, and Mary went to Big Hay Lakes School.

Eleanor Gariepy died about 1930 and John moved back to his farm. His half-brother lived with him for about one more year and then moved away. John raised some cattle but rented his land to others over the years. Some renters were Schoenknecht, Romeo Cowan, Basil Blakley, Hamulas, and Henry Karpovich.

John Gariepy died in 1948 and the farm was bought by Henry Karpovich.

Grams, Julius

Julius Grams was born in Russia in 1893. Theophilia Kruger was born in Russia in 1900. They were married in Rolly View, May 3, 1916. They made their home on the S.E. 17-48-21 in the Hay Lakes district. There was a little log shack on this land and they moved into it. Julius had four horses, a walking plow, an axe, a grub hoe and with these tools he set out to clear his land. In 1917 Theophilia bought a brand new Singer sewing machine which she still has.

In 1917 their first son, Samuel was born, he passed away after only a few months. A daughter Elsie was born in 1918, she too passed away as an infant. In 1921 Wilfred was born, in 1924 Clara, in 1925 Myrtle, in 1927 Norman, in 1928 Ernest, 1930 Eileen, 1932 Margaret, 1933 Allan, 1936 Doris and in 1938 Harold.

With this large family to feed, Mr. Grams had Mr. Albert Arndt build a special kitchen table about eight feet long. Mrs. Grams remembers wash days. She would start early in the morning, with the washboard



Julius and Theophilia Grams May 3, 1916.

and homemade soap, washing clothes and bedding all day long sometimes having to stop for evening chores and then carrying on. The clothes were then hung out to dry overnight, and in the winter, if a bad wind came up, one had to run out to the field to find the clothes the next morning. She finally got a gas motor powered washing machine in 1940, after most of the children were grown. The clothes were then ironed with the sad irons heated on the coal and wood stove. This usually meant more walking between the stove and ironing board than anything.

In 1927, Mr. Grams got his first car, a Touring Chev sedan. They got a start in cattle, milking eight to ten head, and kept about seventy-five chickens and a few pigs. Then the dirty thirties hit. Prices for all farm produce were low. Cream testing special brought ten cents a pound, eggs were three cents a dozen; and pigs sold at \$2.50 a c.w.t. They sold a cow for \$16.00 and then had to pay out \$4.00 in shipping charges. The hardest was to raise enough cash to pay the taxes so Mr. Grams worked for the county as road foreman for a couple of years in exchange for the taxes.

In the early 1940's the Grams farm was the site of

many sporting events such as fastball and hockey; as the children from the surrounding community often met there. When it was too cold in the winter for hockey they would go inside and play cards, dance, or play various games. A team was formed called the Hay Lakes Black Hawks. This team participated in many picnics such as July 1st in Hay Lakes.

Of their ten children Clara, Myrtle, Norman, Ernest, Eileen, and Margaret attended Ellswick school.

In the 1940's they got their first battery operated radio. In 1944 they bought their first tractor; a Walling model.

By this time Mr. Grams decided he needed more land so he moved to the Big Hay Lakes district where he purchased S.W. 4-48-22 and N.E. 5-48-22 from Gotlieb Schmidt in 1946. In 1952 their son Norman bought the home quarter. Norman then bought S.W. 17-48-22 from Frank Pasula giving him a half section which he still farms today.

In 1966 Julius and Theophilia retired to Wetaskiwin selling their farm to Allan, another son.

In 1977 Julius and Theophilia moved to Leduc where they presently reside.

In May 1966, Mr. and Mrs. Grams celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary and in May 1976, their 60th. As well they have celebrated the births of 26 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.



Julius Grams Family 1966. Back Row: Clara, Norman, Ernest, Allan, Harold. Middle Row: Myrtle, Eileen, Margaret, Doris. Seated: Julius and Theophilia on their 50th Anniversary.

The children of Julius and Theophilia Grams are; Wilfred, lived at home and passed away in 1958. Clara married Albert Bittner and live at Warburg. They have four children.

Myrtle married Robert Ansorger. They live at Rolly View and have five children.

Norman married Mary Fuernkranz and they live in the Hay Lakes district. They have one son Brian.

Ernest married Ignatia Lanigan and they have five children. They live in Merritt B.C. Ernest passed away in 1977.

Eileen married Arnold Kjorlien. They had three children and lived in the Wetaskiwin district. Eileen passed away in 1968.

Margaret married Mike Sych and they live in the town of Hay Lakes. They have five children.

Allen lives in Wetaskiwin. He is not married but is still looking.

Doris married Keith Lyle and they had one girl, Myrna. Keith passed away in 1958. Doris married Peter Owen and they live in Edmonton.

Harold married Margaret Kadatz. They live in Edmonton and have two children.

Groeller, Les

I was born on June 7, 1955, the youngest son of John and Mary Groeller. I was raised on the family farm and attended Hay Lakes School, graduating in 1973.

After attending Camrose Lutheran College for one year, I became involved in farming with my brother Marvin.

On July 24, 1976 I married Brenda Shold of Camrose. In 1977 I left farming and began working in the oil industry, while Brenda continued her career with Alberta Government Telephones.

Brenda and I are living on a 4-acre acreage, subdivided from the home quarter (S.W. 15-48-22). We have a darling daughter, Jaime Paige born April 19, 1980.



Leslie Groeller Family. Les, Brenda, Jaime.

I am presently attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, taking my second year in Petroleum Technology.

Groeller, Marvin

I was born on December 10, 1948 the fourth of five children of John and Mary Groeller (nee Trelenberg). I started my education in a one room school in Hay Lakes, and ended it some twelve years later in Camrose Composite High School. After finishing school, I helped my father on the farm, S½ 15-48-22-W4, and worked at Stelco in Camrose for two winters. After that experience I decided that farming was for me.

In 1969, with the help of my father, I purchased the quarter section SE 17-48-22-W4 owned by Jack Schurek. Three years later, I purchased the home quarters S½ 15-48-22-W4 and the milk cows, and decided to stay in the dairy.

In 1973, I met Veronica Ebertz. She was born in Edmonton, the fourth child born to John and Katherine Ebertz. She attended school at Rich Valley for six years and then attended New Sarepta High School for the following six years. She then worked at numerous jobs in Edmonton.

We married in August of 1976. Our first son, Grant, was born September 29, 1979. Our second son, Douglas, was born February 17, 1981.

Hamula, Andrew and Theresa submitted by Isidore Hamula

My father, Andrew Hamula was born in Poland in 1870. He migrated to Canada in 1898, arriving in Edmonton. He filed a homestead seven miles west of Leduc in the Rabbit Hill district.

My mother, Theresa Hamula (nee) (Sarnecki), was born in Poland in 1897. She came to Canada with her married step-brother and his family in 1897. They came to the Edmonton area and her step-brother filed a homestead in the Rabbit Hill district.

Mother and Dad were married on February 14, 1899 and took up residence on dad's homestead. Seven children were born in the Rabbit Hill district. Martin was born in 1900, Carl in 1903, Frank in 1905, Annie in 1907, Sophie in 1909, Michael in 1914, and Isidore in 1918.

During the early years in Canada dad spent quite a bit of time working on the railway sections around Edmonton, Calgary and Medicine Hat. Railway lines were being built at that time.

Dad came to the Big Hay Lake district to look for more land. He bought the N.E. 4-22-48 from Robert McLeod and N.W. 4-22-48 from Steinke. On April 11, 1918 the family moved into the McLeod house. They brought all their possessions from Rabbit Hill with horses and wagons. The livestock was herded across the country.

Later dad bought the S.W. 10-22-48 from Mrs. Robinson who was living in Vancouver. In 1919, he

rented the S.W. 12-48-22 and the family moved to that location. That farm is now owned by Leo Schnell and Robert Martin and rented by Ken Maruschak. We lived there for several years. While we were living on the rented place, dad and my brothers were clearing and breaking land on the land dad owned. They built a house and barn on the S.W.10-22-48.

In 1921 Helen was born. In 1923 the family moved to their own land and into their own home, however, there was one hardship; there was no good well on the yard. Water was hauled from Cecil Wilson — a distance of about two miles and sometimes from Schureks; until 1928. That year a well was drilled on the yard.

The older children who had started school at Ellswick now changed to the Big Hay Lake School. Dad bought a binder and some machinery and in 1925 he bought an Overland car. He threshed with his neighbors, Galenza, Famulak, Blakely and Schureks.

On October 23, 1932 the house burned down and all that was in it. Fortunately no one was injured. Only mother and my sister-in-law were home at the time; Dad and the older ones were out threshing and the younger children were at school. There was an old Indian house on the yard which the family moved into. Dad and my brothers started to build a new house that same fall and by the end of March we were able to move into it.

Dad kept fine horses and by 1940 he had twenty head. He traded twelve of these for his first tractor, a W30 International.

We bought our first battery radio in 1934 or 1935. In those days you had to have a license to operate a radio. The license cost \$2.00. This was required until 1948; after that you did not need one.

In 1946, my brother Frank and I (Isidore) took over the farm. Dad and mother retired but continued to live on the farm. Mother passed away on February 22, 1952 at the age of seventy-five years. Dad passed away on September 28, 1954 at the age of eighty-four.

Martin moved to Saskatchewan in 1931 and worked in lumber mills in the Reserve area. In 1940 he married Margaret Ollette and retired in Tisdale, Saskatchewan.

Carl married Nellie Famulak. They live in the Ellswick district. They have two children, Vivian and Bernice.

Frank passed away on June 10, 1974 at the age of sixty-nine.

Annie married Frank Sank. They lived where Devon is located now. They had two children Reginald and Lloyd. Annie passed away on February 2, 1934.



Andrew Hamula Family 1949. Back Row: Isidore, Carl, Frank. Front Row: Sophie, Theresa, Andrew, Helen.

Sophie married Michael Famulak. They farmed in the Ellswick district for many years. Later they moved to the Armena district. They had two children, Marjorie and Edwin and they adopted Donald.

My brother Michael was killed on July 25, 1944 while serving in the armed forces.

Helen married Zenon Goclon. They lived in the Devon area for four and a half years and then moved to the Hay Lakes area where they live at present. They have three children, Lance, Zenna and Patricia.

I (Isidore) took over the farm in 1974 and reside on the home place. I went to Big Hay Lake school. I played ball with the Fox Tail team and some hockey with the Big Hay Lake team.

At present I rent the land to my nephew and his wife, Lance and Myrna Goclon. I have a few cattle on my waste land.

The Duhamel short cut Indian trail is still visible on my yard.

Hodge, John

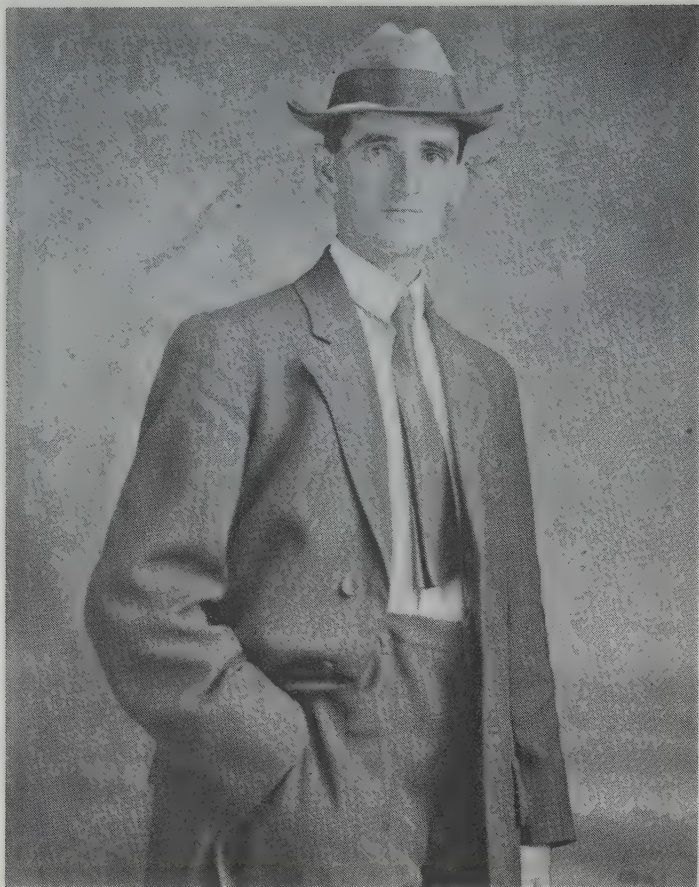
written by Bob Hodge

John and Elizabeth Hodge and their two sons William and Robert came to Rock Creek, B.C. from Scotland. In 1914 they moved to the Wetaskiwin area and settled on the N.W. 3-48-22. Here another son and a daughter were born. The children all attended Big Hay Lake School.

William married Alice Criest. They have three daughters. William is retired and they now live in Edmonton.

Malcolm married Alma Pfau of Hythe. They have four sons and one daughter. They have made their home in Edmonton.

Anne married Herb Hay. They have three daugh-



John Hodge taken about 1910.



Elizabeth Hodge.

ters. Herb passed away in 1964. Anne now resides in Camrose.

Robert married Margaret Ochs of Wetaskiwin. They have two sons and two daughters Ron, Allan, Brenda, and Doreen. Robert and Margaret farmed the S.W. 17-48-22 until 1975. They then moved to Wetaskiwin.

Ron married Pat Gartner. He lives on the farm.

Allan is working for an oil survey company.

Brenda and Doreen both work in Edmonton.

Their early neighbors were: Hamula, Kosovich, Milroy, Gariepy, Paradis, Blakely, and Harry Sych.

John Hodge passed away in 1930. Mrs. Hodge passed away in 1952.

Karpowich, Alex

Alex was born in 1908 to Michael and Marina Karpowich who at that time lived in Buford, now known as Thorsby. He attended school at Gynster and later at Big Hay Lake. He was an avid ball player and belonged to the Big Hay Lake Foxtail Team. He played the mouth organ and the violin.

Alex Karpowich married Alice Galenza on January 18, 1934. When they were first married they lived on the John Gariepy farm and farmed on a share-crop basis. Their first son, Gerald, was born there on January 3, 1935. Later they bought the C.P.R. quarter from Alex's dad for \$5,500. Here they built a house out of lumber, a chicken house and a barn.

Their second son, Allan, was born on June 26, 1939. Their only daughter Eunice, was born on March 2, 1945.

In 1947 the farm was sold to Robert Berkholtz and the family moved to the Bittern Lake district and bought a half section of land from Ed Pearson. Alex still farms there. Alice passed away May 12, 1961.

Gerald married Elizabeth (Betty) Tulik on July 2, 1958. They have made their home in Daysland. They have four children: Kevin, Alvin, Beverly and Wayne.

Allan works for Shell Oil Exploration. His job takes him to many different parts of the world besides Canada. Sometimes Allan takes time off and come home to help his dad with farming, during the busy times of the year.

Eunice chose being a "Nurse's Assistant" as her career. She worked in the Wetaskiwin hospital for a number of years. She passed away July 9, 1979.

Karpowich, Mike and Maria

Mike Karpowich was born in Nanowitza, Austria in 1860. Mary Karpowich (Demczyk) was born in Hrabowitz, Austria in 1871. They were married in 1888 and lived in Hrabowitz, Austria. Four children

were born before immigrating to Canada. The oldest son Dmytro died at birth. John was born in 1897, Katie in 1899 and William in 1903. Their first homestead was in Burford, now known as Thorsby in 1904. While living in Buford, children were born, Anne in 1904, Eva in 1906, Alex in 1908, George in 1910, Helen in 1912, Steve in 1916 and Henry in 1918. Eva passed away in 1912. In April 1918 the family moved to the Hay Lakes district, NE 10-48-22-W4. As all pioneers the family worked very hard, clearing the bush with oxen and horses. They built a log house. Mike also worked at the Railroad and coal mine. Maria was a mid-wife and helped many new born children into the world in the Hay Lakes area.

In 1928 John Karpowich passed away and in 1930 his brother George.



Mike Karpowich Family. Standing: Alex Karpowich, Julia Filas, Henry Karowich, Anne McLeod, Alice Karpowich, Steve Karpowich, Katie Radawetz, Anne Karpowich, Bill Karpowich. Seated: Maria Karpowich, Mike Karpowich, Julius Radawetz.

Katie married Julius Radawetz in 1918. They had fourteen children. Five children are deceased, the others live in various parts of Alberta and B.C.

Bill and his wife Annie live in Edmonton. They have two children. John and his wife Bonnie and their daughter Pamelee live in California, U.S.A. Nick passed away in 1974. He lived in Vancouver.

Anne, Mrs. Eric Beck lives in Kelowna. She was married to Sam Dragon. She had two children. Edward lives in Vancouver and Jean lives in Calgary.

Helen, Mrs. Frank Wallace lives in Edmonton. She has one daughter. Lillian is married to Andy Kosowan, and lives in Edmonton and has three children, Eugene, Kathy and Nancy.

Alex lives at Bittern Lake, he was married to Alice Galenza. They had three children. Alice passed away in 1961.

Gerald and his wife Betty live in Daysland, they

have four children, Kevin, Alvin, Beverly and Wayne. Allan works for Shell Oil and lives at home. Eunice passed away in 1979.

Henry married Julia Filas July 28, 1951. As a result of a highway truck accident, Henry died October 4, 1951. Their son Kenneth farms at Millet.

The family were members of the Ukrainian Holy Cross Catholic Church.

Mike is remembered as being a medium built man with outstanding grey wavy hair, and heavy mustache. He was an easy going tempered person and a very hard worker.

Maria was a short, stocky lady, hard worker with strong beliefs in life, and a faithful church member.

Mike Karpowich passed away February 2, 1953 at the age of 92. Maria passed away February 15, 1953.

Karpowich, Steve and Lucy

Steve is the son of Mike and Marie Karpowich. Lucy is the daughter of Fred and Caroline Rubis, both of Hay Lakes. They were married at the Holy Cross Catholic Church on June 23, 1951. They lived on the home place, NE 10-48-22-W4 which has been owned by the family since 1916 and farmed two adjoining quarters. They sold their farms in 1978 to Sampson Tribal Enterprize, except for the yard site which they still own as an acreage. At present they make their home at Sherwood Park.

They have five children — Carolyn, Donna, Linda, Randy and Theresa. All the children attended school at Hay Lakes.

Carolyn, Mrs. Ryan lives in Sherwood Park. She has three children Jason, Carmen and Corey. Carolyn is employed as manageress at a hotel lounge.

Donna lives in Vancouver, B.C. Since grade twelve at Hay Lakes Donna has attended Mount Royal College in Calgary for 2 years, taking Interior Design, one year at the University of Manitoba, worked two years for the Government of Alberta — Alberta housing, has taken an architect course in Denmak, Europe and travelled to many different countries. At present she is taking an architect course at the B.C. Institute of Technology, and working for an architect firm.

Linda attended two years Alberta University at Camrose College, two years at Victoria, B.C. and one year in Calgary. She has a Bachelor of Social Work degree and at present is working for Social Services in Calgary.

Randy has worked for several years for oil companies. At present he owns a trucking business, and works for oil companies at Rainbow Lake, Alberta.

Theresa has attended Bonnie Doon High School in Edmonton. She has worked for Parks and Recrea-

tion Department in Edmonton, ski resorts and presently is at Sunshine Village at Banff.

Klein, John and Anna

John and Anna Klein were married in Wetaskiwin in 1904. They lived in Edmonton the first winter and then moved to their homestead on S.W. 22-48-22. John built a log shack with a sod roof and then he went back to work in a brickyard while Anna stayed on the homestead. They had cleared some land and seeded it. The Indian people were very good to John and Anna, giving them a few chickens, a pig and also their first milk cow. John repaid them by helping them with their problems. They appointed him Chief and he acted as advisor to them by settling estates helping with taxes and other legal problems they did not understand.



Mr. and Mrs. John Klein.

Their first daughter Anne was born at home in 1906, Kate in 1907, Joe in 1909, Julia in 1910, and Rudolf in 1920.

In 1913 John Klein, Robert and Alex McLeod formed the board of the Big Hay Lakes school district. Anne, Kate and Joe Klein started school in about 1917 at Big Hay Lakes with Miss Eva Symington as their first teacher. Sometimes Felix Whitebear, an Indian friend would come along with his beautiful horse and toboggan and give them a ride



Children of Mr. and Mrs. John Klein. Back Row: Joe and Rudolph. Front Row: Ann, Jewell, Kay 1960.

home from school. The children had many good times skating on the lake.

John was hurt in an accident with a horse and after that it was hard for him to do any heavy work. Anna and the children had to do more of the hard work on the farm as John got worse. When flu struck the family in 1918 Dr. Norby from Camrose came to help.

In 1920 they sold the farm to Charles Meketsell and moved to a farm in the Lundemo district by Armena. They lived there until 1943 when they left the farm to Rudy and moved to Camrose. John Klein passed away in 1952 at the age of 72 and Anna passed away in 1965 at the age of 90.

Kosovich, Dmytro (Mike)

Dmytro (Mike) Kosovich was born in Zabloto, Austria on November 15, 1886. He was the eldest of the family of four. He served in the army for three years before he immigrated to Canada in 1910.

He made his first home for the summer with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hamula who at that time resided on the N.W. 12-48-22. In the winter months he worked in the coal mines in the Edson-Nordegga areas.

He bought his first homestead S.E. 9-48-22 in 1913. In 1914 he brushed some land and started on his log house. While brushing, he cut his foot and was taken to a hospital in Camrose where he remained for several weeks. A twelve bed hospital in Camrose had been opened about two years before, with Dr. P. F. Smith in charge of the patients. Dmytro was fortunate that there was a hospital so close. After being



Dmytro Kosovich Family 1938. Back Row: Olga, Eva, Annie, Mary, William. Front Row: Dmytro, Alice, Rose.

released from the hospital he came back to the Hamula residence. He stayed with them till his foot got better and he was able to work and finish building his house.

On November 11, 1915 he married Rose Sych. They were married by Father Hura at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kowal. At that time there was no Ukrainian Catholic church in the community.

The groom's attendants were John Kuzio, cousin of the bride, and Fred Sandulak, cousin of the groom. The bride's maids were Jennie Maruschak (Schurek) and Mary Willisko (Starcheski).

After they were married, Dmytro went to work in the mine while his wife stayed with her parents over winter.

In the spring of 1916 they moved to their own home with a team of horses, a wagon, two cows, one pig and twelve chickens.

He cleared more land during the summer months and went back to the coal mine for the winter months.

He did this for a few years, till he was able to buy some farm machinery and get more land cleared.

In 1921 he bought the S.E. 16-48-22 from Felix Whitebear. Three years later Peter Buss and Dmytro bought the N.E. 9-48-22 together. When Peter Buss retired, he sold his share to Dmytro.

Rose Kosovich (Sych) was born in Yuroslow, Austria, on October 14, 1897. She was the second eldest in the family of six children. The family immigrated to Leduc in 1902. They moved to Hay Lakes in the fall of 1903. They lived with John Galenza family over winter and until they built their own first log house with a sod roof.

Rose received no schooling at all, because her father said that girls didn't need an education as long as they could cook, sew, and keep house.

Dmytro and Rose had six children, Annie, Mary, Eva, William (Bill), Olga, and Alice.

Annie was born on December 10, 1916. She married Morris Aspell.

Mary was born on April 16, 1918. She married Ted Berkholtz.

Eva was born on September 24, 1920. She married Manfred Moran.

Then came the only boy in the family William (Bill) on August 1, 1923.

Olga was born on December 14, 1924. She married Paul Schweitzer.

The last girl, Alice, was born on June 1, 1928. She married Carl Kolodychuk.

Dmytro passed away on November 7, 1943. Rose farmed with her son William (Bill) till 1975. On October 20, 1975, she moved to the Stoney Creek Lodge. She passed away March 24, 1981.

William married Elna Boris, August 2, 1975. He still lives on the homestead that was his father's. He also has the other half section of land.

Linden, Nels

Nels Linden was born March 7, 1870 at Laksand Dalarna, Sweden. Leaving home at the early age of 14 years, he learned the trade of stone mason and carpentry also architect. In 1893 he immigrated to the U.S.A.

December 30, 1897 Nels married Aina Waxlax in Two Harbors, Minnesota who immigrated 1894 with her family from a Swedish settlement near Runsor, Finland.

In 1905, Mr. Linden returned to Canada and bought the N.E. 23-47-23. He came to Canada with his wife and two sons, Sigurd Nels and Gunnar, landing at Wetaskiwin on March 6, 1906. To this union six more children were born, Hugo, William, Agnes (Mrs. Sven Dahlberg) Ellen (Mrs. Hans Beck) Richard and Lenin.

Nels Linden homesteaded the S.E. 22-48-22. In the fall after freeze up he would commute from their home now owned by daughter Agnes and Sven Dahlberg to the homestead mostly on skates, as there were so many lakes. He sold this land to the Schoenknechts. About 1917 or 1918 he bought more land closer to home.

Being a carpenter and with the family growing it was decided a new house was needed. Nels made the blue prints and with the help of his sons and others moved into his new house in December 1923. The lumber was hauled by teams wagon and sleighs from Sanfred Nelson saw mill at Yoeford. All the finishing lumber Nels hand planed and sanded. He was a noted seed grower and won many prizes with grain samples at fairs in Alberta, Toronto and Chicago. In 1931,



Nels Linden Family 1947. Back Row: Hugo, Richard, Lenin, Sigurd, Willie, Gunnar. Seated: Ellen, Nels, Aina, Agnes.

Nels won the Robertson Associate Token Award, being one of the first three Canadians to receive this the highest award from the Canadian Seed Growers Association.

Nels Linden passed away September 28, 1949; Mrs. Linden January 8, 1953; Sigurd on January 1, 1974; Hugo April 11, 1972; and William on September 27, 1965.

Malik, Peter by Ed Malik

Peter and Annie Malik had a small farm in Barycz A.D. pere-myshl in Austria. Peter served in the German Austrian Army. When he completed his military training he was decorated by King Frantz Joseph himself and discharged. Then he came home and sold his farm and moved to Canada in 1901. The family crossed the Atlantic on the C.P.R. ship called the Carl E. Sotzky. They then took the train from Halifax and headed for Edmonton, Alberta. They lived one year at Edmonton Immigration Building. Then they filed for a homestead in the Thorsby area.

In 1914 they came to the Hay Lakes area, where Peter and his family farmed the S.W. 14-48-22 until Peter passed away in 1920. Annie lived with her son William until 1932 when she passed away.

Peter had no brothers, but only three sisters, cousins, and uncles. Steven Malik lives in Williamsfield, Ohio. Mike Malik lives at Brightstone Manitoba and was farming there. His sons William and E. Malik are at Lac Du Bonnet, Manitoba. George Malik lived in Philidelphia, Penn. and was a steam engineer.

Annie's maiden name was Ciz. Her dads name was Alexander. She had one step-brother John, two real brothers George and Fred, and two sisters Katie



Peter and Annie Malik.

and Pearl. George Ciz bought a fishing boat in Barycz and went down the river all the way to Hambug and came to Canada.

Peter and Annie had five daughters and two sons. The girls are Katie, Eve, Pearl, Anastasia, and Mary. The boys are William and George.

Katie and Pearl never did come to Canada, they passed away back home.

Eva married Alexander Fedina and live in the Calmar area. Now they have retired to Edmonton.

Anastasia married Martin Galenza and lived north of Bittern Lake. Now she has lived in Camrose for many years.

Mary married Polidrous Vaseilla. He was born in Athens, Greece and was captain on a ship and had travelled all around the world. He quit his job and bought his own coffee shop and pool room at 41 Howard Street in Edmonton. Then he sold that and later bought the Maple Leaf Cafe on 101 street. He operated that for many years until he passed away.

George was born on board the ship when they came to Canada. He lived one year, then passed away.

William married Maria Onyschuk, they lived together with William's mother.

Malik, William by Ed Malik

William was born in Barycz A. D. Peremyphl in Austria and came to Canada with his parents. William played the violin at house parties and halls with a group as well as by himself. He also owned a racing car in his early days of his life.

In 1927 William married Maria Onyschuk in Edmonton. They lived on the farm with William's mother for a few years until she passed away.

Maria Onyschuk was born in Zaliska Wala A.D. Jarslaw East Austria. Her mother passed away at her young age. Her dad's name was John. Her dad was in the Austrian Army and saw King Frantz Joseph during World War I. Her dad was a Justice of Peace in the village where they lived. They had 25 hectares or 62 acres, but it wasn't all in one piece or place.

In 1926 Maria came to Canada because her uncle Henry Onyschuk was in Edmonton. Her uncle worked in the Black Diamond coal mine, which is now known as the Beverly area. When Maria came to Edmonton she started to work at private homes as a maid, until her uncle found her a job at the General Hospital. She worked there until she got married.

Maria had two sisters Nettie, and Kate, and one brother Peter. One of her sisters is in Manitoba, the other sister is in the old country, and their brother died at four years of age.

In 1934 William and Maria sold their land to Emile Wichman and then they moved to the Clover Lawn area. They had only rented a yard for three years from Gus Knopp.

In November of 1937 they bought one quarter N.E. 13-48-23, from Louise Carter. Mr. Letourneau drilled a well in the summer of 1937 for them. They built a two room house in the fall and moved into their own home before Christmas.

During the winter dad and Mike Babiuk cleared 24 acres and the next summer Joe Schurek broke it. Later Alf Marrant broke 14 acres more with his old Rumley. Then dad brushed and mom piled brush on piles, about thirteen acres. The rest of the land was cleared by bulldozers.

In the fall of 1938 Alex Babuick, Mike Babiuk and dad built a straw barn that stood until 1965. Mr. Adolph Metzker built a windmill for their well.

In 1943 they bought the S.E. 24-48-23, and their third farm in 1950 S.W. 19-48-22. William and Maria now had three quarters of land. So Maria was happy that they had their own land at last for once. She loved farming although the work was hard for her. They raised cattle, pigs, chickens, and thousands of turkeys.



William Malik Family. Standing is Ed. Seated: William, Alice, Maria.



Edward and Sylvia Malik.

They had two children Alice and Ed. They went to the Big Hay Lakes School. Alice married Peter Maruchak and lives at Bittern Lake. They have three children Gloria, Colleen and Darren.

Ed married Joan Sylvia Lazowski of Radway. They lived together with Ed's parents until 1973 when the folks moved to Wetaskiwin to retire.

There is a registered Coat of Arms for the Malik name that dates back to the year 1100 A.D. In that year one member of the Malik family was knighted and received a coat of arms. There are three nationalities in our ancestry, Ukrainian, German and Irish.

In 1973 Ed and Sylvia went into dairying, also grain and hay farming. Ed had worked out as a heavy equipment operator for Pan Arctic oils and has been in the high Arctic Islands, such as Rea Point, Prince Patrick Island, Sabine Bay, Hecla Ice, Sophie point, Johnsons point, Cameron Island and Vaniar Island. He also worked at a drill site on the Arctic ocean. At that point they were 25 miles from shore and the water was 1,100 feet deep. Ed was there when it was dark both day and night and also when it was daylight for 24 hours a day. He saw both sides of the "Land of the Midnight Sun". He flew in and worked for two weeks then was out here for one week. He has been only a few hundred miles from the north pole. He operated bulldozers, trucks, graders, and forklifts.

He also worked for Imperial oil in the Beauford Sea area on the Mackenzie Delta sometimes called the Eastern slopes. He now owns and operates his logging truck.

Meketsell, Charles

Charles Meketsell come to Canada as a young boy of sixteen years. He worked his way across Canada starting in the east and going west. By the time he was twenty-five years old he was a section foreman for the C.N.R. railway. His section was from Camrose to Hay Lakes.

In 1914 Harry Rubis and his family settled in the Ellswick district. Here Charles met Annie Rubis whom he married in 1916. They made their home in Camrose, which at that time was only a box car on the side track. They lived there for five years. Mary, Lena and John were born in Camrose.

About 1920 the family moved to Spedden where Charles again was section foreman for the C.N.R. Peter and Alice were born at Spedden.

In 1925 Charles decided to quit the railway and move to Hay Lakes. He bought the S.W. 22-48-22 from John Klein and started farming. Like everyone else in those days the family had to work hard to make a living. Land had to be cleared and improvements made. There were good times and bad times



Charlie Meketsell Family 1919. Back Row: Charlie, Annie and John. Front Row: Mary, Lena.

on the farm and by having good neighbors and many friends everyone was quite happy. There were a lot of get togethers for parties. Time went quickly.

As the years went by and they came of school age Mary, Lena, John, Peter and Alice went to Big Hay Lake school which was about two and a half miles south-west from their home. After school and on week-ends the children helped work on the farm by doing chores and any other work that they were able to do.

Tony was the last addition to the family and was born at Hay Lakes.

In November 1937, Mary married Peter Pasula and went to live on the Pasula farm three and a half miles south of Hay Lakes. Their children are Gladys, Sylvia, Alvin, Eileen and Linda.

Lena married Raymond Poyser in 1944 and they had three children; Bernice, Kenny and Betty. Bernice passed away in 1969.

John married Katie Marusak in 1939 and they had two boys, Dennis and Jerry. Dennis passed away in 1946.

Peter worked in the Yale Hotel in Edmonton as a desk clerk for a number of years. He passed away in 1947.

Alice married Dave Willisko in June 1943. At



Charlie Meketsell Family 1947. Charlie, Lena, John, Alice, Tony, Mary, Pete, Annie.

that time Dave worked in the coal mine at Round Hill. Later they moved to a farm at Armena where their three girls Diane, Marilyn and Darlene were born. They now reside in Camrose.

Mr. and Mrs. Meketsell were left on the farm with Tony. Mr. Meketsell decided to rent the farm to Jack Berkholtz and to take a job as a boiler man with an oil rig. After a few yers they sold the farm to Edwin Schoenknecht and moved to Edmonton.

Tony passed away in October of 1963.

Charles Meketsell passed away in August of 1971, at the age of eighty-two years.

Annie Meketsell passed away in August of 1976, at the age of seventy-eight years.

Metzker, Alvin

I was born to Amalia and Otto Metzker on August 17, 1939, their fifth and last child. My growing up years were spent on the family farm, helping in the field and doing chores. In spring, I hunted muskrats as a pastime. My schooling was in the Harvest Home and Gwynne School area. From there, I went to Camrose College. I married Edie, born in 1943, second daughter of Ewald and Frieda Herzog, in 1962. She also lived in the Hay Lakes area, and was working for Vern Nordin in Vern's General Store, when I met her. After our wedding, we moved to our home quarter, just one mile west of the Otto Metzker home quarter. The land I am living on was first farmed by Mr. McGinnis from 1920-1926. Mr. McGinnis sold the land in 1926 to Mr. and Mrs. John Olson, who came all the way from Gull Lake, Saskatchewan. They farmed the quarter of land until 1932, when it was sold to Harry and Pete Christianson. Mr. and Mrs. Christianson and Pete, a bachelor, farmed here until 1961, when it was sold to Mr. Otto Metzker. In 1962, it was signed over to us, where we are still living today. The location is SE 5-48-22-W4.

Our land is quite sandy, it absorbs quite a bit of moisture, which makes it good for grain farming.

We have three children. Sandra was born in 1962, she's finished school and is working in Camrose.

Brent was born in 1964, is going to high school in Wetaskiwin. His hobby is buying Volkswagons and converting them into dune buggy's. It's turning into a good money making project.

Barbie, our youngest, born in 1970, is going to school in Gwynne.

For a hobby and pastime, I enjoy fishing and hunting ducks. We have been planting rainbow trout in our slough for five years now. Their meat is as good as salmon, when they are netted out in the fall. We plant them in early May, when they are about eight inches long. In October, when they are netted out, they can be up to seventeen or eighteen inches long.

My wife, Edie, spends quite a bit of her time at the sewing machine in the winter. In the summer, she enjoys her gardening and flowers. We built a hot-house last year, which is solar heated. The cantaloupe grown in there last year tasted better than the store bought ones, as were the tomatoes from plants which grew over seven feet high.

Our farm is mixed, some dairy farming and some mixed grain.

Metzker, Otto and Amalia

Otto was born in 1904 to Andrew Metzker and Emelia Vogel. Otto and Amalia Metzker born 1907 (Metzker) were married in Poland on March 24th 1929. For their honeymoon, they came by ship to Canada. They arrived in Canada May 11, 1929, where Pastor Goos met them and brought them out to the Rosenthal farm, which is across the road from Milroys. Amalia worked for Emil Rosenthal as a maid for three months, while Otto helped brush the land with the other men. Then they worked for Buster Blakely while they lived on Buster Blakely's quarter, which is now owned by Otto and Amalia's youngest son, Alvin. Living conditions weren't really the best in those days, and the gophers decided to rule the roost, so, Otto and Amalia lived upstairs in the house, and the gophers occupied the main floor. Later, they moved to a new house on the land which their oldest son, Waldemar, is now living on. This they rented from Adolph Lechelt, and they only lived there for a short while. This time, Otto worked for Adolph Busenius.

In 1936, they bought the land, N.E. 33-47-22-W4, which is now the home quarter that their middle son, Alfred, lives on. This they bought from Victor Paradis. Wages were much different than they are now. Amalia worked for Mr. and Mrs. Ed Knopp for



1936 — Mrs. Otto Metzker in the car. Anne, Waldemar and Alfred sitting on sacks of potatoes. The car is beside the house where Waldemar was born in 1931.

\$15.00 a month, which at that time was a fairly good wage. Otto and Amalia worked at Gerappe's for about two years. Their oldest daughter, Ann, was born there.

The same year, they worked for Rudolph Schoenknecht for the spring work. Later on, Mr. Lechelt needed men to help him brush his land, so Otto worked there, helping clear the land. The next year, Otto rented the land from Mr. Lechelt, and moved on to it in 1930. There, Waldemar and Alfred were born. This land is now owned by their son, Waldemar.

Otto and his family farmed there until 1936, when they decided to buy and move to Paradis, which became their home place. There, Gerty and Alvin were born. They built a new barn there, and in 1949, they built a new house. In 1959, Otto and Amalia flew to Germany to visit with old friends and relatives. In 1965, Otto and Amalia bought a house in Camrose, and moved in the same fall, when they retired.

Their family and friends were deeply shocked when Otto passed away suddenly on July 1, 1972. Amalia has now adjusted to a life by herself and still lives in their same home, where her children visit her frequently. She is very healthy and very active with her sewing and other crafts.

In 1973, Amalia flew to Germany with her niece and daughter from Edmonton. They were there for six weeks, visiting Amalia's sisters and other relatives. In the summer of 1974, Amalia's two sisters, one from East Germany and one from West Germany, flew to Vancouver, to Adolph and Emilie Metzkers, brother and sister-in-law of Amalia. From there, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Metzker drove them through Banff and Jasper, and to the Hay Lakes and Camrose district. There, they were greeted by all of Amalia's children and grandchildren. They visited all the children on their farms and were really amazed

at all the wide open spaces and beautiful countryside. They took home with them, along with fond memories, twigs of spruce trees and flower slips which are so much different than their own.

Ann, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Metzker, is married to Jack Berkholtz, and they have recently moved to Camrose. Their son, Dwayne, is farming on the home place. They have three children — Dwayne, Neil and Sheila. Sheila and Neil are both working in Edmonton, where they live.

Waldemar is married to Margaret (Budd). They have three children, — Terry, Cindy and Kenny. Waldemar and Marget are farming one and a half miles east of the home place.



1936 — Waldemar, Anne and Alfred Metzker.

Alfred is living on the home place, farming the land and raising beef cattle. Alfred enjoys curling and belongs to the Hay Lakes Curling Club.

Gerty is married to Ron Zucht, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zucht of Hay Lakes. Ron works for a gas company in Olds, where they also live. They have two girls, Lori and Shelley.

Alvin, the youngest, is married to Edie (Herzog) and are dairy farmers, living one mile west of the home place. They also have three children, — Sandra, Brent and Barbara.

The Milroys

Alexander Milroy was born July 12, 1879 in Borgue, Scotland. In 1902 he came to Canada with his brother James. He farmed and was a gardener in Midway B.C. In 1912 he married Elizabeth Stewart at

Greenwood B.C. Elizabeth was born August 27, 1880 in Kirkcudbright, Scotland.

Their first child John was born February 28, 1913 in Chesaw, Washington. They moved to the Bittern Lake area soon after. Gilbert was born June 20, 1914; William, September 20, 1915; Margaret, November 19, 1916; and Grace on July 4, 1918.



Mrs. Elizabeth Milroy with children William, Margaret, John, Gilbert.

In 1934 the family moved to the present Milroy home place, the S.W. 3-48-22. Elizabeth Milroy passed away on June 16, 1942 after a lengthy illness. William joined the army in 1942. He was seriously wounded in battle on September 2 and died September 29, 1944.

Margaret, the oldest daughter, married Ralph Welda in 1942. They farm in the Armena district. They have four children, Susan Ramm of Edberg, Arthur of Edmonton, and James and Brian of Armena.

Alexander was well known for his gardening and was active until his death on July 19, 1968 at the age of 89 years.



Alex Milroy at 88 years

Grace resides on the family farm with her father and brothers. In 1958 she became a victim of multiple sclerosis. She became a resident of Bethany Nursing Home, Camrose on September 8, 1963. The illness crept through her body and left her weak and bedridden. Despite her illness she was cheerful and interested in life. She passed away on January 12, 1981 at 63 years of age.

Gilbert and John reside at the home place and are farming.



Grace Milroy 1977.

Victor Paradis Family

Victor Paradis, a brother-in-law of Joseph Cowan came to Alberta from Brandon, Manitoba in about 1890. He settled in the Big Hay Lakes district on the N.W. 2-48-22. He married Josephine Lesperance, a sister of Philomene Cowan and Delvina La Claire. They had no children so they adopted a little boy whom they named Henry Paradis. Later Henry married Josephine Paul. They had four children, two died in infancy.

After Paradis sold their first quarter of land they moved to the N.E. 33-47-22, where Alfred Metzker now lives. While they were living here Mrs. Paradis passed away. She is buried in Duhamel. Victor moved back to Manitoba where he had relatives.

Henry Paradis grew up to be a very good violin player. He played by ear. He, Ted Dumon and Pat Paul, Henry's brother-in-law, played for many dances and parties thus adding greatly to the social life on the community in those days.

Henry's later years were spent working in Edmonton. His son George and daughter Rosann Keipke also lived in Edmonton. At present we do not know where they are residing.

Fred and Caroline Rubis Family

Fred Rubis is the eldest son of six children born to Harry and Katherine Rubis. In 1905, at the age of nine years, he accompanied his parents from Barcz, Austria to Winnipegosis, Manitoba, where his family resided until 1913 when they moved to the Ellswick district.

Fred farmed with his father and for three years was also employed with the C.N.R. as a section man in Camrose. During this time, Fred walked home on the weekends to do the farming.

In 1924, while working on a threshing crew, he met Caroline Pasula. On August 1, 1925, Fred and Caroline both of the Ellswick district, were married in the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church in Camrose. It was a bright and warm summer day and the wedding was attended by many family members of both the Pasula and Rubis families. Caroline was attended by bridesmaids Maggie Gorowich (nee Mostowich) and Stella Marek (nee Pelz). Fred was attended by bestmen Victor Pelz and Mike Famulak. The wedding party as well as immediate family members attended an afternoon dinner at the farm home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Domacila Pasula. This was followed by an outdoor dance in the evening which was attended by all relatives and neighbours. The wedding reception was an

outdoor banquet which was held on Sunday, August 2nd at the Pasula farm. There were approximately 100 relatives and friends in attendance. Fred and Caroline did not have a honeymoon. The next day being Monday they commenced work on the farm. Caroline is the third eldest of eight children born to Joseph and Domacila Pasula who were early pioneers of the Ellswick district.

Following their marriage, Fred and Caroline resided with Fred's father, Harry Rubis, for seven months until March, 1926, when they purchased their own farm in the Big Hay Lake district. Their belongings which they moved to their farm consisted of two horses, wagon, plow, harrows and two cows. Although their farm was a quarter section of land only eleven acres had been broken, combined with several acres of hay meadow. Much of the land was initially cleared by hand and with horses. However, later a tractor and a breaking plow were used. Through continuous hard work almost all of their quarter section was cleared and seeded in crop in later years.

Five children were born to Fred and Caroline; two sons and three daughters. The eldest child, Leo, was born September 27, 1926. Peter was born December 18, 1928 and passed away as an infant March 17, 1929. Lucy, the eldest daughter was born May 13, 1931. Mary was born August 27, 1937 and Patricia was born February 12, 1946. All of the children attended the Big Hay Lake School which was one mile south and one mile west of their farm.

Both Fred's and Caroline's memories of their lifestyle on the farm are closely associated with animals, agriculture, the family and community relationships. Horses were used to farm the land until the late 1940's. They became very attached to many of their horses and when compared to a tractor they certainly had much more character. Some of the names of their horses were "Jerry, Dolly, Jim, Frank, Bessie, Prince. Fred also had a keen interest in dogs and his dedication in handling them paid dividends as they were very useful in assisting with many tasks on the farm.

Caroline has always had an interest and a special skill in cooking. She is known for her ability to prepare a delicious meal in a matter of minutes. Like most pioneer women, Caroline worked equally hard outside the home in the fields, garden, and doing the chores. Throughout the majority of their years on the farm, Caroline raised turkeys, geese, ducks, and chickens which she sold in Hay Lakes and Edmonton.

Like much of the land in the district their quarter section (NW 15-48-22 W4) consisted of very good soil, and when the weather co-operated some excel-



August 1, 1925. From L. to R.: Fred Rubis — the groom, Victor Pelz, Michael Famulak, Maggie Mostowich, Stella Pelz. Seated: Caroline Rubis (nee Pasula).

lent crops of exceptionally high yields were produced. Unfortunately, the weather conditions were not always co-operative as there were the dry years of the 1930's as well as some years of destruction by hail. However both Fred and Caroline recall their excellent relationships with friends and neighbours which made the difficult years easier to cope with. During these years all farms were much smaller than they are at present and there was much more neighbourliness and community socializing than there seems to be today.

Fred was the school secretary at the Big Hay Lake School throughout the years of 1928, 29, and 30. He was also a member of the Farmers' Union and attended regular meetings at the Big Hay Lake School.

Caroline was an active member of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League from 1949 to 1962 during which time she was the president for three years. The children enjoyed gathering with neighbours on Sundays and particularly community picnics when the ball game was the centre of attraction. Participation of all members of the Rubis family was very much a part of the lifestyle in the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church. One of the annual traditional events which took place at the Rubis home was a gathering of relatives and friends to celebrate Ukrainian Christmas.

Fred and Caroline farmed in the Big Hay Lake district for forty-two years until their retirement. They sold their farm and purchased a house in Camrose where Fred was employed during the evenings as the caretaker of the Camrose Swimming Pool. In 1969 Fred retired due to ill health. Following their move to Camrose, Caroline was employed in restaurants until 1975. Even after the sale of their farm, they continued to feel very much a part of the farm community. They continued to attend church at the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church and were thus able to maintain community relationships.

One of the more memorable occasions of recent history for Fred and Caroline was on August 2, 1975 when they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in Camrose. An afternoon blessing at the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Camrose was attended by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In the evening Fred and Caroline were honored at a banquet and a dance which was attended by 150 relatives and friends. Their first grandchild, Lorne Rubis, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. All of their original bridesmaids and best-men accompanied Fred and Caroline. This celebration was a very memorable and joyous occasion for both Fred and Caroline and their family. Congratulatory messages were received from:

- Hon. J. Leger, Governor General of Canada.
- Hon. Peter Lougheed, Premier of Alberta.
- Hon. Ralph Steinhauer, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.
- Hon. Robert L. Stanfield, Leader of the Opposition.
- Arnold Malone, M.P. Battle River.
- R. P. "Rudy" Swanson, Mayor of the City of Camrose.

A scroll and a blessing from Pope Paul the VIth was also received.

All of their lives Fred and Caroline have valued and enjoyed their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. All of their four children are married and have children. As a result Fred and Caroline have fourteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, the majority of which reside in the Edmonton area.



Family of Fred and Caroline Rubis, taken on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. From L. to R., Back Row: Patricia Millar, Mary Trach, Leo Rubis, Lucy Karpowich. Front Row: Caroline and Fred Rubis.

Their eldest child; Leo, married Mary Mazur of Vilna June 1, 1948 and they have two children; Lorne and Darryl. Leo and Mary farmed in the Hay Lakes district until 1957 when they moved to Edmonton where Leo commenced employment in the hotel business. At present, Leo is a well known hotel manager in Edmonton. Both Lorne and Darryl are married. Lorne and Kathleen reside in Edmonton and have two daughters; Keely and Jillian. Darryl and Katy presently reside in Kingston, Ontario where Darryl is attending Queens University.

Lucy married Steve Karpowich of Hay Lakes

June 23, 1951. They have five children; Carolyn, Donna, Linda, Randy, and Theresa. Steve and Lucy farmed in the Hay Lakes district until 1974 when they moved to Edmonton. Carolyn resides in Sherwood Park and has three children; Jason and twins Corey and Carmen. Donna resides in Vancouver, Linda in Calgary, Randy in Rainbow Lake and Theresa in Banff. At present Lucy and Steve make their home in Sherwood Park. Steve is employed at the Gulf Oil Refinery and Lucy is employed part-time in the catering business.

Mary married Joe Trach of New Sarepta October 25, 1956. Joe has always been employed in the oil industry, and they reside in Calgary. Joe is presently the manager of field services at a gas plant near Calgary and Mary is employed in a drugstore. They have five children; three daughters and two sons. At present Deborah, Laura, and Barbara are employed in Calgary and Regan and Colin attend school.

Patricia married George Millar of Edmonton August 16, 1969 and they have two sons; Lee and Blair. Patricia is a nurse and employed part-time in the operating room at the Edmonton General Hospital. George is a Social Worker in Edmonton. At present, Patricia and George reside on an acreage south of Sherwood Park.

On October 7, 1975, Fred suffered a stroke causing partial paralysis which precipitated their move to Edmonton where they purchased a home. Until June 1980, Caroline managed to care for Fred at home, however due to two major surgical operations, Fred has since been hospitalized at the Edmonton General Hospital.

Both Fred and Caroline, as well as their children, have fond memories of their many years on the farm in the Hay Lakes district. "There were happy times, and sad times, but due to our association with such good neighbours the happy times are remembered vividly". Although Fred and Caroline presently reside in Edmonton, their hearts are still on the farm.

Rubis Leo

Leo Rubis was born in the Hay Lakes district in 1926. He is the son of Fred and Caroline Rubis.

Leo attended Big Hay Lake school. He married Mary Mazur of Vilna, Alberta on June 1, 1947. They bought a farm S.W. 23-48-22 from Adolph Busenius in the fall of 1947. They moved on to the farm and that was their home until 1957. While living on the farm they had two boys; Lorne born in 1950 and Darryl born in 1953.

The Leo Rubis family now reside in Edmonton.

Schmidt, Gottlibbe and Emma

Gottlibbe was born in Poland and emigrated to Canada in the early 1900's. He married Emma Stelmaker in 1909. Emma was born in Russia and came to Canada with her family at the age of seven years. They made their first home a few miles northeast of New Sarepta — homesteading the land which is now owned by Howard Knull.

Six children arrived to share this pioneer home. Their firstborn was a daughter, Lydia on May 29, 1910, a son Arnold on November 11, 1911, Elsie on February 13, 1913, Gustav on April 19, 1914, August on February 20, 1916, and Otto on January 31, 1918.

In the spring of 1917 the family loaded their belongings into a wagon and prepared to move to their second home, SW4-48-22-W4 and NE5-48-22-W4. The first few days found them within a few miles of their new home but since the horses and livestock were exhausted due to the muddy road conditions, the family was invited to rest and spend the night at the Sam Berkholtz home which they gratefully accepted. Space was limited in this home but Gottlibbe and Emma and their family were made welcome in true pioneer fashion.

The Schmidts cleared the land on their half-section and broke it with a hand plow. They grew wheat and raised cattle and sheep. Emma turned her hand to gardening, and carding and spinning wool which she knit into warm socks and mitts for her family. She baked many loaves of bread, using flour milled from home-grown wheat. The wheat was taken by wagon to Wetaskiwin to be milled. This was an annual trip, usually made by several neighbours together. In 1937, Mr. Schmidt built a large house of lumber.

Their family grew by five new members — twins, Carl and Olga, born on September 27, 1921, Leo on September 25, 1923, Eddie on January 25, 1928, and their youngest child, Rosie, born on September 19, 1930. The children always had a warm house and plenty to eat due to the talents and efforts of their parents. They attended Big Hay Lake school, and one of their teachers was Mrs. Felix Whitebear



Leo Rubis Family 1976. Darryl, Leo, Lorne, Mary.

(Irene Luther). Gottlibbe and Emma lived at this location until 1947 when they sold their two farms to Julius Grams. They and their two younger children, Rose and Eddie, then moved to Vancouver where they spent their remaining years. Gottlibbe and Emma celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in 1959 and all but one son were able to attend the occasion. Gottlibbe passed away in 1963 at the age of seventy-five years, and Emma passed away in 1970 at the age of seventy-seven years.



Children of Gottlieb and Emma Schmidt taken in the early 1930's.

Their sons and daughters have made their homes in various parts of Alberta and British Columbia. Lydia (Mrs. Emil Vogel) farmed at Hobbema and Ponoka and she now lives at Kelowna with her husband. Arnold worked in British Columbia most of his life — including working on freighters. He passed away in 1979. Alice (Mrs. Gus Schmolan) farmed in the Ponoka district until 1973 — then moved to Kelowna where they still reside. Gustave worked at various jobs including Charlie Freeman's sawmill at Battle Lake. In 1940, he married Mary Druce of Tofield. They have continued to farm in that district and still reside on the farm. August makes his home in the Vancouver area where he worked for the American Canno Company for many years. Otto served in the Canadian Army, including duty overseas for two years. After leaving the Armed Forces he and his wife, May (a war bride), worked for a time in Alberta, then also took up residence in the Vancouver area where they still live. Olga (Mrs. Henry Schaffrick)

lived and farmed south of Hay Lakes for a number of years — then sold the farm and they now make their home in Kelowna. Carl farmed the home place for a time, then he left to make his home at Kelowna where he works in a sawmill. Leo served in the Canadian Army and after returning from overseas he worked at Kitimat, British Columbia. He and his wife now live at Kamloops. Eddie worked in Vancouver for a time, and now lives and works in the Kamloops district. Rosie worked for the Canadian Pacific hotels in Vancouver for many years and still resides in Vancouver.

Schoenknecht, Edwin

I, Edwin married Elsie Schmidt on June 17, 1952. Elsie is the only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schmidt who resided in the Falun area. She took her schooling in the Fletcher School.

We took over my father's farm in 1952 and are residing there at the present time.

In 1954 we purchased the SW 11-48-22 W4 and in 1960, we bought the SW 22-48-22 W4. That same year, in 1960 we started shipping milk in eight gallon cans to Wetaskiwin.

In 1971 we built a dairy barn with a milk house attached, installed a bulk tank and started shipping milk to N.A.D.P. in Camrose. I sold all the beef cattle and hogs so we have Holstein cattle only.

We built a new house in 1975, which is certainly a



Edwin Schoenknecht Family. Standing, L. to R.: Marilyn, Douglas, Elsie, Edwin. Sitting are Bonnie, Shelly and Allan. June 18, 1977. The 25th Wedding Anniversary of Ed and Elsie Schoenknecht.

pleasure from past ways. We take part in various community activities, including curling and softball. We are members of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

Bonnie, our eldest daughter, was born November 16, 1954. She attended Hay Lakes School and graduated in 1972. She married Bernie Anklam on June 7, 1975. She attended N.A.I.T. and trained at the Royal Alexandra Hospital to become a Laboratory Technologist, graduating in 1977. Bonnie is employed at the Newson Clinical Laboratory which is located in the Medical Arts Building in Edmonton. Her husband, Bernie is employed at Aerlite Products in Edmonton. They live on an acreage in the New Sarepta area and enjoy the country living there.

Allan, our oldest son, was born on February 20, 1956, and attended Hay Lakes School graduating in 1974. He married Brenda Aspenes on July 4, 1981. They live in Edmonton, where Brenda is in nurse's training at Grant MacEwan College. After attending college and working at several different jobs, Allan attended N.A.I.T. in a millwork and carpentry program and is employed as an apprentice carpenter in Edmonton. Allan is interested in many sports especially baseball and hopes to eventually own a farm as he enjoys rural life.

Marilyn, our third child was born on March 13, 1957 and graduated from Hay Lakes School in 1975. She became a Registered Nurse upon graduating from the Royal Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing in 1978. After working a year at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, she became the wife of Pastor Robert Kemppainen of Minneapolis, Minnesota. She moved to Hay Lakes where her husband is presently serving the parishes of Our Saviour and Wilhelmina. Marilyn is employed with Home Care Nursing and enjoys it very much.

Shelley, our youngest daughter was born on March 18, 1961. She graduated from Hay Lakes School in June of 1979. She worked at various jobs and moved to Edmonton in the fall of 1980 where she attended Alberta College, graduating with honors from the Receptionist-Switchboard Operator course. Shelley was then employed by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion up until the fall of 1981. She is presently attending N.A.I.T. as a student in the Dental Assisting Program.

Douglas, our youngest son, was born on August 30, 1966. He is presently attending Hay Lakes School. Doug is active in all sports but especially enjoys playing hockey and has attended hockey school the last two summers.

Schoenknecht, Rudolph by Edwin Schoenknecht

My father, Rudolph Schoenknecht was born on

August 22, 1888 in Kischken, Wolyn, Poland. On February 2, 1910 he married Julianne Bittner.

In 1912, they immigrated to Canada with one child, Elsie, and settled in the Strathcona district. He worked in Edmonton at various jobs. One of them included construction of the brewery which is located on the south side of the North Saskatchewan River. He liked farming, so they moved to the Rolly View district, where they farmed for three years.



Julianne and Rudolph Schoenknecht and Martha taken in 1930.

In 1917 they moved to the Hay Lakes district. He purchased the S.E. 22-48-22 where the land was cleared by hand with the help of horses.

In August 1952, my father passed away. My mother passed away July 6, 1971.

There were eight children born to the Schoenknecht family; two sons, William and Otto, passed away in infancy.

Elsie the oldest married Harry Nottell. They live in Vernon, B.C. and have two children, Freda and William.

Arthur is married to Vera Reznik. They live in Lac La Hache, B.C. and have three children, Shirley, Randy, and Larry.

Emillie (Millie) is married to Robert Fyles and



Children of Julianne and Rudolph Schoenknecht. Back Row: Arthur, Edwin, Lawrence. Front Row: Elsie Nottell, Millie Fyles, Martha Makus.

they reside in New Westminster, B.C. where he is employed as a welder. They have three daughters, Carol, Donna and Trudy.

Albert (Lawrence) is married to Doris Olson and they farm in the Armena district. They have three children, Ronald, Judy and Gladys.

Martha my youngest sister is married to Arnold Makus and they farm in the Ponoka district. They have four children, Barry, Barbra, Alvin and Jerry.

All of us took our schooling in the Big Hay Lakes School which was four miles from home. In winter we drove in our horse cutter to school. In summer, we walked to school as the horses were needed for field work.

Schurek, Anton and Ruth

Anton was born on January 17, 1911 at Buford, Alberta. When he was a very young lad he moved with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Schurek, to Camrose, Alberta, where he started school in the basement of the Normal School.

The year 1921, the family moved to Big Hay Lake district, where he continued his schooling. Anton farmed with his Dad and brother Joe until 1937 at which time he married Ruth Peterson of R.R. 1 Millet on November 1, 1937. We lived with his folks for one year until we built on our own farm, the former Peter Buss Farm N.W. 9-48-22. We have four children, Patricia, Eugene, Ken and Elaine.

Patricia was born April 28, 1938. She married George Schielke. They live on an acreage close to Bittern Lake. They have three children. Cheryl Lee, born February 22, 1959; married to Michael Wilke. They live in Calgary. Cheryl is an assistant Lawyer and Michael worked for A.G.T. John, born November 2, 1960, finished his schooling in Wetaskiwin

and is presently employed with his uncle, Ken Schurek, in construction work. Crystal was born October 23, 1967. She is still going to school at Gwynne and is very musical, playing the organ and saxophone.



Anton Schurek Family. Back Row: Patricia, Elaine, Kenneth, Eugene. Seated: Anton and Ruth on their 40th Anniversary.

Eugene Schurek was born August 13, 1941. He married Marianne McGowan August 29, 1970. Eugene is a foreman at Canada Packers Hatchery. He worked a number of years with the R.C.M.P. in Wetaskiwin and Camrose. Marianne is a Certified Nursing Aide and is presently working at Wetaskiwin General Hospital. They have two children; Michael, seven and Christopher, six. They both are attending Sacred Heart School.

Ken Schurek was born July 22, 1947. He married Deanne McKay December 28, 1968. Ken worked for Stelco, a few years, then took his city police training in Edmonton, graduating in December, 1969. He was with the city police force at Camrose till 1974, then purchased his own construction company. His wife Dianne owns and operates the Universal Bottle Depot in Camrose. They have three boys; Gregory eleven, Jeffrey ten, and Jason nine; all attend St. Pats school in Camrose.

Elaine Schurek, was born on February 6, 1951. She married Ivan Teall on July 24, 1970. Elaine is a mail person. She drove the mail truck for two years and now delivers mail. Ivan is presently employed with Canada Safeway. They have two children, Kirby age ten, in grade five, and Candice age seven, in grade two, at McMurds School in Wetaskiwin.

In 1946 Anton purchased the S.W. 9-48-22 from

Leo Berkholtz. We had many happy times on the farm, many parties and get togethers with family and friends. Many sad times also, as we seemed to be in a hail belt area and we got hailed many times. During the years on the farm we belonged to Alberta Farmers Union. We boarded the teachers for many years as we were close to the Big Hay Lakes School.

The joy of getting Calgary Power in 1953 and gas in 1969 was such a pleasure.

Anton and Joe and Alice were very musical, having their own orchestra and playing for weddings and dances, sometimes for nothing, and sometimes they got paid \$3.00 a piece.

In 1960 Anton purchased his Dad's farm. After the boys left on their own, we found it pretty hard to keep up with farming and constant shovelling snow, so decided to sell. On May 2, 1974, we had our auction sale. We sold the farm to J. Shaw of Edmonton. We are now residing at 5511-43 avenue in Wetaskiwin.

On August 15, 1977 Anton suffered a severe stroke, that left him partially paralyzed.

Sych, Harry

Harry Sych, born August 24, 1894 in Austria, immigrated to Canada in 1902 with his parents George and Mary Sych, and one sister Rose. They settled in Leduc area for one year and worked at various jobs in that area. In 1903 they moved to the Hay Lakes district onto N.E. 20-48-21 which was a homestead at that time. They set to work to build themselves a home which was a log shack with a sod roof.

Mrs. Harry Sych (Mary Sank) was born on February 5, 1900, in Poland, and came to Canada with her parents in 1902. They settled on the land where the Town of Devon is now situated.

Harry and Mary were married on July 24, 1918 and that same year purchased S.E. 4-48-22. They moved to a log house which was built by the Metis. They attended the Holy Cross Catholic Church. The first Parish Priest was Father Hura followed by Father Dydk; the first church was built by the community in 1921.

Harry cleared land by hand; broke it up by horses and walking plow. Mary drove the horses and Harry held the walking plow by the handles. The walking plow and the wagon were the first machinery which were gifts from his parents. They also received three horses and three cows to help them get started in farming. In 1920 they purchased a second quarter of C.P.R. land.

Mary's supermarket was a dug-out at the back of the house covered with limbs and grass, where rabbits would run over and fall through. That meant

fresh meat for the table. As the years progressed they came into modern machinery and better means of transportation. They bought a tractor at a farm sale in the Round Hill district, it was a Waterloo Boy, and took two days to bring it home.

In 1924 they bought an Oakland car for six hundred dollars which was a modern means of transportation.

Harry and Mary's language spoken was mainly Ukrainian until the children went to school and they learned to speak English. Their entertainment was house parties with the other families from the neighbourhood, the main source of refreshment was moonshine (white-lightning).

In 1938 they built a new house on the SE 4-48-22 which was built by the Block Brothers of Nisku. The house was completely built for \$4,000. A few years later they built another modern building. In 1940 they bought two more quarters of land.

Harry and Mary were blessed with six children which all attended the Big Hay Lake School.



Harry Sych Family: Paul, Henry, Mike, Bessie, Irene, Millie. Seated Harry and Mary Sych.

Mike was born in 1919. He married Margaret Grams in 1955 and have five children. They reside in Hay Lakes.

Henry was born in 1921. He married Sophie Hanas of Thorsby in 1950. They have three children, Morris of Calgary, Larry of Leduc and Jerry at home, also they have four grandchildren.

Bessie their first daughter was born in 1923. She married Victor Galenza of Hay Lakes and have eight children.

Irene was born in 1925 and is married to Marcel Demnynck of Calmar. They have three children, Beverly (Mrs. Raymond Hamula), Sidney and Marcella, all of Edmonton and one grandchild.

Millie born in 1927, is married to Morris

Podgruny of Calmar and has two children, Valerie (Mrs. Dave Hensh) and Clayton all of Calmar and two grandchildren.

Paul was born in 1937. He married Bari Bucci and they reside in Langley, B.C. with their three children Grant, Wayne and Shannon.

Harry and Mary Sych were farming for forty-six years and then sold their farm to Emil Bauman. They both enjoy good health and live in their own home in Camrose. In 1978, they celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary with their children, 24 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

The Trelenberg Family by Mary Groeller

Michael and Anna Trelenberg emigrated from Russia to the United States in 1900. With them came two children, Emil age five years and Hilda age sixteen months. The third child, Martha was on the way. Otto and Henry were born during the five year stay in the States. While in the States, Dad worked in a paper mill. In 1905 they moved to Ellerslie, where Dad worked in the Ellerslie coal mine. Here they lived in an old schoolhouse which was very cold. I remember Mother saying that with the twins on the

way it was hard for her and Emil to keep the place warm. With Dad away all day, Emil was the man of the house. Only ten years old, he was responsible for chopping the wood for cooking and heating. Hilda, only six years old, had to carry the wood inside. Twin boys, Julius and Ben were born in 1906 and another girl Matilda, was born in 1907.

In 1910, Dad took up a homestead in New Sarepta (S.W. 16-22-5-W4). Here times were even harder with only a small log house and eight children to care for. There were four additional children born while on this farm. They were Adolf, Fred, Jessie and myself.

In 1916 the homestead in New Sarepta was sold, and a farm was bought from the C.P.R. It was located at S.W. 15-48-22-W4 in the Hay Lakes area, which is now farmed by Mr. Trelenberg's grandson Marvin Groeller. In 1917 a much needed frame house was built. Before that we were living in three different buildings at the same time. The youngest child, Dan, was born in 1918. This brought the total to thirteen children born to this family.

Otto and Henry started school in New Sarepta. The other children that received an education attended the Big Hay Lake school.



Michael Trelenberg Family. Back Row: Fred, Adolf, Henry, Julius, Ben, Dan. Front Row: Mary, Michael, Anna, Martha, Hulda.

Otto and Emil left in 1922 to start a new life in the north, encountering a lot of mishaps and hard times. They lost the horses and wagon they left home with when they broke through the ice. They were lucky to come away with their lives. How they got started up again no one really knows. In time they established themselves again and make a good living by trapping. Emil got married April 20, 1925 to Mary Mercredi, they have four sons and three daughters. Emil passed away September 27, 1974 at Uranium City at the age of 79. His wife still lives in Uranium City.

Hilda, born February 7, 1899 married Ludwig Eidick in 1915. They lived in New Sarepta and had a family of fourteen. They also lived in Alcomdale and Stoney Plain. After her husband passed away, she lived with her son Emil in Spruce Grove. Her last few years were spent in Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Stoney Plain. She passed away at the age of 80.

Martha Pede (Nee Trelenberg) was born June 15, 1900. She and her husband farmed in Bretona, Alberta. They had four children. Martha passed away February 8, 1953, she was predeceased by their only son Edward, who was killed in action in W.W.II. Her husband passed away in November 1980.

Otto Trelenberg was born September 5, 1902. He lived in Fond-du-lac Saskatchewan, where he married Dora Mercredi in 1934. In 1940 he and his family moved to Fort Smith, N.W.T. where he started his career as a painter for Northern Transport Company. He also trapped during the winter months until he moved his family to Fort McMurray in 1945. There he continued his painting career until his retirement in 1970. He passed away March 5, 1979. He was predeceased by his wife Dora, two daughters and two sons, leaving to mourn three daughters and two sons.

Henry Trelenberg was born July 17, 1904. He was married to Carelyen Kuhar of Sion. They lived in Edmonton and had one child. Henry worked for the government until his retirement. He passed away in 1976 at the age of 71 in Kelowna B.C.

Julius and Ben Trelenberg are twins, born January 22, 1906 in Ellerslie. They remained bachelors. Julius lives in Hay Lakes at present, and Ben is in Rose Haven Nursing Home in Camrose. They are now 75 years old.

Matilda Mittelstadt (nee Trelenberg) was born June 17, 1907. They lived in Alcomdale, Alberta and had one child. She had a long illness of five years, and passed away on July 13, 1940 at the age of 33. Her husband, Ed, remained single and is now deceased.

Adolf Trelenberg was born March 29, 1910. He left Hay Lakes in 1942 for B.C. and got a job in a logging camp in 1945. He married Pege , and they have two sons and a daughter. Adolf worked

in the logging camp for 36 years until his retirement in 1975 and they now live in Surrey, B.C.

Fred Trelenberg was born in May of 1911. He married Jean Mittelstadt of Sion. They farmed for a number of years in Sion and sold the farm in 1958. Fred then worked in Edmonton for eight years. They have two daughters and one son. At present they live in Kelowna B.C.

Jessie Schweitzer (nee Trelenberg) was born August 15, 1912. She married Joe Schweitzer of Edmonton. They lived in Ponoka and raised four sons and two daughters. Joe is now deceased, and Jessie is presently living in Victoria, B.C.

Mary Groeller (nee Trelenberg) was born September 7, 1913. She married John Groeller from Edmonton. They have three daughters and two sons. They farmed in the Big Hay Lake area until their retirement in 1971. At present they live in the Village of Hay Lakes.



Mary, Augusta (Jessie) and Tillie Trelenberg. Taken 1931.

Dan Trelenberg was born November 17, 1918 in Hay Lakes. In 1940 he enlisted in the army and went overseas in February of 1943. He landed in Sicily in July and served in Italy for one year. He was injured in August of 1944, and was sent to England to the hospital. He was a part-time dispatch rider on motorcycle, when one night he rode into a truck head on, and that is how he got injured. He remained unconscious for six weeks. When he was discharged from the hospital he fell and broke his wrist. He was sent home to Canada to recuperate and was discharged from the army in 1945. Dad married Olga Kitchner of Alcomdale. They had three sons and one daughter. They ran a successful hog ranch in the Alcomdale district. In 1976 they retired and now live in Kelowna, B.C.

Albert George Wesenberg

Albert was born in 1902 to Mr. and Mrs. Ferdi-

nand August Heinrich Wesenberg who farmed in the Canard area. He bought the quarter section NW 10-48-22-W4 and though he never lived there about 45 acres were broke and worked by his brothers. The land was sold to John Augustinski in 1945.

The Emil Wichman Family written by Norman Wichman

Emil Wichman and one brother Sam came to Canada from Germany on June 27, 1927. They



Lydia, Ruth, Emil 1932.

worked as hired hands at farms in the Tomahawk and Alliance districts, and also worked in logging camps.

In 1929 Emil married Lydia Riske (nee Hinkelman) who was born and raised in the New Sarepta district. They rented land in the north Hay Lake District. Three children were born here, one son, who died as an infant, and two daughters; Ruth born on July 5, 1931, and Doris born on October 26, 1932. In 1934 they moved to the Big Hay Lakes District. Here three more children were born; Norman on June 29, 1935, Eileen on October 2, 1937, and Alma on November 28, 1940.

In 1946 Mr. and Mrs. Wichman moved to a farm in the Roseland school district N.E. 28-46-22, and on April 11, 1947 they moved. On April 1947, the snow had melted and all the roads were dry. On April 8 more than twelve inches of snow fell, making the move very hard. Three teams of horses were used to move the household furnishings. The horses belonged to Wichmans, John Groeller, and John Mantai. John Mantai's team was too tired to complete the

trip therefore Arnold Bittner pulled the wagon with a tractor. The cattle were driven by horseback riders. Rudolph Schoenknecht moved a triple box load of chop using three horses.

In 1949, Ruth married Harvey Harke of south Edmonton. They adopted a daughter Grace and later had a daughter Marion. They now reside in Dawson Creek, B.C.

In 1953, Doris married Edward Henschel of



Back Row: Emil, Doris, Lydia, Ruth. Front Row: Norman, Eileen, Alma. About 1952.

Falun. They have three children; Gladys, Wayne, and Ronald. They lived in the Falun district until 1971, then moved to Wetaskiwin. Edward died on May 23, 1978. Doris now resides in Edmonton.

In 1954, Eileen married Harry Henschel of Falun. They have two children, Douglas and Marilyn.

On May 3, 1955 Emil Wichman had a heart attack and passed away at the age of 56, leaving his wife, Norman and Alma to farm.

In 1960 Norman was married and later on December 15, 1980 was divorced. Norman lives on the Wichman farm.

In 1961 Alma married Alvin Chambers of the same area. They have four girls, Bonnie, twins Lauren and Teresa, and Diane. They were divorced in 1974. On August 25, 1979 Alma married Ron Flanagan.

In 1964 Mrs. Wichman moved to Wetaskiwin where she still resides. She worked at the Lutheran Home for the Aged until March of 1970, when she had the misfortune of falling and breaking her ankle.

Hay Lakes S.D. #3876

* acreages
☐ Village shaded area
 Section 6

Robert Berennke Carl Klammer Samuel Soch Wilfred Soch	John Pawloske Steve Reminsky	Wm. Studebaker (1900) Mikkel Bakken John Bakken	Wm Studebaker (1900) Mikkel Bakken John Bakken		
Robert Berennke Carl Klammer Samuel Soch Erven and Wilfred Soch	Gustav Kiel Leo Kiel	Poulette Elliott (1897) Percy Hunter Fred Henkelman Julius Bodner Emil Nickel Albert Lachman Wilmar Harke	Poulette Elliott (1897) Percy Hunter Fred Henkelman Julius Bodner Emil Nickel Albert Lachman Lorne Harke Lyle Harke		
Gotlib Stelmaker (1904) Samuel Soch Erven Soch	Emil Henkelman (1903) Emil Diewert Gustav Kiel Leo Kiel	Julius Sagert Lawrence Sagert Wilmar Harke * Peter Pidkowa	John and Ole Sware Emil Wickman Ted Schulze Eric Huebner	J. E. Gosnell Inge Mjelve Paul Hiebner Lorne Harke	Ole Sware Leslie Willard Bob Webster
John Millestaedt (1911) Mrs J. Hintz Frieda Miller Ewald Miller	Emil Diewert (1903) Carl Fercko Gus Kiel Leo Kiel	Ludwig Diewert Julius Suetter Gustav Kiel Rudolph Kiel	Carl Scheffer Adolph Jeck August Kallis Art Hirsch Mike and Emil Schneider Rudy Fuernkranz	Martin Henkelman Art Henkelman Ted Schulze Leo Krell Dale Donahue L. Goudreau	Wilhelm Kretschman Martin Henkelman Leonard Neuman Peter Drydyk
Albert Lachman Arnold Miller Erwin Lachman	Robert McLeod Jack McLeod Otto These Paul Larson	Martin Westead (1906) Findley McLeod Jack McLeod Adolph Busenius Walter Busenius	Charles (1894) Chattelburgh Joseph Kreamer Gola Berry Len Neuman Shaw * Art Schaffrick	Harry Pithouse Martin Henkelman Leonard Neuman Peter Drydyk	Martin Henkelman Leonard Neuman Peter Drydyk
Henry Zucht Larry Maker	Robert McLeod Jim McLeod Bruno These	Robert McLeod Jim McLeod Bruno These	Joseph Kreamer (1905) Reg Kreamer	Henry Pithouse (1902) Herman Lechelt C. Fuernkranz R. Fuernkranz * Acreages	Harry Pithouse Herman Lechelt Carl Fuernkranz Rudy Fuernkranz
John Grahn (1902) August Zelt Sig. Schmidt Art Soch Irvin Berkholtz Lawrence Berkholtz Rick Campbell	John Carlson (1902) Knopp Gottlieb Soch Ernest Soch * Glen MacIntyre Herb Anton	August Kallis Joseph Kreamer Edward Kreamer Alan Kreamer	John Broen Chris Lachman Leonard Lachman Geo Rost Rod Rost	Simon Grue (1904) Raymond Stavne	O.T Grue (1903) Simon Grue Raymond Stavne Rudy Fuernkranz
Ole P Lee (1901) Emil Lachman Lawrence Berkholtz	Nils Johnson (1901) Rudolph Lachman	Chris Lachman Geo Rost Wm. Rost	Wm. Henschell Herb Henschell Ed Haak	Arthur Univin (1903) Nick Williscko	Azro Blakley (1901) Geo Blakley Reinhold Busenius * S. Spahic R.A. Bishop
Daniel Erickson E. Lachman L. Berkholtz Bruno Hartmann		Walfred Sikstrom (1903) S. Starcheski Josie Hunter Henry Bittner Harry Marusak Alex Marusak	Harry Willisko (1903) Ted Berkholtz	Henry Schaffrick Wm Sware Wm Rost	Albert Arndt Bill Bittner Louie Bittner Gus Wahl Ernest Wahl
Mike Kohut Steve Kohut Annie Marusak	Karl Lechelt Huff M. Borak Herman Lechelt Zenon Goclon	Harry Marusak (1904) Alex Marusak	Wm. Henschell (1906) Herb Henschell Ed Haak	Sam Sych Ignace Sych	Gus Wahl Ernest Wahl
Walter Ditman (1906)	Andrew Ditman (1906) Gus Bittner Daniel Erickson Ed Mittelstaedt Bruno These	Harry Marusak Alex Marusak	Geo Sych sr. Sam Sych Erik Robinson Rudli Schuurmans	Geo Sych sr. (1902) Wm. Sych Ignace Sych	Jacob Wejda (1903) Edmund Bittner Wm. Hodge Ed Jantz

24 Gary These

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Hay Lakes School District #3876

In 1905 when Alberta became a province, there were 551 school districts in Alberta. Education was mainly elementary and taught in small rural school districts. These districts were based on the distance a child could be expected to walk to school.

There already were several school districts located around the Village of Hay Lakes when it was decided to establish a school for the village and near vicinity.

From the minutes of the Hay Lakes School District No. 3876 from its inception in 1919, to 1937, it is evident that the trustees' decisions related to every facet of organizing and maintaining a school within a stringent budget.

Robert McLeod reported that at the first meeting held at McLeod's home, the Board tended to the matter of getting a School Seal and school supplies, hiring a teacher, getting a contract to rent the U.F.A. hall for the school, and sent out tenders to have offices (outhouses) built and, importantly, to ascertain from the government whether every new Township was given a free school site.

At the next monthly meeting it was decided to offer Mr. T. O'Connor the teaching position at \$1200.00 per annum.

By January 12, 1920, the School Board moved to accept the C.N.R.'s offer of a school site at fifty cents per acre, with the survey price to be paid by the School District. Insurance was put on the hall being used for the school and the school supplies.

Bylaws of the Hay Lake Village School District No. 3876 of Hay Lakes in the Province of Alberta.



Hay Lakes School. L. to R., Back: unknown, Esther Hein, Nellie Willisko, Dora Bittner, Olga Fisher, Paul Bittner, Leonard Hiebner, Otto Lerke, Carl Schmidt. Center: Lydia Schaffrick, Alma Lechl, Juanita Ogilvie, unknown, Donna Henkelman, Martha Kiel, Martha Soch, Paul Schmidt, Bill Kiel, unknown, Ervin Lechelt. Front: Margaret Hein, Eleanor Willisko, unknown, Frieda Schlender, Martha Schmidt, Meta Hiebner, unknown, Lydia Lachman, Leonard Erickson, unknown.



Hay Lakes School — 1934.



Taken at Hay Lake School. From L. to R.: first three boys Williskos, next Henschells, next Blakelys, next Bittners, next Lawrence Sagart, Marusaks, Steve Kuhut and Sam Sych, about 1925.

- I. That the name of the School District be "The Hay Lake Village School District No. 3876"
- II. That meetings of the Trustees be convened and held as often as required.
- III. That all accounts be paid by cheques on the Royal Bank; such cheques to be signed by the Chairman and Treasurer; or in the absence of any one of said officials by the Secretary as representing the absent official.
- IV. That the Trustees be empowered to borrow all necessary moneys for use of legitimate school expenditure.



Hay Lakes School 1925-26. From Back to Front: Ida Bittner, Millie Kallis, Steve Kohut, Sam Sych, Jack McLeod, August Henschell, Bertha Grue, Hilda Bittner, Elsie Fisher, Dorothy Gosnell, Annie Willisko, Tony Sagert, August Soch, Albert Bittner, Eda Fisher, Rosa Henschell, Rose Henschell, Gola Kreamer, Susie Henkelman, Hazel Larplas, Roy Blakely, Zella Diewert, Katie Marusak, Dora Huard, Louise Larsen, Frieda Henschell, Eva Marusak, Sara Henkelman, Art Henkelman, Alfred Soch, Dave Willisko, Milford Larplas, Ernest Diewert, Irene Grue, Eric Abel, Esther Hein, Lawrence Schlender, Helve Grahn, Olga Fisher, Clarence Henkelman (with pail), Ferdinand Henschell, Benny Kallis, Lawrence Sagert, Nick Willisko, Alex Marusak, Archie Harrison with Herb Henschell on shoulder, Albert Brandt with Eddie Kreamer on shoulder, Ed Fisher.

The school was opened January 12, 1920, with an enrollment of seven pupils with Mr. T. O'Connor as teacher. The first pupils were Jack and Findlay McLeod, Rosalie and Violet Blakely, Lily Pithouse, Alma Kretchman and Ole Nelson. The following days brought children from the W. Henschell, T. Grue, J. Willisko, and G. Sych families.

The Annual Meetings were held in January the books having been audited previous to the meeting. There were special meetings held for "Court of Revision" and to resolve school problems. The Secretary's salary was \$35.00 per annum, and the Treasurer's salary was set at \$10.00 per annum.

At the next few meetings the School Board resolved to purchase the U.F.A. Hall for \$1000.00, and to insure the buildings and supplies for \$2500.00 and also to have the new school site surveyed and the hall moved to the new location.

This was to be accomplished by the Board's enactment of a Bylaw that allowed them to borrow \$2000.00 on the security of the Hay Lake Village School District No. 3876, repayable in ten equal installments at 8% per annum. It was signed on May 20, 1920. The trustees also agreed to some improvements, notably: a concrete foundation, a partition to form a cloakroom, some painting, and a belfry "(if not too expensive and school bell there)".

The next minutes that were recorded show that Joseph E. Kreamer was elected the new Secretary-Treasurer at a salary of fifty dollars per annum. The taxes were eight mills on the dollar with a charge of two dollars on vacant lots. Taxes were to be collected by the Sec.-Treas.

During 1921 and 1922 the minutes also indicate that there was a raise of \$10.00 per month (teacher's salary), the school-house was washed once a month, that a loan was necessary to carry on until the current taxes were available. A 10% reduction was offered for taxes paid before May 1, 1922.

In January 1923, Mr. H. G. Pithouse was appointed Sec.-Treas. when Mr. Kreamer resigned. That year some basic principles had to be determined. There was concern regarding collecting fees from parents of children who do not reside in the school district, and whether they could refuse to accept them as the school was overcrowded. Was it compulsory to offer instruction above the eighth grade? Would there be an extra grant for that? Would they pay teachers per annum or monthly? Would school be kept open until the end of July?

Editor's Note: as one page of minutes is missing, I assume there was a discussion regarding who should pay for tuition fees for furthering education — the district or the parent?

The outcome of that responsibility regarding fees, is shown by the item in the minutes of January 24, 1924, that the Board paid the Camrose School District \$12.00 for tuition fees for Olga Holmberg for the September — December term.

The following selected details from the minutes show the depth and scope of the decisions the School Board had to consider:

1. Janitor work \$6.00 per month to girls for sweeping floors. \$4.00 per month to boys for lighting fires and oiling floors.

2. A sixteen foot addition to the stable and who should have the chance to build it.

3. Consideration of borrowing on debentures to build an addition to the school.

4. Request for the Health Officer to visit a specific home to diagnose a suspected case of infantile paralysis, and in that event to close the school (September, 1927).

5. Detailed arrangements for the school to be used for community use (such as German language instruction). E.G. "school must be swept up and left as when entered; regarding fuel: supply as much as you use".

6. Renting of existing vacant buildings to accommodate students until a larger school is built or addition added. (Ed. note: The enrolment had increased to some seventy-five pupils.)

7. Decision to set the tax rate at 13 mills in 1928.

8. Planning the requirements and financial details of a new school to be built.

(N.B. Editor's Note: I noticed that salaries of the teachers in the school declined due to the "dirty thirties". An example was from \$1100.00 per year in 1928 to \$700.00 per year in 1931.)

The March 11, 1936 meeting resulted in the following resolution being sent to the Minister of Education and the M.L.A. member of this constituency:

Resolution from the minutes of the meeting of the Ratepayers of the HAY LAKES VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #3876 held on March 11th, 1936.

Whereas this meeting of the Ratepayers of HAY LAKES VILLAGE S.D. 3876 of the Province of Alberta, is of the opinion that the proposed Act altering in principle the present system and constitution of Rural School Districts by setting up large units of administration for rural schools is not in the best interests for providing education to children resident in Rural School Districts for the following reasons, namely:

1. That said proposed Act deprives the inhabitants in the presently existing Districts of their present local autonomy in respect to school matters.

2. That said proposed Act will increase the cost of education.

Now therefore be it resolved that this meeting go on record as being opposed to the establishment of the larger units of administration for rural school purposes.

Notwithstanding that resolution, the following months saw a rapid change in the autonomy of the local school district.

Trustees: Mr. Joseph E. Creamer, Mr. Robert McLeod, Mr. Martin Henkelman, Mr. H. G. Pit-house, Mr. Louis Huard, Mr. L. Larsen, Mr. H. C. Lechelt, Mr. S. T. Grue, Mr. W. A. Henschell, Mr. Norm Ogilvie, Mr. Ed Bittner.

Secretaries: Mr. T. O'Connor, Mr. J. E. Carberry, Mr. J. Nordmoe, Mr. N. Ogilvie.

Janitors: School children under guidance of Mr. Davies for supply money, Mr. Rudolph Fisher, Paul Schmidt, Walter Schmidt, Dan Schweitzer.

Hay Lakes School — (April, 1921 to October, 1923)

by G. L. Davies

I (G. L. Davies) have been asked to report on "Education in the Hay Lakes School" during the early 1920's. My term as teacher of this school began in April, 1921 and ended in October, 1923 when I left to attend the University of Alberta.

My story begins when I graduated at the Olds Agricultural School in early April 1921. At that time I was anxious to return to teaching. I must tell you about my rather sad experience when I first arrived by the Canadian National Railroad train from Edmonton. As I arrived in Hay Lakes near the noon hour I was directed to go to Cox's boarding house,



Hay Lake School Playground 1922. Swings built by the students.

where I was joined by a number of other people for lunch. The fellow across the table from me spoke, saying, "I suppose you are the new teacher". "Yes", I replied. He said, "God help you". I asked him to repeat that message and to tell me why he said it. Well, he said, "I am Doug Gemroy, the last teacher and if I had stayed any longer I might have had troubles up here" (touching his head). He wouldn't tell me why he said that, but he added, "You'll find out." — and I did.

Further investigation on my part showed that I was the fourth new teacher in the Hay Lakes School for the period December, 1920 to April, 1921 (four months). Mr. O'Connor had taught the fall term and quit at the end of December, 1920. Miss Grace Hall, the new teacher, taught for one month and quit. The next teacher was Douglas Gemroy who taught for about two months and then quit.

School opened early in April and I found that I had a big job on my hands. The class register listed fifty-five pupils with but one teacher (me) to teach all grades from one to eight.

I soon discovered why the other teachers had quit their jobs and I took steps to remedy the problem.

I was not a greenhorn as I had previously taught school for approximately three years and I had the advantage of having been raised in a large family (ten children).

When I had restored better discipline among the pupils and when I had convinced them that school could be an interesting place to be, — then I began to really enjoy my stay in Hay Lakes. Of course these changes did not happen right away, — and it took several months.



Hay Lakes School in 1921 with some of the fifty-five students.

At this time I am not going to tell you what the real problem was in the Hay Lakes School. I will say that I began to organize a program of sports and games and we started to build (on Saturdays) a swing for the girls and a pair of flying rings and a trapeze bar for the boys. The flying rings were forged by Mr. Henschell, the operator of a machine shop. Mr. Larsen donated suitable ropes for the swing and soon we were flying high.

From my home in Edmonton we received a number of tennis balls, rubber balls and a rugby ball — which created many surprises on the playgrounds.

Later on for the cold winter days we bought sets of puzzles, games (steeplechase, et cetera) and mecano sets to build bridges, cranes and other things. The noon hour became a most interesting time for pupils who brought their lunches to school. We started a small library for pupils who enjoyed reading books.

You may ask me how we obtained all these things and who paid for them. The answer is we paid for them (the pupils and I) with the money we earned. At that time the school had a part-time caretaker who started the fire in the stove during cold weather and swept the school floor at the end of the day. The salary for this job was \$8.00 per month. I asked the school board to give us (pupils and I) the \$8.00 per month and we would look after the sweeping and dusting every school day and the tending of the stove whenever the weather was cold or damp. They agreed. Senior girls took turns with the sweeping of the school and I and a couple of reliable boys looked after the heating of the school.

That \$8.00 per month that we received in 1921, 1922 and part of 1923 enabled us to buy all the items I have mentioned and a lot more. The \$8.00 in 1921

was equal in purchasing power to at least \$80.00 per month in the year 1981.

To help direct the fifty-five active pupils on the playgrounds, I appointed one of the students (Ronald Huff) to be my playground assistant. Ronald was a cheerful, fair-minded fellow who could make his decisions stand when necessary. He was most helpful with the recess and noon hour activities.

To lend a little enjoyment to life in school we started a program for the last half hour in school on every Friday. The pupils put on short plays, sang songs, gave recitations, performed tricks and acts of magic. Alma Kretchman (Grade V) could play the school organ which was the only piece of equipment other than school books and maps and charts.

I still remember some of the recitations given by the pupils. Johnny Holmberg (Grade V) had a remarkable memory. He could memorize the longest poems or stories with little difficulty. He had a good speaking voice and when he gave a recitation — everyone listened!

All the pupils worked hard during the week so that we could have that magic half hour every Friday.

I am pleased to say that the old Alexandria Readers we had in the early 'twenties, contained a variety of good literature. Pupils were required then to memorize choice parts of these selections. It certainly helped pupils when they had to learn their part for a play. These special programs were staged at Christmas, at Easter, and sometimes they were performed at one of the regular monthly meetings of the Hay Lakes Community Club, held in the Hay Lakes Hotel.

Now — I would like to say a few things about the subjects that were taught in 1921. All Alberta teachers were supplied with the Course of Studies manuals containing the topics to be taught in each grade, also the topics for each of the subjects (arithmetic, spelling, et cetera). Teachers were to use the readers and the textbooks as specified. However, a teacher could use other reference books for supplementary material.

The subjects taught in the early rural schools included the basic subjects; namely reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, drawing, nature study and health. These subjects were taught in Grades one to four. In Grades five to eight, time was given to additional subjects: history, geography, hygiene science, geometry, composition, grammar. Of course physical education was taught in all the grades (one to eight). It consisted mainly of sports and games during recess and noon hour.

In Grade nine (High School) new subjects included algebra, Latin, French, drama, shop (wood-

work) and home economics (cooking, sewing, baking).

You must remember that in the 1920 era there were no paved roads, no gravel roads, no sidewalks, and no school buses for the rural or village students. In cold or wet weather, getting to school was a difficult task.

How did the pupils succeed under these adverse conditions? Well, to begin with, the pupils were taught to work, at home and in school. Older pupils often helped the younger ones. Parents helped their children with the homework whenever they were able to do so. Pupils had to learn how to work on their own during the school day. It was distracting when the teacher was telling an interesting story to Grades three and four and all those in the other grades would have to concentrate on completing their own assignments on time (and not listen to the story).

For many lessons certain grades could be grouped together, for example, Grades one, two, three, and four may study drawing or health. Usually two grades: three and four or five and six would study history, geography, or written composition together. Grouping grades together for lessons was a necessity because, without grouping classes, the teacher could not possibly cover the course of studies.

The test of a teacher's success in the classroom was sometimes measured by the success of his students in the Grade VIII Departmental exams in June.

In the 1920's a student writing the Grade VIII finals knew that he/she must pass in each of the subjects for that grade. If a student failed in one or more subjects he would have to repeat all the Grade VIII subjects for the next term. And that — I must say, was no easy task!

When my first Grade VIII class had written the Government final exams in June, they had to wait until the end of July before they got their results. I still have a postcard that one of my Grade VIII pupils sent to me in Edmonton, stating that she was waiting patiently for the results. Fortunately she, along with most of the Grade VIII class, received her special diploma.

Those who passed would have to go to Camrose for their Grade IX. This meant boarding in Camrose, a costly expense for their parents. The school trustees in Hay Lakes begged me to teach an extra Grade IX class in September and they offered me the sum of \$10.00 per month extra to do this. After some hesitation, I agreed. I must say that this added class greatly increased my work-load. I found it necessary to increase the Grade IX school day by one-half hour (from 3:30 to 4 p.m.) It meant that every school day I prepared five carbon copies (by hand) of an outline of the work, questions, et cetera for the next school day.

I was very proud when the school term ended and all my Grade IX students had passed.

Now, may I digress for a moment to consider the disadvantages and advantages of teaching in the early 1920's. The biggest disadvantage of teaching then was the lack of teaching aids. We had no radios, no televisions, no movie projectors, no tape recorders, no large colored charts, no duplicator, no science lab, and no adequate library. Another disadvantage was the large number of pupils and the large number of grades to be taught by one teacher in the Hay Lakes School.

The advantages of teaching (Grades one to eight) in the 1920's included some of the following things: It was quiet at home to do your homework. Few things distracted one from learning. Pupils had a great desire to learn. They knew that without a good education, one could not expect to get a good job.

Pupils actually liked to go to school. You don't believe that, do you? Well, it was true in the 1920's. Let me tell you just one of many interesting experiences in the Hay Lakes School. One Friday, in October, at the end of a school week, a fourteen-year-old farm boy stayed to tell me something. He said "Mr. Davies, I won't be able to come to school next Monday". I asked him "Why?" He said, "My father told me I would have to stay home and pick potatoes that are being dug". I asked, "How many days will it take?" and he replied, "Maybe four or five". I said, "Well, Bill, that will be all right. I will get someone to keep your notes up-to-date and I will help you to catch up when you come back". By this time, when I looked at the boy, a few big tears were running down his cheeks. I asked, "Why are you so sad?" to which he replied, "I don't want to miss any school". Those were the nicest words that I had heard for many a day. It made my job really worthwhile, to realize that some pupils enjoyed coming to school. I must add that I had several similar experiences while teaching in Hay Lakes.

In spite of all the things we lacked in the Hay Lakes School, we had something that made up for these deficiencies. The great majority of the pupils liked to work, and to have a feeling of accomplishment. They depended on one another for help when it was needed and they were not disappointed.

Life in school is so different from life at home. In school, pupils are surrounded by boys and girls of their own size and age. They enjoy friendly competition. They realize that pupils possess different talents, skills, abilities and personalities. The spirit of fair play is learned on the playgrounds. The teacher takes the opportunity to point out any special acts of kindness, of generosity, of sportsmanship, and good citizenship. In the 1920's these ideals worked and the

expression "Have a good day" came true for most boys and girls.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. When I arrived at the Hay Lakes School it was the most difficult school that I had ever been in. However the fact is, I stayed longer in the Hay Lakes School than in any of the other five rural schools in which I taught.

In July, 1978 I returned for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the village of Hay Lakes. They sponsored a sixteen-team baseball tournament, a banquet, a display of handicrafts and library books, et cetera at the town centre. I met several old friends and former students whom I had taught in the 1921-'23 period. I took a few pictures of these people that included Mrs. L. Larsen, Mrs. J. Gosnell and students Gola (Kreamer) Berry, Bertha (Grue) Stavne, Ivar Lofgren, the Henschell sisters, Dorothy Gosnell and others. I expected to see Lillian Pithouse at this reunion. Her father was a great pioneer of Hay Lakes. For a number of years I received a Christmas card and an interesting letter from Mrs. Gwen Muir (Lillian Pithouse). Of course, I send her a card and a letter. In Edmonton I occasionally see Olga Holmberg, now Mrs. Frank Walker, at the meetings of the Edmonton Retired Teacher's Association. Olga was one of my top students in Grades VIII and IX and she later became a very successful teacher in Edmonton.

I often daydream and wonder where some of my former students are living and what they are doing.

So — memories of my teaching days in the Hay Lakes School are still kept alive after a span of sixty years.

In concluding this brief report, I would like to pay tribute to each of the fifty-five students who kept me so busy trying to keep one jump ahead of them. In the final analysis I would say it was a very pleasant task.

"May the good Lord take a likin' to you".

The Taming of the Hay Lakes School, 1933 to 1941

by J. E. Lyle

Originally the Hay Lakes School was opened on January 12, 1920. Over the next dozen years teachers seemed to come and go with the greatest of ease and with startling rapidity. Mr. G. L. Davies, who was there two and a half years, Mr. R. A. Kilpatrick who lasted four years and Miss Anna McCoy who stuck it out four and a half years held the records for length of service until the autumn of 1933. The shortest stay of any teacher in Hay Lakes was for one month, a record set by Miss Grace Hall in January, 1921. The money paid to school teachers during the 1920's was very good, that is, in the range of \$110 to \$150 per month,

so it was not poor salaries that caused the high rate of turnover. Rather it was the stress, the continuous tension within the school itself which caused teachers to give up the struggle and move elsewhere.

Fifty odd children from assorted homes and a variety of ethnic origins with diverse social norms, all striving to learn Canadian ways and how to live together made up a difficult group to try to direct and control. Sometimes they got out of hand. For instance, one time a fifteen-year-old boy stabbed another boy in the face with a pocket knife and was expelled by the School Board for it.

Some years later, there was a dandy row in the district over the big boys allegedly pulling the pants off the smaller boys in the school. The teachers were unable to restore order; the School Board was forced to take matters in hand. A public meeting was called to inquire into the trouble. Ratepayers who had been gossiping the story around were questioned along with teachers, parents, the big boys and the little boys. As it turned out, the little boys had pestered the big boys who had chased them about threatening to "take down their pants" in retaliation. There was no proof that anyone's pants had actually been taken off. It was all good fun among the boys with no malice intended. Joe Kreamer, the Chairman, on whom the brunt of this unpleasant duty fell was furious and in his most energetic manner proceeded to lecture the boys publicly on their behaviour, threatening expulsion for them if it did not improve at once; he advised the parents to look after their children better; he demanded apologies from the gossiping ratepayers (and incidently he got these in writing and stuck them up in the Post Office) and at the end of June that year he fired both teachers! On top of this turbulence the dire economic disturbance of the early 'thirties did not help matters in the school at all.

Such was the background of the Hay Lakes School, as outlined to me by the School Board itself in September, 1933, at the very depths of the Great Depression, when I was hired for \$80 a month to "straighten out" the Junior Room. The members of the School Board were emphatic in their initial instructions to me as to what they wanted done and stated that if I thought I could not do the job they wanted to know immediately. I was puzzled as to why these gentlemen talked to me in such a manner. Here I was a small sized, young looking twenty-one-year-old, weighing almost one hundred and twenty pounds and not much more than a teenager myself. Then they let slip that Mr. Klammer, Chairman of the New Sarepta Rural School Board, had informed them as to what a stern "disciplinarian" I was and they had decided they wanted me in the Hay Lakes Junior Room. As for me, a job, any job, was so

valuable in those days that I took up the challenge with joy and considered myself fortunate indeed to go to Hay Lakes for that \$80 per month. Having been forewarned by the School Board as to my reputation in the district and what to expect in the school, I was determined that nothing was going to stop me. And nothing did, luckily, although there were a few times when it was "touch and go". After the first year things ran more smoothly and in the end turned out happily.

My methods of maintaining order in school were unorthodox but very effective. At first, there was a short time when I communicated with three or four boys in a way they understood best but for the following eight years there was no corporal punishment whatsoever to the satisfaction of all. Sports, particularly softball, physical training, gymnastics, group games, and a hundred activities such as "nature walks" and elaborate Christmas concerts, in which I participated with the children promoted good feelings, high morale and mutual respect which eliminated most disciplinary problems. Minor misbehavior was corrected in imaginative ways that

delighted everyone except the culprit. For instance, there was the time when six-year old Eileen Hein had to sit on my knee to be quiet while I read a story to the class. Eileen never again misbehaved in school! Then there was seven-year old Richard Schlender disturbing the pupils until I threatened that he "would feel the strap" if he didn't settle down. He kept right on bothering his classmates, so I called him up to the front of the room while I got out the strap. When every child was as quiet as could be with his attention rivited on Richard and me, I commanded sternly, "Richard, hold out your hands!" I flexed the strap a few times then suddenly thrust it into his outstretched hands and thundered, "Now feel it!" The class roared with laughter while poor Richard returned to his seat grinning sheepishly. There was no more trouble with Richard either, and so it went. No one knew what might happen next but they were confident that they would enjoy doing it with offenders always coming off second best. "Peer pressure" it is called nowadays, however in those high and far-off times we did not have such a sophisticated name for such a common-sense way of controlling children in school.



Hay Lakes School 1938-39. Miss Malmas teacher. L. to R., Back Row: Ewald Ferko, Norman Bittner, Richard Schlender, Leonard Lachman, Jean Grahn, Marjorie Lechelt, ?, Gordon Fisher. Second Row: Rudy Starcheski, Elsie Lachman, Norma Holt, Sophie Soch, Doris Schultz, Eileen Hein, Nora Radtke, Alvina Heibner, Roy Henkelman. Third Row: Harold Gibson, Fred Sikstrom, Joe Famulak, Erwin Lachman, Gladys Schlender, Elsie Heibner, Evelyn Sikstrom. Front Row: Norman Henkelman, Frank Holte, Art Henkelman, Herman Leicht, Harvey Grahn, Ernest Wahl, Donavan Schultz, Ewald Soch.



Hay Lakes Senior High 1938-39. L. to R., Back Row: Dora Bittner, Dorothy Lerke, Ella Lechelt, Velma Grue, J. E. Lyle (teacher), Nelvin Schmidt, Nick Masikewich, Arnold Bittner. Second Row: Katherine Masikewich, Dorothy Marusak, Hattie Fisher, Mary Soch, Tillie Hiebner, Stan Willisko. Seated: Harold Sikstrom, Glen Ogilvie, Walter Bittner.

By 1933 the Hay Lakes School had expanded to two rooms with over seventy pupils. The Junior Room, Grades one to six, had begun operating in February 1928, with Miss Anna McCoy as the first teacher. The school offered instruction in all grades from one to eleven inclusive. The School Board in 1933 was made up of Mr. Joe Kreamer, Chairman, with Mr. Norm Ogilvie and Mr. William Henschell as Trustees. Mr. Justin Nordmoe was the Secretary-Treasurer. In 1937, Mr. Ed Bittner replaced Mr. Henschell as trustee, Mr. Nordmoe returned to Norway to live and Mr. Ogilvie became the Secretary-Treasurer. Paul Smith and Dan Schweitzer shared the janitorial duties. The mill rate was set at nine mills to cover school operating expenses and to repay a bank loan made in order to build the second room. The Secretary-Treasurer collected the school tax directly from the rate-payers. It was a nice application of local self-government in which ordinary people could be involved in running their own affairs.

And after that I do not know what happened concerning either teachers or School Board. I was out of it and never looked back until now. Amazing!

As seen by the statistics above, I taught school in Hay Lakes for eight years. During all that time the School Board was friendly, most co-operative and supported me one hundred percent. For that I have been grateful. In Hay Lakes I made friends, grew up, had fun and learned to drink coffee Norwegian style. Roots put down there during the "dirty thirties" continue to hold me even after a lifetime of joys and sorrows, more than two generations of people, a World War and a most interesting career of thirty years duration as a Civil Engineer.

My last day in the Hay Lakes School was Thursday, May 1, 1941. It was a beautiful warm sunny day

that was spent in the school yard with the children repairing the back-stop and playing softball, just for the fun of it. No one except the School Board knew I was leaving that night, so it was quite a surprise next morning when I failed to appear in school. On May 2, 1941, I enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and by the following Monday I was in the Toronto Manning Pool, never again to be a school teacher.

My work in Hay Lakes was finished. The school had been "turned around and straightened out", the "kids" were happy and made excellent marks on examinations set by the Department of Education. But Mr. Claude Robinson, the School Inspector flatly refused to recognize this or give any credit. Upon being shown the official government record of results wherein every single student had attained an "A" standing, the highest possible in those days, he looked me straight in the eye and said, "I don't believe it. In a school like this it cannot be done. Why don't you try something other than teaching school? You are never going to get anywhere in teaching." I was stunned speechless. I was shocked and angry. After eleven years of teaching what was I to do? But really Mr. Robinson did me a great and kindly service because that rude jolt prompted me to find out how fascinating Engineering was and how rewarding the crude Oil Pipeline business could be. The Hay Lakes School may have been "tamed" but in doing it I finished myself as a teacher too.

Hay Lakes School 1946-1949

submitted by Mrs. Margaret (Ferguson) Sware

In September of 1946, the school board of the Village of Hay Lakes hired me at an annual salary of \$1700.00 to be the principal of the two-roomed school in the village. Grades one to six were taught in the junior room by Mrs. Margaret Gellert, a congenial colleague; and the senior room accommodated grades seven to eleven, some of the students coming from Swan Hill, Sulitjelma, Brandland, and Big Hay Lake. By September, 1947 some changes were made as the school was now in the Camrose School Division. With an annual salary of \$2,275.00, I found the following notations on my September cheque for that year:

Salary	\$190.00
Deductions:	
A.T.A.	\$1.10
Pension	5.70
Supplies	91.87
War Tax	20.40
Rent and Fuel	15.00
Total	<u>134.07</u>
Net Amount	<u>\$ 55.93</u>
Note: Supplies sold to all grades in-	



Hay Lakes School 1948. Teacher: Margaret Ferguson. L. to R., Back Row: Vern Ogilvie, Elaine Belore, Adeline Huebner, Irene Holdsworth, Lorena Sware, Rudy Kiel. Second Row: Roger Welda, Rodney Roth, Gladys Holdsworth, Mary Fuernkranz, Don Welda, Bob Huebner. Third Row: Dennis Grahn, Ruth Wahl, Herman Leicht, Rosie Henkelman, Arlene Sware, Mary Hiebner. Fourth Row: Maureen Hein, June Grahn, Joan Roth, Betty Ogilvie, Reggie Lachman. Front: Rosie Henkelman, Eileen Lachman, Hilbert Lachman, Doreen Lechelt.



Hay Lakes School 1948-49. Teacher: Mrs. Margaret Gellert. L. to R., Back Row: Wayne Belore, Donna McLean, Doreen Paul, Lorraine Lachman. Patsy Sware, Bobby Roth, Marvin Nore. Second Row: Gertie Wahl, Frieda Bittner, Ernest Bittner, Gwen Sware, Harold Leicht, Billy Sware, Donald Britton, Ruth Bittner. Third Row: Joyce Mittelstadt, Vera Fisher, Hildegard Erickson, Eileen Paul, Karen Sware, Ronnie Rochue, Bernie Aspell, Phyllis Schaffrick, Richard Lofgren. Fourth Row: Otto Lachman, Shirley Davidson, Lawrence Lachman, Marion Sich, Loren Koss, Ireta Lofgren, Keith McLean. Front: Ron Henschell, Anton Sware, Walter Bittner, Ruth Bittner.

cluded pencils, erasers, rulers, crayons, and exercise books. War Tax was Income Tax.

The salary for my position had risen to \$2,650.00 by June, 1949.

Magnus Sware, Secretary-Treasurer of the local board in 1946, set me straight on the bad actors at

school; and I indicated what I thought a finished, furnished teacherage should be. We became firm friends when we agreed that our mutual concern for the students was most important. The students soon understood that law and order were conducive to learning, and that a few strict rules made opportunities for all.

No school can function well without good caretaking, and Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Fisher were exemplary janitors.

Noontime sports included soccer in fall and paint-can curling in the aisles in winter. Hockey and softball provided competition with the local schools, New Sarepta being a popular rival. On many occasions Gus Wahl was a willing referee. Play had to be fair.

The kindness of the people of the village and district took many forms including purple potatoes from Mrs. Schaffrick and huge cabbages from Mrs. Galenza. Mrs. Graunke, who was deaf and could read no English, plied me with goodies while we visited. Norm and Lil Ogilvie in the post office and switchboard gave me support in the extras they did for me, and anyone who helped you to clean your stovepipes had to be a friend indeed, Mrs. Rudolph Lachman.

My four-footed friend, Punch, who was Reke Paquette's water spaniel, used to follow me downtown to get mail and supplies, waiting patiently at each stop. Then as I whistled my way home, he bounced behind anticipating his treat: two cookies, no more, no less. I taught him to count.

There are many acts of goodwill and friendship that I remember; and surely the students, parents, and other members of the community bring to mind the rhetorical question of J. J. Rousseau:

"What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?"

From District Schools to Central School

In 1950, Canard, Ellswick, Brandland (part of it), Sulitjelma, and Swan Hills district schools joined with the Hay Lakes town school to form a large central school. Later, in 1955, part of Big Hay Lake School came in also. The two-roomed schools (Canard and Sulitjelma) and a one-room school from Coal Hill, which was east of the Village were all moved to town. The Canard and Sulitjelma schools were placed close together, west of the town school, and then joined together by means of a long corridor. The Coal Hill School building was placed east of the town school. The Ellswick, Swan Hill and Big Hay Lake School buildings were sold.

As the classrooms were not ready for the fall session, classes were held in other buildings for a few



Grade 3 and 4 1950-51. Teacher: Miss Briget Carlson. L. to R., Back: Lawrence Lachman, Dennis Broen, Reinholt Ertman, Adeline Miller, Olga Kinas, Hattie Wagner, Michael Parlee, Larry Pelz, Raymond Schultz. Center: Richard Heinz, George Kupka, Keith McLean, Flavian Pasula, Richard Lofgren, Ronald Henschell, Leonard Erdmann, Raymond Heinz, Marvin Russell Schultz. Front: Joyce Selin, Marilyn Selin, Gertie Wolters, Elizabeth Selin, Donna Rotto, Ireta Lofgren, Vera Fisher, Patsy Rubis, Joan Schaffrick, Helen Vereschagen.



Grade 1 1950-51. Teacher: Miss Florence Hagen. L. to R., Back: Dennis Feragen, Walter Elgert, Reinhold Ertman, Ken Vibe, David Culbertson, Billy Hudson, Leon Sware, Allen Selin, Gilbert Schultz. Center: Connie Roper, Irene Famulak, Faith Sware, Rena Sware, Louise Jeske, Helen Ertman, Anita Jeske, Alva Schmidt. Front: Leona Heinz, Anna Soch, Connie Pelz, Erica Erdmann, Joanne Nordin, Marion Palm, Shirley Broen, Grace Busenius.

months — Grades two and three in the Cosy Café, Grades three and four in the Town Hall, Grades eight and nine in the Legion Hall.

In 1955, plans were made to build a new eight-room school. This would replace the temporary moved in facilities and the old town school. Although not quite ready by September 1, classes did move in by the fall of 1956. Those four “joined rooms” were still used. All the books were placed in one room. One served as a storage room and the Cubs and Scouts each used one for their meeting places. In 1961, due to overcrowding, it was necessary to use three rooms as classrooms again.

In 1962, the eight-room school was enlarged to



Grade 6 and 7 1950-51. Teacher: Miss Adelaide Calvert. L. to R., Back: Carl Fuernkranz, Rubin Lechelt, Mervin Pasula, Eddie Holdsworth, Rodney Movold, Harold Leicht, Lorne Zucht, Bill Sware, Irvin Berkholtz, Reinhart Soch. Center: Joyce Pederson, Eleanor Blawuciak, Marlene Rost, Loretta Pasula, Evelyn Lechelt, Margaret Forsen, Gladys Pasula, Rosemary Blakely, Marlene Tober, Grace Eliason. Front: Karen Sware, Irva Selin, Jean Sych, Melvin Movold, Jonathan Parlee, Walter Heinz, Anthony Pelz, Gertrude Wahl, Joanne Lofgren, Lillian Huebner.



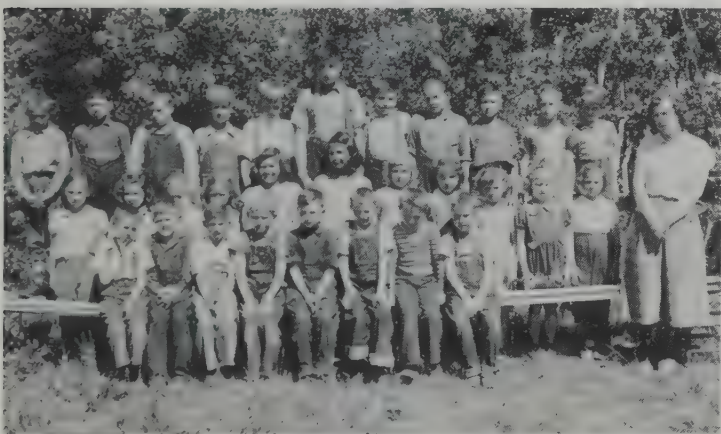
High School 1950-51. Principal: Stan Roberts. L. to R., Back: Raymond Pelz, Gilbert Heinz, Hilbert Lachman, Rudolph Kiel, Donald Welda, Clarence Huebner. Center — Gregory Pelz, Maxine Movold, Lorraine Galenza, Connie Werner, Maureen Hein, Rosie Henkelman, Norma Werner, Herbert Thiel. Front: Hazel Winder, Betty Ogilvie, Betty Movold, Joan Roth, Ruth Wahl, Evelyn Sych.

contain four more classrooms, a typing room, modern laboratory, shower rooms and a gymnasium. Before this addition, Ken Dahl had kept his biology equipment in the corner of his classroom.

The amalgamation of the County schools in 1952 brought opportunities to receive instruction in Home Economics and Industrial Arts for Grades eight through twelve. The students were bused to Kingman where the facilities for this instruction were located, for use by all in the north end of the County. Mrs. Margaret Gellert, who had been teaching at Hay Lakes, became the first Home Economics teacher at Kingman.



Grade 8 and 9, 1950-51. Teacher — Henry Anderson. L. to R., Back: Gwen Sware, Lawrence Galenza, Melvin Kohut, Lawrence Kupka, Gerhart Forsen, Ronald Mallas, Armin Schmidt, Glen Lechelt, Robert Grams, Raymond Heinz, Manford Elgert, Leona Selin. Center: Eileen Gaukel, Ronald Eliason, Norman Gaukel, Edward Eliason, Ignace Sych, Elmer Schmidt, William Rost, Morris Radowitz, Rudolph Fuernkranz, Donald Rost, Joseph Radowitz, Ruby Selin. Front: Christina Fuernkranz, Edna Thiel, Jean Kupka, Marjorie Webster, Patricia Sware, Anne Selin, Joyce Movold, Donna McLean, Vivian Hamula, Irmgard Buob, Margaret Werner. Kneeling: Kenneth Forsen, Martin Schultz, Patrick Sutherland, Donald Britton, Arthur Forsen.



Grade 2 and 3 1950-51. Teacher: Mrs. Christine Hudson. L. to R., Back: Allen Kreamer, Ronald Berkholtz, Ewald Miller, Heinz Wagner, Marvin Schultz, Ervin Miller, Dennis Galenza, Lorne Kohut, Ken Molden, Lawrence Leicht, Eldon Nordin. Center: Jean Soch, Vera Busenius, Miriam Parlee, Sharon Sware, Betty Hudson, Catherine Blakely, Virginia Lachman, Diane Tober, Maxine Peterson, Phylis Kohut, Pat Sych. Front: Wayne Thompson, Eddie Lofgren, George Sych, Marvin Gaukel, Reuben Pasula, Alvin Pasula, Lyle Harke, Ron Fisher.

These special courses were available in Kingman until 1967 when, by an agreement between the City of Camrose and the County of Camrose, still more improved facilities enabled more extensive instruction to be offered.

The Armena School was closed and the students bused to Hay Lakes in the 1975-76 school term. Hay Lakes now had a modern school, several teach-



Grade 5, 1950-51. Teacher: Miss Doris Ward. L. to R., Back Row: Garry Thompson, Richard Gellert, Sigmund Famulak, Ted Elgert, Ronald Schultz, Edwin Lechelt. Center: Anton Sware, Angela Fuernkranz, Marion Sich, Bernice Hamula, Nadia Sych, Bernard Aspell. Front: Keith Pederson, Phyllis Schaffrick, Sharon Sutherland, Lorraine Mallas, Doreen Hein, Olga Radawetz.

erages, and a school-bus garage that houses four school buses.

In the fall of 1981 construction began on further additions to the school to meet the expanding needs

of a growing community which now includes pupils from a number of acreages.

The school year during the first years was divided into terms from September to December and January to June. Later the teachers were hired for a full term from September to June.

In 1967 or 1968 the semester system was introduced into the Junior and Senior rooms of the school. These terms now run from September to January and February to June.

Jan. 12, 1920 to Dec. 20, 1920

Mr. T. O'Connor

Jan. 1921 to April, 1921

Miss Grace Hall and Mr. Douglas Gemeroy

April 1921 to June, 1923

Mr. G. L. Davies

Sept. 1923 to Dec. 24, 1923

Mr. C. McKinnon

Jan. 1924 to Dec. 1925

Mr. E. L. Samis

Jan. 1926 to Dec. 1926

Mr. Thomas Tivey

Jan. 1927 to June 1927

Mr. F. R. McKittrick

Aug. 1927 to June 1931

Mr. R. A. Kilpatrick (Principal)

A second room was added in February, 1928. Mr. Kilpatrick was principal with Miss Anna McCoy the junior teacher.

Feb. 1928 to June 1932

Miss Ann M. McCoy

Sept. 1931 to June 1932

Miss Janet Wells (Principal)

Sept. 1932 to June 1933

Miss Ruth Poetzsch and Mr. A. O. Olson (Principal)

Sept. 1933 to June 1934

Mr. J. E. Lyle and Mr. A. O. Olson (Principal)

Sept. 1934 to June 1935

Mr. J. E. Lyle and Mr. W. G. Siebrasse (Principal)

Sept. 1935 to June 1936

Mr. J. E. Lyle and Mr. W. G. Siebrasse (Principal)

Sept. 1936 to June 1939

Miss Doris Malmas and Mr. J. E. Lyle (Principal)

1939-1940

Miss Christine Nelson and J. E. Lyle (Principal)

1940-1941

Miss Christine Nelson, J. E. Lyle (Principal) and Miss P. Capsey (May and June)

1941-1942

Miss Christine Nelson and Miss Johnson

1942-1944

Mrs. Irna Mittelstadt and Miss Robin

1944-1945

Mrs. Margaret Gellert and Mr. G. D. McFarlane

1945-1946

Mrs. Margaret Gellert and Mr. C. C. Porter

1946-1949

Mrs. Margaret Gellert and Miss Margaret Ferguson

1949-1950

Miss Rostang, grades 1-3

Miss A. Calvert, grades 4-8

Mr. Stanley Roberts, high school

1950-1951

Miss Florence Hagen Grade 1

Mrs. Christine Hudson Grade 2

Miss Brigit Carlson Grade 3 and 4

Miss Doris Ward Grade 5 and 6

Miss Adelaide Calvert Grade 7

Mr. Henry Anderson Grade 8 and 9

Mr. Stanley Roberts Grade 10, 11, 12 (Principal)

1951-1952

Miss Lorraine Scotvold Grade 1 and 2

Mrs. Christina Webster 2 and 3

Miss Brigit Carlson 3 and 4

Mr. Eric Hohn — mo. of Sept. 5 and 6

Mrs. Margaret Gellert 5 and 6

Mr. Henry Anderson 7 and 8

Mr. Otto Deutsch high school

Mr. Stanley Roberts, principal high school

1952-1953

Miss Lorraine Scotvold Grade 1

Miss Joan Rattel 2 and 3

Miss Margaret Gould 3 and 4

Miss Anne Marie Tveit 5 and 6

Mrs. Louise Nordin 7 and 11

Mrs. Ann (McCoy) Sware 7 and 8

Mr. Bernard Fossen 9 and high school

Mr. Otto Deutsch, principal high school

1953-1954

Miss Jean Freeman Grade 1

Miss Joan Rattel 2

Miss Margaret Gould 3 and 4

Mrs. Thelma Movold 5 and 6

Mr. Bernard Fossen 7 and 8

Mr. Benjamin Waterman 9 and high school

Mr. Otto Deutsch, principal high school

1954-1955

Mrs. Thea Young Grade 1

Miss Joan Rattel 2

Miss Jean Freeman 3 and 4

Mrs. Mary Pelz 5 and 6

Mr. Bernard Fossen 7 and 8

Mrs. Ella Atkinson 9 and high school

Mr. Benjamin Waterman, principal high school

1955-1956

Mrs. Thea Young Grade 1

Miss Sonia Rogstad 2

Miss Mary Ann Magarrell 3

Miss Christina Fuernkranz 4 and 5

Mrs. Mary Pelz 5 and 6

Mr. Bernard Fossen 7 and 8

Mrs. Ella Atkinson 9 and high school

Mr. Benjamin Waterman, principal

1956-1957

Mrs. Thea Young Grade 1

Miss Mary Ann Magarrell 2 and 3

Miss Christina Fuernkranz 4

Mrs. Mary Pelz 5 and 6

Miss Lenora Sharuga 6 and 7

Mr. Bernard Fossen 8

Mrs. Ella Atkinson 9 and high school

Mr. Benjamin Waterman, principal high school

1957-1958

Mrs. Thea Young Grade 1

Miss Mary Ann Magarrell 2 and 3

Miss R. A. Pawliuk 3 and 4

Mrs. Mary Pelz 5

Miss Janette Wattie 6 and 7

Mr. Dennis Murphy 7 and 8

Mrs. Ella Atkinson 9 and high school

Mr. Benjamin Waterman, principal high school

1958-1959

Mrs. Mary Pelz Grade 1 and 2

Mrs. M. Martz 2 and 3

Mrs. Thea Young 4 and 5

Mr. William Lohner 5 and 6

Miss Elizbeth Stang 7

Mr. Dennis Murphy 8

Mrs. Ella Atkinson 9 and high school

Mr. Benjamin Waterman, principal high school

1959-1960

Mrs. Mary Pelz Grade 1

Miss Dianne Simonson 2 and 3

Mrs. Thea Young 3 and 4

Mr. William Lohner 5

Miss Elizabeth Stang 6 and 7

Miss Eleanor Mayhew 8

Mr. Dennis Murphy 9 and high school

Mr. Ken Dahl, principal high school (no grade twelve taught this year)

1960-61

Mrs. Mary Pelz Grade 1

Mrs. Bernice Elgert 2

1961-1962	Miss Daly	3	1966-1967	Mr. Gian Pohar	9
	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mr. David Yakimowich	9
	Mr. William Lohner	5		Mr. John Hughes	high school
	Miss Elizabeth Stang	6 and 7		Mr. Brian Fjeseth	high school
	Miss Eleanor Mayhew	8		Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school
	Mr. Dennis Murphy	9 and high school		Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school
	Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school		Mrs. Carol Skaret (Sept.-Jan.)	Grade 1
	Mrs. Mary Pelz	Grade 1		Mrs. Gerd Lyseng (Feb.-June)	1
	Mrs. Bernice Elgert	2		Mrs. Sylvia Christanson	2
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mrs. Ruth Grue	4
	Mrs. Eleanor Holm (Sept.-Dec.)	5		Mrs. Thelma Movold	5
	Miss Agnes Peter (Jan.-June)	5		Miss Lucy Kilar	6
	Mrs. Lenora Bowes	6 and 7		Mrs. Doreen Watt	7
	Mr. William Lohner	8		Mr. Dennis Lindstrand	8
	Mr. Dennis Murphy	9		Mr. Alexander Salahub	9
	Mr. Eric McCorkel	high school		Mr. John Hughes	high school
1962-1963	Mr. Dennis Saffran	high school	1967-1968	Mr. Dean White	high school
	Mrs. Louise Nordin	high school		Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school
	Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school		Mr. Fred Hamilton, principal	high school
	Mrs. Mary Pelz	Grade 1		Miss Mary Laliberte	Grade 1
	Mrs. Bernice Elgert	2		Mrs. Sylvia Christenson	2
	Mrs. Pauline Marsuchak	3		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mrs. Ruth Grue	4
	Miss Agnes Peter (Sept.-Dec.)	5		Mrs. Thelma Movold	5
	Mrs. Thelma Movold (Jan.-June)	5		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Miss Marica Naherniak	6		Mrs. Doreen Watt	7
	Mr. Alan Erga	6 and 7		Mr. Dennis Lindstrand	8
	Mrs. Kathleen Fraser	8		Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-prin.	9
	Mr. Dennis Murphy	9		Mr. Ray Klink	high school
	Miss Marion Sich	high school		Mr. Dean White	high school
	Mr. Dennis Saffran	high school		Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school
	Mrs. Louise Nordin	high school		Mr. Fred Hamilton, principal	high school
	Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school	1968-1969	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
1963-1964	Mrs. Mary Pelz (Sept.-Dec.)	Grade 1		Mrs. Sylvia Christenson	2
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng (Jan.-June)	1		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mrs. Bernice Elgert	2		Mrs. Ruth Grue	4
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3		Mrs. Thelma Movold	5
	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Thelma Movold	5		Miss Judy Wilcox	7
	Mrs. Clara Erga	6		Miss Joan Bjorge	8
	Mrs. Kathleen Fraser	7		Mr. Merrill Stavne	9
	Mr. Alan Erga	8		Mr. Alex Salahub, vice-principal	9
	Mr. David Yakimowich	9		Mr. Rolf Nosterud	high school
	Mrs. Marion Saffran	high school		Mr. Norman Majeski	high school
	Mr. Bikkar Randhawa	high school		Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school
	Mrs. Louise Nordin	high school		Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal	high school
	Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school		Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Miss Sandra Christopherson	Grade 1		Mrs. Sylvia Christenson	2
	Mrs. Marie Turpin	2		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3		Mrs. Ruth Grue	4
1964-1965	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mrs. Thelma Movold	5
	Mrs. Thelma Movold	5		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Clara Erga	6		Mrs. Judy Niven	7
	Mr. Ben Myer	7		Mrs. Donna Storvik	8
	Mr. Alan Erga	8		Mr. Dale Storvik	9
	Mr. David Yakimowich	9		Mr. C. W. Parker	high school
	Miss Nora Rugland			Mr. Norman Mjeski	high school
	Mr. Charlie McCleary			Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school
	Mr. Brian Fjeseth	high school		Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal	high school
	Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school		Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal	
	Mr. Ken Dahl, principal	high school	1970-1971	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	grade 1 and 2
	Mrs. Sandra Yakimowich	Grade 1		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
1965-1966	Mrs. Carol Skaret	2		Mrs. Ruth Grue	4
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3		Mrs. Thelma Movold	5
	Mrs. Thea Young	4		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Thelma Movold	5		Mr. Larry Armfelt	7
	Miss Lucy Kilar	6		Mrs. Donna Storvik	8
	Mr. Paul Koziol	7		Mr. Dale Storvik	9

1971-1972	Mr. Clement Hebert	high school	1975-1976	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Mr. Ron Babiuk	high school		Mrs. Bernice Elgert	1
	Mrs. Margaret Sware	high school		Mrs. Irene Moore	2
	Mr. Everett Norris	music and science		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal			Mrs. Olive Thronson	4
	Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal			Miss Barbara Noullett	5
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Valerie Nielson	2		Mr. Douglas Lyseng	junior high
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3		Mr. Don Green	junior high
	Mrs. Ruth Grue	4		Mr. Earle Berry	junior high
	Mrs. Alice Lindstrand	5		Mr. Allan Magneson	senior high
	Mrs. Helen Heinz	6		Mr. Harold Ross	senior high
	Mr. Max Lindstrand	7		Mrs. Sandra Reshetylo	senior high
	Mrs. Donna Storvik	8		Mr. Robert Luger, principal	
	Mr. Merril Stavne	9		Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal	
1972-1973	Mr. Dale Storvik	high school	1976-1977	Mrs. Maxine Sych, special education and resource room	
	Mrs. Marlene Nelson	high school		Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Mr. Harold Ross	high school		Mrs. Bernice Elgert	2
	Mrs. Margaret Sware (half-time)	high school		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal			Mrs. Olive Thronson	4
	Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal			Miss Barbara Noullett	5
	Mrs. Joan Stavne (half-time)			Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1 and 2		Mr. Douglas Lyseng	junior high
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	2 and 3		Mr. Michael Lanigan	junior high
	Mrs. Ruth Grue	4		Mr. Don Green	junior high
	Mrs. Alice Lindstrand	5		Mr. Allan Magneson (Sept.-Feb.)	junior high
	Mrs. Valerie Nielson	5 and 6		Miss Jean Gannon (Feb.-June)	senior high
	Mrs. Helen Heinz	6		Mr. Harold Ross	senior high
	Mr. Max Lindstrand	7		Mr. John Neufeld	senior high
	Mr. Rick Ruhl (Sept.-Jan.)	8		Mrs. Sandra Reshetylo	senior high
1973-1974	Mr. Norman Wright (Feb.-June)	8	1977-1978	Mr. Robert Luger, principal	
	Mr. Douglas Lyseng	9		Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal	
	Miss Terry Meyers	high school		Mrs. Maxine Sych, special education and resource room	
	Mr. Gregory Brown	high school		Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Mr. Harold Ross	high school		Mrs. Bernice Elgert	2
	Mrs. Margaret Sware (half-time)	high school		Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3
	Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal			Mrs. Olive Thronson	4
	Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal			Miss Barbara Noullett	5
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1 and 2		Mrs. Helen Heinz	6
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	3 and 4		Mr. Douglas Lyseng	junior high
	Mrs. Alice Lindstrand	5		Mr. Michael Lanigan	junior high
	Mrs. Helen Heinz	6		Mr. Don Green	junior high
	Mr. Max Lindstrand	7		Miss Jean Gannon	senior high
	Mr. Douglas Lyseng	8		Mr. Harold Ross	senior high
	Mrs. Marville Skaret	substitute gd. 9		Mrs. Sandra Reshetylo	senior high
1974-1975	Mr. Frank Burlingame	substitute gd. 9	1978-1979	Mrs. Jeanne Olson (Sept.-Feb.)	senior high
	Mr. Paul Hawryluk (Sept.-March)	high school		Mr. Don Fisher (Feb.-June)	senior high
	Mrs. Pearl Gregor (March-June)	high school		Mr. Robert Luger, principal (Sept.-Nov.25)	
	Mr. Earle Berry	high school		Mr. Rudi Grab, principal (Dec.12-June)	
	Miss LaVerne Harke	high school		Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal	
	Mr. Harold Ross	high school		Mrs. Maxine Sych, special education and resource room	
	Mrs. Margaret Sware (half-time)	high school		Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Mr. Edmund Majeski, principal			Mrs. Gloria Rosychuk	Grade 1 and 3
	Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal			Mrs. Bernice Elgert	Grade 2
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1		Mrs. Maxine Sych	Grade 3 (Sept. to Dec.)
	Mrs. Pauline Maruschak	2 and 3		Mr. Brian Baker	Grade 3 (Jan. to June)
	Mrs. Alice Lindstrand	4 and 5		Mrs. Olive Thronson	Grade 4
	Mrs. Helen Heinz	6		Miss Barbara Noullett	Grade 5
	Mr. Earle Berry	junior high		Mrs. Helen Heinz	Grade 6
	Mr. Max Lindstrand	junior high		Mr. Don Green	Junior High
	Mr. Douglas Lyseng	junior high		Mr. Doug Lyseng	Junior High
	Miss Shirley Jensen	senior high		Mrs. Sandra Reshetylo	Junior High
	Mr. Allen Magneson	senior high		Miss Jean Gannon	Senior High
	Mr. Harold Ross	senior high		Mr. Morley Dunlop	Senior High
	Mrs. Margaret Sware (half-time)	senior high		Mr. Ron Rosychuk	Senior High
	Mr. Robert Luger, principal			Mr. Rudi Grab	Principal
	Mr. Alexander Salahub, vice-principal				
	Mrs. Maxine Sych, special education and resource room				

	Mr. Alex Salahub	Vice-Principal
	Mrs. Sylvia Christenson	Special education and resource room
1979-1980	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1
	Mrs. Bernice Elgert	Grade 2
	Mrs. Gloria Rosychuk	Grade 3
	Miss Margaret Huff	Grade 2 and 4 (Sept. to March)
	Mrs. Shelley Kuzma	Grade 2 and 4 (April to June)
	Mrs. Olive Thronson	Grade 4
	Miss Barbara Noullett	Grade 5
	Mrs. Helen Heinz	Grade 6
	Mr. Alan Hamaliuk	Junior High (Sept. to March)
	Mr. Ed Overbo	Junior High (April to June)
	Mr. Doug Lyseng	Junior High
	Mrs. Jean These	Junior High
	Mr. Morley Dunlop	Senior High
	Mrs. Jean Moncur	Senior High
	Mr. Ron Rosychuk	Senior High
	Mr. Rudi Grab	Principal
	Mr. Alex Salahub	Vice-Principal
	Mrs. Barbara Kupka	Special education and resource room
1980-1981	Miss Brenda Pearson	French
	Mrs. Gerd Lyseng	Grade 1A
	Miss Monique Goudreau	Grade 1B and French
	Mrs. Beverly Devries	Grade 1B
	Mrs. Bernice Elgert	Grade 2
	Mrs. Gloria Rosychuk	Grade 3
	Mrs. Shelley Kuzma	Grade 4
	Miss Barbara Noullett	Grade 5A
	Miss Brenda Seward	Grade 5B
	Mrs. Joan Stavne	Grade 6
	Mr. Ed Overbo	Junior High
	Mr. Doug Lyseng	Junior High
	Mr. Morley Dunlop	Junior High
	Mrs. Jean These	Senior High
	Mrs. Jean Moncur	Senior High
	Mr. Ron Rosychuk	Senior High (Sept. to Oct.)
	Mr. Gary Yakimchuk	Senior High (Nov. to June)
	Mr. Rudi Grab	Principal
	Mr. Alex Salahub	Vice-Principal
	Mrs. Barbara Kupka	Special education and resource room

Superintendents and Assistants:

	Inspectors
1918-1934	John W. Russell
1932-1935	David M. Sullivan
1935-1954	Claude Robinson
	Superintendents
1954-1961	J. R. S. Hambly
Sept., 1961-June, 1973	W. Gordon Hay
July 1, 1973-present	Eric G. Hohn
	Assistants
Oct. 15, 1973-Aug. 22, 1975	Ron Smith
Nov. 3, 1975-present	Merle Stover

The Holmberg Memorial Award

The Holmberg Memorial Award is dedicated to the memory of my parents, Charles and Brita Holmberg and my brother, John Holmberg.

It is an award for service, to be given yearly to a

student in the Hay Lakes Junior High School. Not only was my family interested in academic achievement, but in education in its very broadest sense, particularly in the field of community service.

My father, for example, was an active participant in the United Farmers of Alberta Local, in political gatherings, in the local school board, and in municipal affairs. For over twenty years he was councillor for this area in the Cornhill Municipality with its headquarters in Tofield. In 1915 he was instrumental in establishing the Hay Lakes Mutual Telephone System, one of the first in the province. For many years he was one of the executives of the Hay Lakes Drainage District.

My mother, though seriously ill for many years, encouraged him in these activities, and my brother, John, followed his father's example in community service.

This award, then, available to a Junior High student in the Hay Lakes school, is to be a general service award that will take into account leadership in various activities, Student Union participation, and those qualities considered to be a credit and help to the school. It will be presented annually, and will take the form of a plaque to remain in the school with the student's name engraved, together with a certificate for the student.

Though this is called the Holmberg Memorial Award, I hope it will remind all of you of your own parents and grandparents, the pioneers who settled and developed this district.

My husband, Frank Walker, and I and my sister-in-law, Edith Holmberg, now take pleasure in calling upon the first recipient of this award — Zenna Goclon.

Olga Holmberg Walker, September 1975.

The Mikkil Bakken Family by John Bakken

Mikkil Bakken was born April 5, 1879 on a small farm in Tufsingdalen, Norway. He had a very keen interest in medicine but there was no money for that type of schooling, so he had to be content reading books about medicine on his own. He kept this up all his life.

He married Olava Feragen who was born November 11, 1883 on a small farm in the Røros district, Norway. Mother and Dad attended school for six weeks in the early spring and six weeks in the late fall. They travelled on skis which were homemade. They left home on Monday and returned Friday, a distance of several miles. In spite of their limited schooling, they educated themselves as did many others those days. Dad worked two years in the logging camp and saved enough money to come to

Canada. They did not want to leave Norway, but there were no jobs and times were hard. Canada was painted rosily as the promised land. One did not hear about the hardships involved.

In 1906 Mother and Dad, along with Ole Feragen and his wife, Sofia Feragen (nee Bakken) and three little children, immigrated to Canada. It was heart-breaking to leave their loved ones, but they promised to visit Norway in five years. They broke this promise as there was no money for trips at that time. Dad had some good tools with him but not much else. While in Oslo, before boarding the ship, Dad bought two sewing machines, one for Mother and one for his sister, Sofia. The voyage was a long, tedious one and Mother often talked about how very sea sick she was.

They arrived in the summer of 1906. They were met in Wetaskiwin by relatives from Armena. They stayed with these relatives, John Broens and Ole Movolds, for several weeks. During this time Dad and Uncle Ole filed on homesteads north west of Miquelon Lake. Dad filed on the N.E. ¼-26-49-21.

Before winter set in they built a crude shack and both couples, with their meagre belongings, moved in. There was a sod roof and floor and a blanket was

used as a partition. Then each family had a room. In this humble little cabin, my sister Lillian was born. The Feragens had three children, so there were eight people living in this small abode. Dad and Uncle Ole worked for farmers in the Armena district. Muskrats were in abundance, so trapping was their main source of income. There was much game: ducks, geese, partridges, rabbits and lot of berries. No need to go hungry! Dad and Uncle Ole purchased a cow each. Snow water and rain was used as they had no well.

During the first winter a small barn was built so the cows were cared for, thus providing us with milk to drink and butter on the table.

My parents and the Ole Feragens were the only settlers on the north west side of the lake, but across the lake the country was quite well settled. There were wagon trails between the farms. Dad and Uncle Ole made skis and went straight across country to Lundemo (store and post office) to purchase coffee, sugar, flour, etc. This was about ten miles one way.

How clearly I remember one of Dad's trips to Lundemo on skis.

There was a heavy snowfall followed by a blizzard, which did not ease up until night. Mother was



L. to R., Standing: Gladys, Gilbert, Haldis, Lillian, Clara, John, Bernice, Mr. Bakken, Mernille, Mrs. Bakken. Taken 1926 or '27.



Mikkel Bakken at 91 years of age 1970.

very worried about Dad. He finally came home with a pole across his shoulder with a bag of groceries on one end, and a fifty pound bag of flour on the other shoulder.

Dad and Ole built a boat. In the summer they would row across the lake, leave the boat and walk to their destination. They would walk to Camrose on occasion to buy things that they could not get in the Lundemo store.

In the summer of 1907, Uncle Ole built a house on his own place. Dad put a floor in the shack and improved it. Dad and Ole acquired an ox each so they now had a team. They bought a wagon with a single-deck box.

I remember hearing about a trip that uncle Ole made to Camrose with the oxen and wagon. Coming home, the oxen stopped in the middle of a shallow slough that had to be crossed. They would not budge and tried to lie down. Ole unhitched them and led them across to the shore. He waded back and brought the supplies he had purchased to the dry land. He went back and floated the wagon box to the shore. The wagon was dismantled and taken across, piece by piece. Then he put it all together and arrived home safe and sound!

Dad built a bigger house and barn about two years after his arrival on the homestead. Together with Ole Feragen he bought another quarter of land, south of the lake, on Section 23-49-21. The soil was much better. Dad and Uncle Ole divided his quarter. A walking plough was purchased the first summer. Later, they bought a disc, a harrow, a drill and finally a binder. Now farming was on the way! Four more children were born on this homestead — Clara, John, Gilbert and Haldis.

In the spring of 1915, Dad bought the north half of Section 18-49-21 where my parents lived for the rest of their lives and where I now live. How well I remember the day we moved from the homestead to the new farm. We lived in a tent while Dad, with the help of neighbours, built a house. We moved into this house in the fall of 1915. He also built a little barn

before winter set in. Next summer the land was fenced and ten acres were broken. A small granary was built.

We call them “the good old days!”, but the back-breaking work in the summer and the harsh cold and lonely winters are things we cannot visualize. After much root picking, etc. the ten acres were seeded the following year and four stacks of grain were threshed.

The day that the threshing outfit arrived must have been the most exciting day in the lives of Gilbert and I. We didn’t have a clue what a steam engine and separator looked like. We got up very early in the morning and waited for the arrival of the outfit. Finally, we got a glimpse of the smoke from the steam engine. Slowly it arrived. We were so excited and thrilled! This was the Anton Pearson Steam Outfit. The main crew consisted of four — Anton Pearson was the separator man; Charlie Carlson, the engineer; Bill Pearson, the water man and Evart Pearson, the sacker.

Every year a little headway was made — brushing, breaking, root picking and building. In 1917 Dad rented the south half of Section 19-49-21 from Harold McGill. Gradually we acquired more machinery, more cattle and horses, sheep and pigs, turkeys, chickens, etc. We always milked many cows. The grind was on and has been ever since! Nuff said!

Three more children were born here: Gladys, Bernice and Mernille. We all got our public school education at the New Sarepta Rural. Gilbert and I missed several weeks of school every spring and fall. Dad really needed our help. So, actually, we really didn’t enjoy school that much. But now, as I look back, I realize those days must have been the best part of my life.

Mother and Dad did get back to Norway. Mother went in 1952 and Dad went in 1953. They enjoyed their trip very much although their folks had died long before. Nevertheless, it was a great thrill to see their brothers and sisters and the place where they grew up.

Mother and Dad were life members of the Lutheran church and all of their children were baptized and confirmed in the same church.

Mikkel and Olava Bakken had eight children.

Lillian Darter (November 1906-January 1978) married Ed Lockhart. She had a stepdaughter, Mary Bannon, of Qwalicum, Vancouver Island. **Mary** and John Bannon have one son and four grandchildren. Lillian had one son, **Lewis**, of Camrose. Lewis has one son, one daughter and five grandchildren. Lillian had one daughter **Maxine** Howey of New Hampshire. Maxine and Hank Howey have two daughters. Lillian raised two foster children, **Lennie**

Tasone of Surrey and **Hollie** Theisen of Hay Lakes. Lillian passed away in December, 1978 at the family farm. She loved people and looked for good in everyone.

Clara (August 1908-January 1945) married Fred Wall. They had two sons and two daughters. **Fred, Jr.** and Marie live in Jasper. They have two sons and one daughter. **Beverley** and Jim Culbertson have one daughter. Beverley has two stepsons. They have seven grandchildren and live in Jasper. **Noelle** and Alex Ramey have three daughters and live in Mississauga. **Byron** and Doreen Wall have five children and live in Hay Lakes. Clara attended Bible School in Grand Forks and taught little children there. She loved children and was a very good organist. She passed away in January, 1945.

John (September 1910-) spent most of his life on the family farm. He now owns it and lives there. He spent some time in Winnipeg studying auto mechanics. This was a great help to John on the farm. He worked in Calgary and Innisfail.

Gilbert (June 1912-September 1948) spent most of his life on the family farm. He worked at a lumber mill at Pidgeon Lake for a few years. Gilbert passed away in September, 1948.

Haldis (March 1915-September 1967) spent a few years in Edmonton, then moved to Vancouver where she married Art Kendall. She did secretarial work until her passing in September, 1967.

Gladys (July 1916-) spent most of her life in Vancouver. She married Frank Wright and they have two daughters, **Patricia** and **Susan**, both living in Vancouver. Gladys and Frank have one granddaughter. Gladys worked as a model, bookkeeper and taxi driver. She does some art work but specializes in home decorating.

Bernice (September 1918-) spent most of her life teaching at various schools in Alberta. She has one son **Michael** Halvorson. Michael and Jude live in Edmonton. She has one daughter, **Claranne** Dixon. Claranne and Jim live in Lacombe and have four children. Bernice and Charlie Aldridge live in the country close to Gwynne.

Mernille (October 1920-) spent most of her life in the U.S.A. She married Reu Grove. They have one son, **Gale**, who lives in Bellingham. Mernille and Reu live at Kendall Corners in Washington. Mernille is a talented artist and has also modelled and is a home decorator.

Our family has gradually dwindled down to four. We get together as much as possible and enjoy sharing our memories and recalling our childhood experiences and thoughts. Time has gone by so fast. It seems like yesterday when we were all together. Mother passed away in January, 1959. Dad passed away January, 1972.

Berkholtz, Irvin and Joyce and Family

Irvin Berkholtz was born and raised in the Hay Lakes area. He attended school in Canard and Hay Lakes. He farmed and drove a truck in the area. In November, 1973 Irvin married Joyce Brown. At the time of their marriage, Joyce and her four children were living in New Sarepta and were managing the Coffee Shop in the New Sarepta Hotel.

Robert, the oldest child, continued his education and graduated from the New Sarepta High School. He is presently living and driving a truck in Okotoks, Alberta.

Sandra, the only daughter, graduated from Hay Lakes High School and is now living and working in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Tom attended school for a short time in Hay Lakes and later, graduated from the W. P. Wagner School in Edmonton. He is presently living and driving a truck in the Edmonton area.

Kevin went to school in Hay Lakes and finished in Viking, Alberta. He is presently living and working for Alberta Government Telephones in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Irvin, along with his brother, Ronald Berkholtz, and Rudy Fuernkrantz organized the first Fastball Team in Hay Lakes for a number of years. Later, he went to pitch ball for New Sarepta until he and his family moved to the Bruce-Viking area to farm in 1975. Irvin continued pitching ball for the Bruce Stampeders until 1980. At that time he and Joyce moved to Holden and Irvin continued farming and is presently pitching fastball for the Holden Keggars, this making Irvin's twenty-third year of pitching fastball.

Berg, Paul

Paul Berg was born near Trondhjem, Norway on July 11, 1883. He arrived in Canada in the year of 1906 and resided in the Lundemo, Armena and Hay Lakes districts until the time of his passing May 18, 1962 at the Simon Grue's where he made his home. He played the coronet in the early years with the Maple Leaf Band in 1909. Paul also enjoyed playing his violin.

Berkholtz, Lawrence and Irma submitted by Irma Berkholtz (Boettcher)

Lawrence was born on November 27, 1934, oldest son to Leo and Lena Berkholtz. He married Irma Boettcher on October 23, 1959, youngest child of Reinhold and Lydia Boettcher, of Ryley, Alberta. Lawrence and I met while we were both working in Edmonton, — Lawrence driving bus for Edmonton Transit System and myself working in the office of a paper wholesale.

We lived in Edmonton for a year and a half, then moved to the Art Soch farm at Hay Lakes, NW 36-48-22-W4, where we lived for six years. Our first two children were born during those years; Laurel, oldest child and only daughter, was born May 29, 1961, and Greg, oldest son, was born August 22, 1962.

In the fall of 1967, we bought and moved to the Emil Lachman farm, SW 36-48-22-W4, where we still live and operate a small dairy.

Two more sons joined the family; Scott, born June 24, 1969, and Gary, born June 19, 1973.



Lawrence Berkholtz family — 1979. L. to R.: Scott, Greg, Gary, Alvin Hartmann, Laurel, Lawrence and Irma.

Our only daughter, Laurel, married Alvin Hartmann on February 3, 1979, and they live in Beaumont, Alberta. They have two daughters; Jodi Lyn and Sheila Dawn.

Laurel and Greg both completed and graduated from Hay Lakes School, and Scott and Gary are both still attending the same school.

Berkholtz, Ted and Mary by Mary Berkholtz

Ted was born on May 21, 1914 to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Berkholtz. He spent his youth helping on the family farm and attended the Big Hay Lake School.

I was born on April 16, 1918 to Mr. and Mrs. Kosovich and also attended the Big Hay Lake School.

In the spring of 1941 Ted started his farming ventures, renting land from his brother Leo. His batchelor farming days did not last long as we were married on October 23, 1941 in St. Lukes Lutheran Church and began our farming life together. Ted had



Ted and Mary Berkholtz.

two cows and six horses and when I left home my parents gave me four cows and a brood sow. These were our sole possessions.

In February 1942, Ted was called into the army, first stationed in Edmonton and then transferred to North Bay, Ontario. I moved back to my parents farm taking our livestock with me.

When Ted returned from the services in June 1942, he worked for farmers in the district for awhile. In the fall of 1943 we purchased a quarter of land (NE 30-48-21-W4) for thirty-five hundred dollars. On November 20, 1943 we moved into a one room field grainery and started farming for the second time. Difficult, but happy times followed, but in about three years we built a bedroom onto the grainery and were happy we had a real house.

During the late forties, Ted in partnership with his brother, Sam and a friend Gus Mittlestadt purchased a homestead quarter at Breton to use for lumbering. Ted logged there and hired men to help him. He brought out enough lumber to build a barn and a house. Our barn was built in 1951 and our house in 1954. We built all the buildings in our yard as there were only two field graineries on the land when we bought it. In 1970 the Breton homestead was sold for twenty-seven hundred dollars.

We were into mixed farming and milked ten holsteins until 1973 when they were sold. Ted did the milking and I pail fed up to thirty calves some years. Ted rented a quarter of land across the fence from ours, from Harry Marusak for fifteen years. He often wanted to buy it but it was not for sale.

We had no family and as the years went by we decided to retire. In 1978 Ted rented the land to a neighbor and on April 29, 1981 we had a machinery sale.

We still live in our farm home and enjoy the quiet country life.

Bishop, Al and Irene

Irene and Al Bishop with daughter, Laura, and son, Boyd, became permanent residents of the Hay Lakes community on September 1, 1980.



Bishop Family: Roland, Laura, Boyd, Irene, Al and Dwight.

Prior to moving to the Hay Lakes community the Bishops were residents of Sherwood Park, Alberta for eighteen years. Al and Irene are native Albertans. Al grew up on a farm in the Clyde community about four miles north of Edmonton. Irene grew up in the town of Mirror in Central Alberta. Thus it was perhaps the experiences of their younger years that lured them back to a rural community.

It was in the spring of 1978 that Irene and Al were returning to Sherwood Park via Highway Twenty-one when Irene spotted a "For Sale" sign on what was the Reinhold Busenius' farm. There was something about this place that caught Irene's eye and she persuaded Al to turn around and go back to view this place. One week later they had contracted to purchase the farm and took possession on July 1, 1978.

The farm became a weekend residence for the Bishops and they began making changes to the farm. During the summer of 1980 they built a new house, barn and machine shed on the property.

Irene and Al have a family of four, three sons and one daughter. Their oldest son, Dwight, and his wife, Sheryl, reside in Calgary. Their second son, Roland, attended Camrose Lutheran College during 1980-'81 and is now attending the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Their daughter, Laura, has just completed Grade twelve at the Hay Lakes High School and is currently working in an office for an Oilfield

Supply Company in Nisku, and Boyd is in his Eleventh grade at Hay Lakes.

The Bishops are not full-time farmers. Al is a Vice-President of Turbo Resources and commutes to his office in Nisku, thus leaving Irene, the dog and the cats home on the farm during the day. This has been a dramatic change for the Bishops, but as time goes on they are enjoying the rural life and warm friendship of the people in the Hay Lakes community.

Bittner, Erdmann (Ed) and Christine by Hilda Wahl

Ed Bittner, son of Gottfreid Bittner and his wife Elizabeth (nee Ansorger) was born on November 16, 1890, in Kamilofka Volhynia, Russia. He had three brothers, Leo, Wilhelm, and Henry.

On February 8, 1911, Ed married Christine Schrot, daughter of Gottfreid and Susanna Schrot (nee Remier). Christine was born on October 8, 1893, in Ostrov Wolsnuka, Russia.

In October, 1911, they left Russia and emigrated to Alberta, Canada. They stayed with an uncle, Ludwig Bittner, for a short time before coming to Edmonton. They lived there for several years. While in Edmonton, Ed worked for Mr. Wenzel, Senior, of South Edmonton and then he worked in the coal mine in North Edmonton (Beverly). Later he got a job in a Brewery and worked there before moving to Rolly View. They lived in Rolly View for a little while and then finally settled in Hay Lakes. Ed purchased a farm in 1914 from Jack Welda. And in July, 1921, Ed and Christine became naturalized citizens.

They had a very large family. Their first child, Ida, was born in October, 1912. Ida married Rudolph Bittner of Calmar in February, 1931. They had one child, Ben. Ida was widowed while Ben was very young. Later, she married Reinhold Schultz of Calmar and they had two boys, Lorne and Harvey. Ida was once again widowed and left with three children to



L. to R.: Norman, Walter, Mrs. Bittner, Mr. Bittner holding Ann, Paul, Ida, Albert, Hilda and Dora.

raise. Ida is now residing in Cloverdale, British Columbia.

Hilda, their second daughter, was born in November, 1914. She later married Gus Wahl. Albert was born in July, 1915. Paul was born in August, 1918. He served with the Canadian Armed Forces from 1942 to 1946. He passed away in January, 1980. Arthur, their fifth child was born in September, 1921, and died in April, 1923. Dora, (Mrs. Arnold Miller) was born in December, 1924. Walter was born in March, 1927. Norman was born in October, 1929 and died in 1956. Ann, (Mrs. Larry Untch) their ninth and last child, was born in October, 1937 and died in November, 1963 at the age of twenty-six years.

Erdmann and Christine raised their family at the same time as they were mixed farming from 1914 to 1945. These were hard times, clearing and improving the land. Mr. Bittner was greatly involved in the Church as a Church Councillor. He also taught Sunday School in his house for many years. Pastor Wolbaurn was serving in New Sarepta and came all the way here to the church at Hay Lakes. (At that time the old Canard School served as a church.) As a result the services were conducted whenever the Pastor arrived. This continued until the Hay Lakes members were able to have a church of their own, St. Stephens Church, west of Hay Lakes.

Mr. Bittner also had a stallion, that he traveled with for breeding purposes and which was bought by a group of farmers that made a club in 1936. They had the horse for a couple of years, but then it died. The group then bought another stallion under the condition that Ed Bittner traveled with the horse, then after three years it became his. Years later he sold the horse.

In 1945, the parents had a sale and rented their land to their son, Albert. In the fall of the same year they moved to Port Hammond and Haney, British Columbia. In 1958, they made their final move, this time to Kelowna, British Columbia. Mrs. Christine Bittner passed away in November, 1975 and her husband Ed, followed a year later in November, 1976.

Bittner, Ludwig (Louie)

by Ruth (Bittner) Kiel

Louie came from Freiberg, Germany in 1924 and worked in Kitchener, Ontario as a meat cutter in a packing plant. Two years later he was joined by his father Martin Bittner and they then decided to come west by train to the fruitful farmland of central Alberta and bought a farm near Armena. While doing some wood chopping on this farm, the axe veered off and severed three quarters of his wrist. However, a quick trip to Camrose hospital by horse and buggy saved the arm and hand.

After farming there for only one year, he sold and bought the N.E. 29-48-21-W4 quarter, one and a half miles southeast of Hay Lakes, in the late summer of 1927.

In March, 1928 his mother Wilhelmina and brothers Bill and Gus Bittner joined him as well. In May of 1928 father Martin passed away. Louie and his brothers continued to farm, clearing more land by hand, building roads and trying to dig a water well, also by hand. Two wells were dug, both 40 feet deep in probable locations but both in vain. Success came on the third try but this time it was bored to about 60 feet, no more digging.



Ruth, Louie, Wanda, Walter and Freida Bittner 1961.

One day while breaking land, a friend, Albert Kopf, came to help with his tractor. While fueling up that evening a lantern had to be used for light. It was somewhat windy at the time, blowing fumes towards the lantern, resulting in a fire. Mr. Kopf had clothing and hands burning but still managed to move his tractor from the fire. Gus Bittner got some blankets and wrapped them around him but had to wrestle Mr. Kopf to the ground and roll him in order to extinguished the flames. He had to be hospitalized for some time but luckily no serious injury resulted.

In early summer of 1936 Mother Wilhelmina passed away and in the late summer of the same year, Bill and Gus moved to Looma, Alberta to start their own farms. In November of 1936 Louie married Wanda Kapchinsky of New Sarepta and were blessed with three children. Frieda married Garry Klingspon of Rolly View and have two sons, Brian and Bruce. Ruth married Rudy Kiel, and have two sons, Randy and Ronald and are presently living in Edmonton. Walter married Sandra Wegner of New Sarepta and have three children, Daniel, William and Tammy. Sandra is now deceased.

Louie could also cut hair and was the neighborhood barber as well as helping with butchering.

As the farm was near the railroad tracks it sure shortened the distance to Hay Lakes school for the

children, also, the speeder gave them rides quite often. What luxury!

These were hard times but socializing in the neighborhood kept everyone's spirit up.

In March of 1948 Louie and family moved to another farm near New Sarepta.

On June 26, 1976 Louie passed away after retiring in Edmonton.

Bittner, Walter by Walter Bittner

Being the son of the late, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bittner, I was born in Hay Lakes, on March 21, 1927. I got my education in Hay Lakes.

I was still quite young when my parents retired from farm — in 1945 and moved to British Columbia. After a short time I followed them. I started working in a saw mill but the dust did not agree with my health, so I went back to Alberta. I worked as a farm laborer and for Burnstead's Coal Mine at Round Hill for several years. Later I started farming for myself, renting the home place from 1951 to 1956 and doing mixed farming. In 1956, the farm was sold. Then I rented elsewhere and did mostly agricultural farming and raising cattle.

During my farming days, I played Hardball, Softball and Hockey for the community and also did some curling.

In 1971, I had an auction sale and sold my cattle and machinery and moved to Kelowna, British Columbia. About a year after my move, I started working on Building Construction as a laborer and now do quite a bit of carpenter work.

Bittner, William (Bill) by Milly Bittner

William (Bill) Bittner was born in Russia in 1902. In 1928 he and his mother Wilhelmina, and youngest brother Gustave, immigrated to Canada. His father Martin and his oldest brother had come to Canada a few years earlier. They all settled in the Hay Lakes district and worked as farm labourers. That year, when spring work started, he worked for Chris Lachman. He helped plow, disc, and harrowed with horses. He stayed there until the seeding was done and then got a few jobs with other farmers helping with the haying, stooked and helped at the threshing machine and hauled bundles. Wages were \$1.00 a day. When the harvest was finished he got a few jobs clearing land with an axe and grub hoe. In those days there were no cats to clear bush, only by hand.

In 1929 Bill's father, Martin, passed away. He was laid to rest in the Hay Lakes cemetery. In all those years working at clearing land, picking roots, stooking and threshing he saved enough money to buy a

farm of his own. In 1935 Bill bought the N.E. 7-51-22 for \$1100.00 in the Looma district. In the year of 1936 he moved from Hay Lakes to his farm with horses and wagon. The cattle had to be walked all the way. There were no roads, only bush trails. In the summer of 1936 his mother Wilhelmina passed away. She also was laid to rest in the Hay Lakes cemetery.



Gus Bittner, Bill, Milly, Ernest and Ruth Bittner.

In 1937 Bill married Milly Kublick, daughter of Ludwig and Emma Kublick. Our first son, Ernest, was born in 1938. Our daughter Ruth was born in 1940 and another daughter was born in 1942 but she passed away at the age of 16 months. Times were hard and money was scarce so Bill decided to rent a half section of land from Dan Erickson in the Hay Lakes district. The land was worked with an old 1530 McCormick tractor on steel. We also had four horses. Grain was cut with a binder and had to be stooked by hand. It was all very hard and tiresome work for the six years that we rented this land. In 1950 we bought another farm N.E. 8-51-22. Then in 1951 we moved back to Looma again. With the help of people such as Alex Ziesman and Gus Bittner, we built a dairy barn in 1951 which housed thirty-five cows. We shipped our milk to Edmonton by cans. It was picked up every day by truck which was driven by Mr. McFarland. We shipped milk for seventeen years.

In 1969 ill health struck us so we were forced to sell our dairy herd and bought some beef cattle instead, farming mainly in hay and grain.

Ernest and Ruth got their education in various schools in Hay Lakes and Fultonvale. Ruth finished her education in Salisbury High. In 1961 she married Ed Wrubliski. They were blessed with four children, Kenneth 18, Walter 16, Lorraine 15, Sherrill 13. They are attending school in New Sarepta.

In 1975 Bill retired due to ill health and Ernest

took over the family farm. Farming is now convenient with all the modern machinery.

Blakely Family

by Rosalie (Blakely) Welda

The Robert Blakely families moved from Payneville, Minnesota to North Dakota in 1876. This is the first record we have of them.

Robert Blakely (husband, father, my Grandfather and Great Grandfather of the Blakely's living in the Bittern Lake area now) came to the North West Territories (now Alberta) in 1884.



Ella May (Blakely) and husband Edwin Loder. Taken 1900.

He prepared a home for his family here and remained until he was joined by wife, Alcina, and her mother (Great Grandmother Brown) and his four sons William (eighteen years, wife — Hope sixteen years and their smaller daughter, Mabel), George, Newton, (eleven years) and Azro, better known as Budd (nine years), “my Dad” and also Ella May, their only daughter who was sixteen years old. It took three months to make the trip. They had to blaze trails and ford several rivers. The Indians along the way were very curious, especially of the small white baby. There were many fears for her, especially as this was just after the Riel Rebellion.

They came in 1885 and settled just north of Morley, up the Ghost River, close to where the Bar C Ranch is now. Calgary at this time had a population of about 3000 people.

There the brothers started a horse ranch, buying some of their first horses from Father McDougall.

Their father, Robert Blakely, remained there until his family was well settled and then returned to the States, to Spokane, Washington.

Three more children were born there to Will and Hope, Alcina, Basil and Ethel.

Ella May met a fine English gentleman there, Edwin Loder, known by all as Ned. They were married and lived in a hamlet called Kananaskis. Older



L. to R.: Robert, Roy, Violet Blakely, Arthur Womacks, Rosalie and Mr. and Mrs. Azro (Budd) Blakely. Front: Marion and Leslie Blakely. About 1929.

people living in the Kananaskis, Canmore, Exshaw region will remember them very well. He became known far and wide by the Loders lime kiln which he started and operated. He also ran the Kananaskis Post Office. He was a friend of the Indians since there was an Indian reserve close by — The Morley Reserve. They did his manual work for him. The kiln was heated at that time by cord wood, brought to the kiln by the Indians.

Upon hearing of the death of her father, Robert Blakely, Ella May and her mother returned to Spokane, Washington to be at the funeral.

Having no children of their own, Maude Loder, their niece stayed with them for many years and later my older sister, Violet Blakely, made her home with them and was treated as a daughter.

After Edwin Loder passed away in 1935, Ella May and her niece, Violet, moved to Calgary where they lived together until Aunt May's passing in 1938 at the age of seventy years.



Alana Blakely — age 18 years.

In the same year, on August 10th, 1938, Violet married a young army sergeant, George Smart, a military staff clerk of the main headquarters staffing unit of the Canadian Army. Their first child, Shirley May, was born Jan. 17, 1940.

George was called overseas in 1941 during World War II and he died there in 1942. A second child, Murial Anne, was born while he was overseas, on Dec. 8th 1941. So George never did see his second child.

My sister Violet still lives in Calgary with her daughter, Anne, and son-in-law Alec Deeves. She has three grandchildren. Shirley still lives in Calgary, but has never married.

Ten years after the Blakely families arrived near Morley they moved northward.



L. to R.: Newton, George, Azro (Budd) Blakely.

The three older boys came first with Grandma Blakely and Great Grandma Brown. when they found a place somewhere south of what is now Edmonton, they sent word to Azro (Budd) to come with the horses. Budd had been left behind to care for the horses. So he herded the horses from Morley as the crow flies to where his brothers were. Budd brought about thirty head, quite an undertaking for one young fellow.

Soon after this they moved to the Hay Lakes area. Azro's mother and Grandmother lived with him. In fact for some time they seemed to be all living together. George and Newton never married, but Azro married Mary Estelle Womacks, on the eleventh day of Sept., 1907. Mary was the daughter of another pioneer family. The Womacks' moved here in the early years by covered wagon from Nebraska, U.S.A., settling in what is now known as the Gwynne area.

Great Grandma Brown passed away in 1969.

Marigold, another daughter of Will and Hope, was born here. A few years later, William and his family moved to the Bittern Lake area taking home-

steads here. Margaret, William's youngest child, was born here.

George and Budd took homesteads in Hay Lakes, on SE 32-48-21 W4 and Alcina lived with George until the time of her death. Budd lived on his homestead the remainder of his life. He died of pneumonia, April 15, 1935, at age sixty. Budd had six children, Violet, Rosalie, Roy, Robert, Leslie and Marion.

Newton who came from Bittern Lake to help with the funeral arrangements, and not being too well at the time, died exactly one week later, on Easter Monday, April 22nd, 1935, at age sixty-two.

William Blakely, his wife and youngest daughter moved back to Hay Lakes to what was known as the Harold Welda homestead. Will passed away here on the twenty-fourth of December, 1934. So these three brothers all passed away within about three and a half months of each other.

George Blakely had lived with Budd Blakely's family after the passing of his mother Alcina. He died about four years before the other Blakely brothers died. There are still many Blakely's and other relatives living in Bittern Lake, Hay Lakes and Edmonton regions. Many others have wandered further abroad.

There are some things I'll never forget about our family. How much we loved our Grandmother Alcina, how wonderful she was to us children, especially Budd's oldest girls, and Ella May Loder, how kind she was and all the loving things she did for us. We were growing up during the depression. Uncle Will I knew very little because he was a very shy man. It was a day to be noted when he came to Hay Lakes town. He was a great worker and very camera shy. Perhaps that is why we haven't one snapshot of him. Uncle Newton I'll always remember as a great friend who was always willing to help out. When I was in the hospital at about age twenty, he came to see me and insisted on paying my hospital bill. I was working at the time for \$20.00 a month.

Uncle George was someone special to all us kids. I remember him taking my sister Violet and myself to dances and parties in his wagon with the horses; the only stipulation was that we went and came home with him. While there, we were on our own if we did as he said, "behave yourselves." My Dad Budd was never very well but he was always willing to help his neighbor. He loved to visit and tell stories. He was considered the veterinarian of the district. If anyone had a sick animal the first thing they did was to call my father.

After Budd passed away, his wife, Estelle, better

known as Essie, moved to Heinsburg with her two youngest children, Marion, about thirteen at the time, and Leslie. Both the children were married there. Later Essie Blakely returned to Hay Lakes, then to Camrose. She passed away in Bethany Home on August 17th, 1970, at the age of eighty-five years.

Rosalie (myself) is living in Camrose; Roy suffered a severe stroke eight years ago. Robert and Roy are in the Bethany Hospital in Camrose. Leslie and his wife are living at Gibbons near Edmonton, Roy's wife, Mary Blakely (Robertson) and two children, James and Rosemary Johnson, are living in Camrose and their second oldest lives in Australia with five children. Robert never married. I have one son, Donald Welda, living on our original farm. He is married to Helen Peddicord (of Amisk) and they have four boys. My son, Roger Welda of Camrose, has four girls, all living in Camrose.

Marion, Budd Blakely's youngest child, is now Mrs. Bruce Bowtell. They live in Vermilion with four of their seven children, Harry, James, John and Dana. Their other children, Terrial in Wainwright, Mrs. Gary Peterson (Sandra) and Mrs. Bill Hermantrout (Dawn) live in Camrose. Sandra has three boys and Dawn has a pair of twins. James is married with one little girl.

Broen, Christian

Mr. Broen was the father of Mrs. Simon Grue and lived with the Grue family for a number of years. He was born January 7, 1850 at Alvdal, Norway. In 1876 he immigrated to the U.S.A. In 1901 he came to

Alberta, first to the Armena district, then spent about twenty years in the Lundemo district on a farm with his son Tony before making his home with the Simon Grue's. In 1932 he passed away at St. Mary's hospital in Camrose at the age of eighty two years.

Burak, Metro and Tekla

Metro (Mike) Burak came to Canada from his loved homeland, the Ukraine, in 1912. He was searching for a better life, hoping to soon send for his wife Tekla, then with child, and a young daughter, Annie. He spent the first months in the United States working in a factory. Upon his arrival in Alberta he found work at the coal mine in Round Hill. Having come from the "Bread Basket Of Europe" he soon realized his dream of owning some land. He bought a farm and continued to work in the mine for the next ten years.

In the spring of 1922, through much hard work he had saved enough to send for his wife and two daughters, Annie and Lena. Shortly after their arrival the family moved to a farm in the Hay Lakes district SE 24-48-22-W4 and the following year their third daughter, Mary, arrived.

Their good fortune did not last long, as with the onset of the depression, men forgot "their word". Mike, after clearing a hundred and fifty-seven acres by hand, was faced with an eviction notice. He was unable to prove that payments had been made, as he had not saved receipts, believing that honor between men was sufficient. He did not let this ordeal stop him. Upon hearing of another farm for sale, he went with a friend, Harry Sych, to have a look at it. He liked the land and moved his family to the Gwynne area in 1934.

Mike and his family again began the work of clearing more land and making a new life for themselves.

Their daughter Annie married Dan Bilan and they had four sons: John, Mike, Pete, and Eddy. The boys spent much time at their grandparents' farm after their father passed away. Annie later married Jim O'Gryzlo.

Lena married Harry Hanin and they farmed in the Gwynne area for awhile.

Mary, who had polio from the age of four and was dependant on crutches, married Zenon Rapczewski. They had two daughters, Patricia and Olga.

Mike and Tekla remained on the farm with Zenon and Mary, who acted as a nurse-maid to her parents in their later years. Mike passed away in 1959 at the age of seventy-seven years and Tekla in 1964, also at seventy-seven years of age.

Mike and Tekla with much hard work and love of family and friends had made a good life for them-



Simon Grue's Wooden Threshing Machine in 1920's. L. to R.: George Blakely, Simon Grue, Roy Blakely, Bud Blakely and Christian Broen with the lunch for the threshers.

selves in a new land. They and their family were members of the Holy Cross Church where Mike had helped with the construction and finishing work.

Busenius, Adolph and Frieda **by Helen (Busenius) Lerke**

My father, Adolph Busenius, was born in Poland on November 24, 1889. In 1900 he emigrated to Canada with his parents, Ludwig and Christina (nee Wedell), brothers Julius and Ludwig Jr., and sisters Maria and Pauline. They located in the Wimbledon district on a C.P.R. quarter, SW 15-51-23-W4. There, every family member worked to make a home, raise crops and garden. For three winters Dad was the one privileged member to attend Wimbledon Public school. The family attended the Moravian church at Bruderfeld where Dad was confirmed.



Adolph Busenius and Freida Busenius 1916.

In 1905, the Busenius family moved onto their homestead, SW 30-49-22-W4, near New Sarepta. Now Dad was sixteen years old and worked for other farmers to help his parents develop their homestead. In 1908 he filed on his own homestead, NW 14-48-22-W4, southwest of Hay Lakes. He continued working out to earn money for developing his farm. He tried blasting tunnels for the railroad through the Rockies near Field, B.C., but decided that was too dangerous and returned to Calgary. In Calgary he bought a "Walton" second-hand railroad watch for twelve dollars. It still keeps perfect time.

Dad next worked for a rancher southwest of Calgary. The winter of 1908-1909 was severe. An awful blizzard trapped the cattle in a coulee so they perished and Dad didn't get his wages. In the spring Dad moved to Redman's Ranch, north of Big Hay Lake. Then he worked at the Ochsner Ranch, southwest of Bittern Lake and helped drive their cattle to Swift's Packing Plant which took four days. Two dollars a



Busenius Homestead house and summer kitchen 1960.

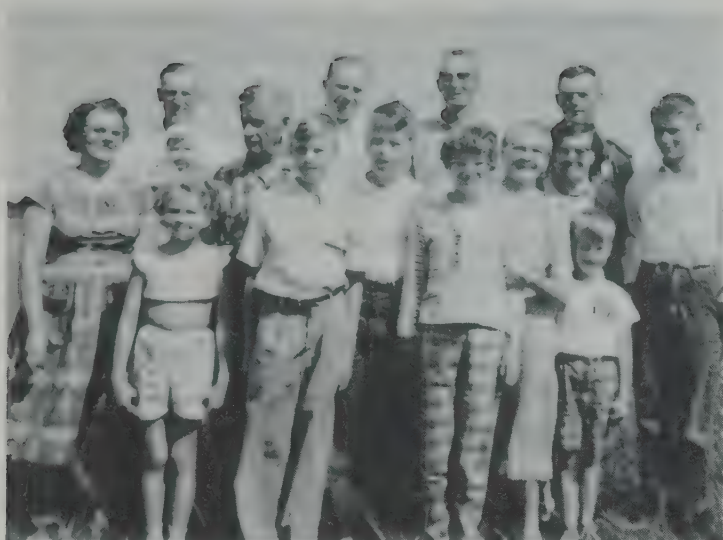
day were his pay for the long hours from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. on this ranch.

Next Dad found employment excavating the basement for the Northwest Brewery located on the North Saskatchewan River in Edmonton. In 1911, he worked as a drayman for Walter's Saw Mill and lumberyard on the site of the present day Kinsmen Field House. Then he worked for the Canadian National Railroad which was completed through Hay Lakes and New Sarepta on November 19, 1914. During the slack periods he put up buildings and cleared land on his own place to comply with the regulations of the Homestead Act.

Dad's bachelor dwelling was a crude one-roomed shack built of round logs over a dirt floor and topped with a sod roof. For his bedframe and table he drove four posts into the ground, then laid rails across to complete a rectangular top. His cupboards were apple boxes nailed onto the wall and he had a cast iron stove. He then finished building three other log structures for the animals and a chicken house from trees hewn for wood.

In 1912, Dad had earned enough by working out so he erected a more modern house with a shingled roof and boarded floor. For a time Dad shared his house with Sam and Rosalie Berkholtz who were building their own home and clearing land just across the road. The first birth in Dad's home took place in the person of Sam Jr. Subsequently many people looking for jobs, homes or farms found a temporary haven in his home, one couple being the Otto Metzgers who located south of us.

When Dad first homesteaded in 1908, some of the few settlers living in the area were the John Klines, Gariepys, Felix Whitebears and Marusaks. During the ensuing eight years the Sam Berkholtzs, Karpovichs, Meketsells, Peter Busses, Rubises, Milroys and Hodges moved in. Charlie Heintz, a close friend, stayed with Dad and helped him. (Later, Charlie



Adolph Busenius Family 1961. L. to R., Back: Helen Lerke, Art Lerke holding Doug, Adolph Busenius, Clarence Henkelman, John Ertman, Walter Busenius and Harvey Ertman. L. to R., Front: Donna Lerke, Jim Henkelman, Joel Henkelman, Judy Ertman, Freida Busenius, Annie Ertman and Dale Henkelman. (Missing: Pauline Henkelman and Linda Ertman).

married Mother's cousin, Martha Soch, of Ellerslie, and they settled one mile north of our homestead. Both families remained close for the remaining years of life.)

As the earnings came in, Dad bought livestock, and he felt that he could afford to marry a pretty young lady, Frieda Newman. The ceremony was performed on January 18, 1917 by Pastor Hempel at St. Johns Lutheran Church in New Sarepta.

Dad and Mother were often isolated by the snow blocking the Indian trails or by summer rains which made these make-shift roads impassable. They would lack sufficient staple supplies at these times and contact with relatives and friends.

Generally, their land was cleared with axes and grub hoes and dynamite was used to blast the stumps that were too tough for horses to pull out. Mother helped Dad with these tasks besides preparing the meals, cleaning the house, washing our clothes, and churning butter to trade for groceries. Later, when Dad could hire men to help clear the land, Mother had only the outside chores to do besides caring for the home and family.

The short-term hired men were provided with a couple of blankets for their summer sleeping quarters in the hayloft, since the family pretty well occupied our small house. One hired man was August Lerke from the neighbourhood. Another fellow, a German named Fritz, nearly chopped off his big toe while grubbing trees. Dad took him to the Camrose doctor for a stitching job. Two days later, the same toe was nearly severed again on the leg of a couch, so the doctor had to repeat the repair work.

Wood was burned in our kitchen range, and large

blocks and stumps kept the heater going all night in the winter time. The house was banked with dirt or straw to help keep the winter blasts from penetrating the cellar where we stored the vegetables. Later, Dad hauled coal every fall, a long day's trip to the Dinant mine and back to store it in the shed close to the house. One time, on Dad's return trip from the mine, he slid off the wagon-box seat as the vehicle rounded the curve around the lake north of Karpovich's. The horses took off as soon as they felt the lines slacken and ran home. Mother became frightened and sent Bill Kosovich, who was visiting us at the time, to look for Dad. The fall had rendered him unconscious so that he had a terrible headache for two days afterwards.

Our chairs, stools, tables and the baby's cradle were home-made. A dresser and sewing machine were bought at an auction sale. Shelves for dishes were made from orange and apple boxes until Mr. Metzker, who built cupboards and windmills in Hay Lakes, built our first real cupboard. The mattresses were a "schtroh sack" — ticking sacks filled with straw. Quilts and pillows were filled with feathers of wild and tame fowl. Bleached flour sacks were made into sheets and pillowcases, and bleached sugar sacks were used for towels or dyed and made into clothes to wear. Mom made good use of her Singer sewing machine, but later Mrs. August Lerke sewed dresses and coats for our women folk. Mother knitted socks and mittens for the family during the long winter evenings. The wool had been spun into yarn by our dear neighbour, Mrs. Schoenknecht.

As soon as we children were old enough, we took over Mother's job of milking cows, feeding pigs and chickens. The cream separator took the place of the former method of skimming the cream off the milk. One winter day before I started school, Mother put Pauline and me to work churning butter in a four-gallon revolving wooden churn. She then went to feed the chickens. We soon decided to investigate the progress of the butter-making process and opened the churn. But we couldn't close it tightly so on the next revolution about half of the cream escaped and ran down into the potato cellar below. Even though "hot pants" were unknown prior to that time, two little girls learned the meaning of the term that day!

The family butter-churning terminated after the Hay Lakes Creamery opened. As soon as the country roads improved, cream routes were organized. Then the Wensel truck hauled our cream to the New Sarepta Creamery on its bi-weekly run. The drivers generously saved time for the farmers en route by bringing along supplies, repairs and twine for them during the busy seasons.

On our homestead we had a water problem at

first. Rain and snow water or water hauled from the lake provided the need for washing and cleaning. After, Dad dug a well near the lake, Grandpa Newman made a yoke carved from wood that fit across Mother's shoulders and had a rope tied to each end. She could then carry the water in buckets hung on hooks attached to these ropes. Finally in 1929, Dad hired Mr. Knee of Leduc to drill a well two hundred feet deep. Now we had good-tasting soft water in abundance. In the fall of 1930, Dad erected a wind-mill, one of the first in the district, over this well.

The well which was no longer in use became our refrigerator for perishable foods like meat and cream. A bucket was lowered into the well by ropes and held the containers of food. Behind the house, the unused baby-cradle was set in a little dug-out to hold our butter and milk. A tight lid made of boards kept the mice and bugs out of the food. Freshly butchered meat remained frozen over the winter and smoking preserved the bacon and hams. Jars were used for canning all the farm produce — meats, vegetables, preserves and pickles. The neighbour women gathered into "bees" to pluck the poultry after which it was dressed and sold to agents in town. Dad used his good marksmanship to stock the family's food supply with wild-life. And Walter, at the age of twelve, tried Dad's old gun and succeeded to bag his first two ducks — but at the expense of a bruised, aching shoulder from the gun's mighty kick!

We had a variety of preserves after Mother's picking of all kinds of wild fruit. Later, we grew strawberries and raspberries, often having so much that people paid Mother to pick for themselves. Fresh or pickled mushroom dishes were one of Mother's specialties. Dad hauled wheat into the Camrose flour mill each fall to exchange for a years supply of white flour, bran and cream of wheat.

At first Dad possessed four small, strong and fast Indian ponies to do his work, including breaking the land. Then he procured a team of reliable blacks, Bob and Jessie, and other horses called Sandy and Old Kate. The latter was so excitable that she had to be blindfolded with a gunny sack when she was being hitched to a hay-wagon or a binder. When things got too tough for Kate she balked, and she was the cause of Walter falling off her back and breaking his arm. She pulled the two-wheeled cart to take Pauline and Walter to school or to Saturday's religious instruction at the church. At the last, Dad replaced the Indian ponies with a team of grey mares and their colts, and Smokey, a smaller black horse, was used on the buggy or cutter or for riding. Smokey had to be disciplined when he became tricky or obstinate. The Kiels bought him and his life was ended by the train after he wandered onto the railroad track.

Mother's favorite book was her German Bible. Dad was a thorough reader of the Free Press and Western Producer. He bought one of the first radios in the district, made by Charlie McLean, and listened regularly to the news, while the rest of the family took in the radio soap operas, the Sunny Boy program, Fibber McGee and sometimes the Shadow.

Dad at one time served on the Hay Lakes School Board. When my parents moved they transferred their membership from St. Stephens Lutheran Church to St. Lukes Lutheran Church. Two early ministers who frequented our home were Pastor Ernest Goos and Pastor Lentz. Midwives Anna Newman, Mrs. Berkholtz or Mrs. Hendrickson assisted in our home when we children were born.

The Rawleigh and Watkins salesmen supplied our remedies for illnesses. Red liniment, sulphur and molasses, or a mustard plaster were commonly used treatment for aches, pains and chest colds. The salesmen usually arrived at our house in time for a noon meal and left us candy and a kitchen gadget for Mother as recompense. Dad had an appendix operation in January, 1925, performed by Dr. Boulanger in the Edmonton General Hospital. The cost was one hundred dollars plus a two dollar-fifty per day stay in the hospital for the minimum of ten days. When Pauline fell on the ice one fall and dislocated her elbow, Grandpa Busenius was called to put it back into place.

Mother made excellent chokecherry wine for special occasions including my parents' twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on January 18, 1942. Friends and relatives gathered to honor the occasion. While the adults were socializing in the living room, brother Walter and four other boys spied a jug of Mother's wine on the table in the summer kitchen. They sampled until they had over-indulged and next day only one of the boys bravely reached school. And he was noticed to weave back to his desk after every drink of water!

Dad, Mother and Walter lived on the homestead until April 30, 1947. Then friends, neighbours and children assisted them to move to the Jack McLeod farm near Hay Lakes, using grain wagon, hayrack, car and trailer. Walter and Irvin Heintz drove the cattle on horseback. Leo Rubis bought the old homestead and after living there two years, he sold eighty acres each to Robert and Jack Berkholtz.

Dad and Walter farmed together until Dad retired in 1955. Then Walter was the manager, but Dad helped whenever possible until his death in July, 1963 at the age of seventy-five. Mother, too, helped Walter until her death in June, 1977 at the age of eighty-four. Children Rosie and Karl have passed away which leave four of us, namely Annie, Pauline, Walter and I, Helen.

Annie

Annie was born October 13, 1917. She stayed with her grandparents, the Newmans, at New Sarepta where she started school at Maple Hill, the first school in the area. She also attended Big Hay Lake School.

On February 9, 1941, Annie married John Ertman. They lived in Edmonton, worked two years on dairy farms nearby, and then returned to the city where John was employed at the Stockyard. In 1958, they purchased a farm in the Westlock area, then later bought and still reside on a farm at New Sarepta.

All three of their children attended school in Edmonton and Westlock, but the two younger finished at New Sarepta High. Linda married Wilbert Posthuma in 1965 and her family resides on an acreage near the Alberta Game Farm. She works for a drapery shop in south Edmonton and her husband works for Canada Packers. Her two daughters attend school. Harvey runs the Ertman family farm and lives at home, also working for Butler Manufacturing at Nisku. Lastly, Judy worked in Edmonton, and in 1974 she married Albert Tardif, and has one daughter who attends school. She is employed at Western Computing and her husband works at Spectro Graphics.

Helen

I was born on February 2, 1923, on the old homestead. At the age of seven, I went to live with Grandma Newman so as to attend Maple Hill School. After three years in New Sarepta High, I finished at Leduc High in 1942. I proceeded to the Edmonton Normal School to graduate in 1943. Because of the shortage of teachers during the war, the government sent me to Worsely in the Fairview School Division. After teaching at Marina school, I was assigned to Wimbledon where my Dad had attended over forty years before. Here I met and married Arthur Lerke, the eldest son of Sam and Emilie (nee Geske), on July 10, 1946. We moved to Edmonton Jasper Place in 1947, and I taught in the Stoney Plain Division at Northview. Then I taught in Canora school and Brightview through the years. I am now in my thirty-fourth year in the profession.

Our children are Donna Rae, born in 1953, and Douglas Arthur, born in 1961. Donna graduated from Grant McEwan Community College in 1973 and is employed in Red Deer. Douglas was educated in Edmonton and took Commerce in Red Deer College. He has been a member of the Scouting Organization since his eighth birthday and has travelled to Jamborees with his uncle Walter since the age of twelve.

I also became involved in Scouting as a member of the Group Committee. In 1978, Douglas and I started a "Beaver Colony" in our district and last

year we both took our Woodbadge training. Our applications for CJs, '81 have now been accepted.

Pauline

Pauline was born on December 11, 1924. She went to Maple Hill School and then took Grade nine in Big Hay Lake School. She attended Camrose Bible College for two years, then helped on the farm, worked in Ferdinand Busenius' Cafe, and in Adolph Mittelstadt's General Store. On June 16, 1946, Pauline married Clarence Henkleman. They lived two years on the Henkleman farm near Hay Lakes before leaving for Alaska. Their story on the Moravian Mission Field is written in this book by her husband, Clarence.

Walter

Walter was born on August 31, 1928. He attended Big Hay Lake School until the age of fourteen. He then transferred to the tutorship of his father in farm work. He helped Dad do the land work and mother with the milking. During the winter he trapped muskrats and within two years his pelt revenue was enough to buy a milking machine.

Walter worked for Calgary Power from 1951-1953, putting up power lines in the Hay Lakes area. Power was installed on the homeplace, making the farmwork easier.

Walter and Dad bought their first tractor in 1949, a brand new Farmal C for twelve hundred dollars. Walter bought his first car in 1949, a 1930 (blue) Delux Model A Coupe with rumble seat from Reg. Lachman for three hundred dollars. In 1955, Dad retired, leaving Walter in charge of the farm.

At first Mother and Walter used the milking machine run by a gasoline motor. But after a few years, Walter decided to replace the milk cows with a herd of beef Herefords. He purchased another quarter of land and leased a third so as to increase his herd, calling this operation his "Ponderosa".

In 1959, Walter joined the Scouting Organization. Lorne Drynan, Reverend Querengesser, and Reg Berry were instrumental in starting this movement in Hay Lakes and getting Walter involved. For the past twenty-one years, he has served as leader, commissioner and at present is again Leader of the first Hay Lakes Troop. Walter takes his troop on campouts each year as well as to a district camporee. He has also taken some boys to provincial, national and international, as well as a world Jamboree. He was awarded the "Lamb Award", by Pastor Frank in 1971, and the Medal of Merit in 1979.

Another highlight for Walter is his yearly hunting trip. He started goose hunting in the early fifties, travelling south to Consort. There he became good friends with the Siebald family and this friendship has continued through the years.

Busenius, Reinhold and Elsa

by Reinhold Busenius

My parents were Paul and Marriana Busenius. I was born in 1915 in South Edmonton. We moved to the Hay Lakes area in 1918. I attended the Swan Hill school, and was confirmed at the Moravian church, near New Sarepta. Later we were members of Our Saviour, Hay Lakes.



Reinhold Busenius Family. L. to R.: Reinhold, Reinhold, Elsa holding Linda, Helen.

In 1939 I purchased SE 32-48-21-W4, which had originally belonged to Bud Blakely.

Elsa Erdman arrived in Canada from Germany in 1951, and located in the Hay Lakes district together with her two children, Reinhold and Helen, her mother and brother. They appreciated staying house rent free on the Carl FuernKranz' farm a couple of miles from town. They only paid a little rent for pasture for their cows. When Reinhold got older he worked at the Hay Lakes creamery.

I married Elsa in 1957 and we had a daughter, Linda. I drove a school bus for the County of Camrose from 1963 to 1969. I had a good group of kids who didn't cause me too many problems. I farmed for forty years and consider myself lucky never to have hailed out, although some years it seemed to hail all around me. The land was low and susceptible to frost. The one year that I suffered the most damage, luckily I had carried all risk insurance for the first time and collected eleven hundred dollars. We always milked cows until two years before we quit farming; they were the one thing we mainly depended on for our living. As a matter of fact, I had milked cows from the time I was eight years old.

In 1979 we sold the farm (apart from an acreage which we gave to our daughter, Linda and son-in-law) to the Bishops, and retired to Camrose. Linda married Suljo Spahic. They live on an acreage just outside of Hay Lakes. They have one son, Douglas, aged three.

Helen Erdman married Henry Zons. They have three children and live on an acreage near Edmonton.

Reinhold Erdman married the former Margaret Trempner from New Sarepta. They have one child and farm near Beaumont.

I am enjoying retirement and my favorite hobby, fishing. Elsa keeps a nice house, knits and really enjoys the grandchildren.

John Carlson Family

John Carlson and his wife the former Hilda Sikstrom came to Canada from Sweden in about 1902 and bought the homestead NE 36-48-22-W4. They had nine children, Charlie and John who never married, Thor who died of TB on the farm, Ed who married Tina Olson, Agda, Annie, Freidolph, Lily and Vera. It is believed that all the girls married. The family also lived in the village of Hay Lakes before moving to Armstrong B.C.

Chattelburgh, Charles

Mr. Chattelburgh and son came from England in 1894 and settled in the Hay Lakes area, on NE 6-49-21-W4. This land is on the north edge of the present town of Hay Lakes.

Before coming to Western Canada, Mr. Chattelburgh was a butler to Lord Malcolm in England. He was elderly when he came to the homestead, so in 1915 or '16, when it became too much for him to look after his cattle, he went to stay with the Kreamer family. He remained with them for eight years, and was nick-named "Chatty" by the Kreamer children.

He passed away in 1923, at the age of eighty-eight years, and is buried in St. Joseph's Lutheran Cemetery.

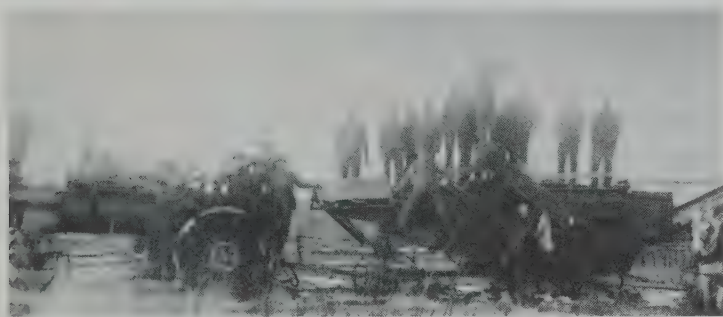
Diewert, Emil

Emil Diewert was the son of Ludwig and Emilia (Herman) Diewert. He was born on February 8, 1883 in Andreow, Volhynia, Russia. He emigrated to Canada with his parents at the age of twelve. His parents settled in the Strathcona district where they farmed for about nine years. In spring of 1903 at the age of twenty years, Emil accompanied a party of eleven men who came to the Hay Lakes area to select their homesteads. History was made on the quarter section where Emil filed his homestead claim about a mile from the present village of Hay Lakes. This was on SE 12-49-22-W4 where Bishop Hoyler and his party of ten men set up camp for selecting their homesteads. At that time Bishop Hoyler was commissioned to register the claims at this camp site.

Emil Diewert made his permanent residence on this homestead following his marriage to Rosalia Tober in the spring of 1904. Rosalia was the daughter of Karl and Katherine (Busenius) Tober. She was

born on March 15, 1887 in Hellenufka, Volhynia, Russia and came with her parents to Canada around the turn of the century. They also lived in the Strathcona district for a number of years before her parents came to homestead in the New Sarepta area.

Emil and Rosalia Diewert became communicant members of the Bruederfeld Moravian Church by confirmation. On October 2, 1904 they transferred their membership to become chartered members of the New Sarepta Moravian congregation. They provided spiritual leadership in this church for many years.



Diewert's stack threshing crew. L. to R.: Jack Diewert, August Drebert and Emil Diewert standing on the engine.

There were ten children born to this couple of which three died in their infancy. Their first son was born on March 20, 1906. He died three days later and was yet unnamed when he was buried. His burial was the first to take place on the Moravian cemetery. The other nine children were namely Otto, Nathan, Adina, Jonas, Ernest, Arthur, Zella, Alvin and Helen. Otto passed away on April 2, 1908. Jonas was born October 24, 1911 and passed away on October 4, 1912. All seven children who survived attended the Hay Lakes school.

Emil Diewert farmed in the Hay Lakes district for about twenty-three years. In the fall of 1909 Emil and his brother Jack invested in the first steam threshing outfit that served the settlement at the time. This outfit brought relief to many settlers who had to rely on the use of the flail to thresh their first crops. The outfit required sixteen men to thresh their stacked sheaves and was in popular demand for many years. By 1918 Emil operated a Model T Ford that was often in demand for fast transportation during the Spanish flu epidemic. Some four years later his Ford was stolen in Hay Lakes and was never recovered. The theft occurred when Gus Frederick, his hired man, borrowed the car to visit his brother-in-law, Rudolph Fisher. Those Model T's had no ignition key. A simple switch on the dash board would start them by the use of a crank. They would have been easy picking in our modern times.

During the winter of 1920 Emil Diewert leased

his farm to Gustav Kiel. The family moved to Dallas, Oregon for health reasons. It was here that their youngest child, Helen, was born. The prospects of getting established there did not look too good. Therefore, the Diewerts moved to Vancouver, B.C. in the summer of 1921. The family returned to Hay Lakes later that fall while their tenants still occupied their farm home. They made their temporary living quarters in the Ludwig Diewert's former residence which was across the road from their farm yard. Emil operated a small vulcanizing shop in Hay Lakes until the farm lease expired in the spring of 1922.

When the Emil Diewerts moved back to their farm home their first task was to build a modern frame bungalow to replace the old log house they had lived in when they first came to their homestead. Their family life in their new house was sadly interrupted when Rosalia passed away on July 29, 1923. Her death was the result of a lingering illness which was complicated with an attack of meningitis. Emil was left with seven children who ranged from two to fourteen years of age. He remarried in 1925 and one child was born out of this marriage, named Ethel.

In the winter of 1927 Emil sold his two quarters of land to Gustav Kiel. In March of that year they dispersed of their livestock and other belongings at an auction sale. They moved to Vancouver, B.C. where Emil hoped to restore his health in the warmer climate. The Diewert family were very involved in organizing the Moravian Church in Vancouver. Emil's health did not improve and in 1928, at the age of 45, he passed away leaving eight children and a widow.

The Diewert family became somewhat divided following the death of their father. The three oldest, Nathan, Adina, and Ernest remained in Vancouver. The four youngest children were taken into two foster homes in South Edmonton. Two years later Arthur returned to Vancouver to live with Nathan. Emil's widow also returned to Alberta with her daughter and now resides in Calgary.

Of the seven other children who survived their parents five are still living while two are deceased. By listing them in chronological order of their birth they are as follows:

Nathan was born Feb. 12, 1909. He was married in Vancouver and has one son living in Powell River, B.C. Nathan is now widowed and lives in retirement in Vancouver.

Adina was born May 28, 1910. She was married to John Kirschbaum and reside in Maple Ridge, B.C. They have one son and a daughter. Ernest was born March 15, 1913. He served in World War II, presently resides in Maple Ridge, B.C. He is married and has one son.

Arthur was born on January 31, 1916. He suffered from Parkinson's disease and was never married. He passed away in a nursing home in Vancouver in 1970.

Zella was born on October 6, 1917. At the age of twelve she became a foster child in the Emil Paul family. She finished her schooling at Colchester and was later married to Mr. Ceretski of Bretona. They had one son and adopted two girls and a boy. Zella passed away in 1970 at Entwistle, Alberta.

Alvin was born January 26, 1919. At the age of ten he was placed in foster care with the Emil Paul family. Alvin is married and living in Mission, B.C. They have three sons and two daughters.

Helen was born on January 26, 1921 in Dallas, Oregon. She was placed in foster care with the Fred Suetter family at the age of eight years. She is married to Richard Hickman. The Hickman's have farmed in the Bittern Lake district for many years. They are now living in Camrose, Alberta and have two daughters.

The Emil Diewert children were all born at Hay Lakes except their youngest daughter. They were baptized in the New Sarepta Moravian Church and attended school at Hay Lakes. They continued their education in Vancouver while those who were placed in foster care completed their education in the Colchester School. At present the home where the Emil Diewerts lived is occupied by the Leo Kiel family who took possession of the farm when the Gustav Kiels retired.

Diewert, Jacob **by Otto Drebert**

Jacob Diewert was commonly known as Jack Diewert to the Hay Lakes residents. Therefore, the story will refer to his common name. Jack Diewert was the second oldest son of Ludwig and Emilia nee (Herman) Diewert. He was born on July 25, 1880 in Andreow, Volhynia, Russia. Jack came to this country with his parents and six other children at the age of nine. His family settled in the Colchester district in 1895. He grew up in this district where he was confirmed in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church. It is not known whether Jack got any public school education since attending public school was not compulsory under the North West Territory Government. However, his business career in later years would indicate that he would have learned the basics in school.

Jack Diewert came to the Hay Lakes district in 1904 when he was 18 years of age. The official records show that he filed on a homestead in 1905. The homestead was located on N.W. 28-49-21-W4. Jack remained single for about fourteen years after he had settled in the Hay Lakes area. According to



Jack Diewert travelling the trails of 1917.

reported memories of the old-timers he spent little time on his homestead. However, the records indicate that he received the patent on his homestead that required the necessary improvement. As a single man he worked at various jobs in the early days including prairie harvest jobs in Saskatchewan.

In 1909 Jack invested in the first steam threshing outfit with his brother Emil. Jack operated the steam engine which required a certified engineer in those days. It was also recalled that he operated a feed grinding mill with the use of the steamer. It was this operation that started his business career at Hay Lakes. Jack became involved in a variety of business adventures when the hamlet of Hay Lakes started to develop. According to a report in the Camrose Canadian dated 1914, Jack sold the first McCormack binder to Fred Henkelman. As an implement dealer he sold most of the wagons and grain boxes that came into demand at that time. It was also recalled that he operated the first livery service and a pool hall at one time.

Jack was also the owner of the first Model T Ford in Hay Lakes. He would keep the chains on the hind wheels of his Ford so he could maneuver across all the mud holes he encountered on the settlement trails. This Ford came to the attention of the Moravian Minister, Herbert Kant, when he recorded the following note in his diary on June 3, 1917. "Jack Diewert came to church with his auto for the first time. This being also the first machine in the district".

It would appear that Jack Diewert would be making history every time he tried a new adventure. One of these adventures was recorded in the same diary dating March 2, 1919 which reads as follows. "Had my first and perhaps only experience at reading an *Aufgebot* today, namely that of Jack Diewert's". Readers will have to go to their German dictionary to get the translation of one word in that sentence.

However, the following entry in the Minister's diary may translate some meaning to the word which reads as follows and was dated March 4, 1919. "Jack Diewert and Ella Jeske were united in bands of holy matrimony here in church this afternoon at two o'clock. They were the first couple to be married in our new church".

Ella Jeske was the daughter of Gustav and Ernestine (Nee Stebner) Jeske. The Jeske family resided in the Hay Lakes district for many years where three of their daughters were married. The other two were namely Ida, who married Fred Sikstrom and Adalia who married David Busenius.

Jack and Ella Diewert resided in Hay Lakes till the summer of 1920 at which time they moved to the west coast of British Columbia. Jack worked at the saw mills as a steam engineer when he first moved to the coast. However he spent most of his lifespan working as a longshoreman in Vancouver.

The Jack Diewerts are both deceased now. They had a family of two children, a son and a daughter. Their son lives in Powell River, B.C. while their daughter Mary has lived in Vancouver until recently. She and her husband have now moved to Mayne Island, B.C.

Diewert, Ludwig **by Otto Drebert**

The Ludwig Diewert family was one of the first families who came to settle in the Hay Lakes district on what had become known as the Hoyler Colony. Ludwig Diewert was born in Sypinew, Poland on November 30, 1858. He was the son of Christian and Dorothea (Michaelis) Diewert. Ludwig married Emilia Herman, daughter of Michael and Julianna (Rost) Herman. Emilie was born on February 4, 1863 in Bjallotarsk, Poland. This family consisted of thirteen children. Their six sons were namely Emil, Jacob, Edward, Reinhold, Ferdinand and August. Their seven daughters were Mathilda, Emilia, Olga, Augusta, Emma, Esther and Elsie.

This family emigrated to Canada from Volynia, Russia in 1895. They first settled in the South Edmonton district where they bought their land from the Department of Indian Affairs. This farm was located on N.E. 30-51-23-W4 which was part of the former Papaschase Reserve. The Diewert family became members of the Bruederfeld Moravian Church where some of their children were baptized and confirmed. They also attended the Colchester school while living in this area.

In an effort to get this large family established on some free homestead land they sold their farm to August and Karl Henschell in 1904. The family came to the Hay Lakes district where Ludwig and three of

his sons filed on their homesteads. The township where they settled had been reserved for these families by their minister, Bishop Clement Hoyler. The township thus became known as the Hoyler Colony.

Ludwig Diewert filed on his homestead, N.W. 14-49-22-W4, which is presently owned by Marvin Schults. Around 1909 Ludwig bought S.W. 7-49-21-W4 from the C.P.R. This farm is a mile north of the Hay Lakes village where the Diewerts made their home until 1920 when they sold the farm and moved to Dallas, Oregon.



Emilia and Ludwig Diewert, 1920.

While the family lived in the Hay Lakes district, most of their sons and daughters established their homes in this area. The three oldest sons settled on their own homesteads near Hay Lakes. They were Emil, Jack and Edward. They all moved to the west coast of B.C. in later years. The oldest daughter, Mathilda, married Karl Schafer who farmed in the Hay Lakes district for some ten years. They moved to Dallas, Oregon around 1920. Emilia married Karl Tober. They farmed on the Diewert's first homestead. In 1923 they moved to Nielburg, Saskatchewan where they farmed for a few years and then moved to Fawcett, Alberta. Olga married Adolph Tawber who farmed in the Looma district. They also moved to the States in later years. Augusta married Adolph Dargatz who farmed in the Clover Lawn district until they retired in Wetaskiwin. Emma married Adam

Jeck who farmed in the Hay Lakes district and later moved to the U.S.A.

The younger members of this family worked with various trades and were never married. They all moved to the west coast during the twenties. The last descendant of the Diewert families who resides in the Hay Lakes district is Mrs. Albert Lechelt who is the daughter of Ed and Adella Diewert and the granddaughter of the Ludwig Diewerts. At present the Ludwig Diewert farm is owned by Rudolph Kiel. All that remains of the farm yard is a collapsed barn where Leo Kiel's cows pasture in the summers. The farm had changed hands several times during the twenties. The Gustav Jeskes lived on the farm during the early twenties. The farm was sold to Julius Suetter in 1926. He farmed there until 1928 when he sold the land to Gustav Kiel. The Adolph Klammer family lived there as a tenant during the early thirties.

Ditmanson, Andrew Family

Andrew Kristian Ditmanson was born near Sandefjord, Norway in 1858. He came to Minnesota in 1869 with his father, Aage and family after spending 3 months on a sailboat. In 1883, they moved to Day County near Webster, S. Dakota.

Andrew married Anne Anderson (1863-1912) in 1885. Andrew and Anne had eight children, namely:

1. Albert (1886-1941) unmarried
2. Walter (1889-1919) unmarried
3. Oscar (1891-1960) unmarried
4. Edwin (1892-1950) unmarried
5. Martha (1896-1969) twin
6. Arthur (1896-1896) twin
7. Nettie (1898-1921)
8. Ellen (1901-1919)

Andrew and Anne and their seven children moved to the Camrose district in 1906 and settled on NE 32-47-20-W4.

Martha married Emil Lyseng in 1915 and they had 6 children:

1. **Elsie** (1917) married Oscar Nielson in 1940. They had 5 children:
 - a) Donald (1942-1968)
 - b) Dennis (1944)
 - c) Larry (1950)
 - d) Karen (1959) twin
 - e) Kevin Lee (1959) twin
2. **Richard** (1919) married Ruth Skogness in 1943, they had 2 children:
 - a) Fay Marie (1948)
 - b) Sharon Darlene (1954)
3. **Luella** (1921) married Oscar Skogness in 1942 and had 4 children:
 - a) Marvin (1945)
 - b) Philip (1947)



A. K. (Andrew) Ditmanson 1930.

- c) Carol (1953)
- d) Allen (1955)
4. **Arthur** (1924) married Marge McMullen in 1966, they had one son Peter born in 1966.
5. **Mildred** (1927) married Lloyd Bjorgum in 1948 and they had 6 children:
 - a) Anne (1950)
 - b) Grace (1952)
 - c) Paul (1954)
 - d) Fern (1956)
 - e) Janet (1957)
 - f) Sheldon (1967)
6. **Wilbert** (1933) married Sigum Birkeland in 1957 and they had 3 children:

- a) Kurt (1958)
- b) Sonja (1959)
- c) Dale (1972)

7. **Nettie** married Edwin Lyseng in the year 1916. They had one daughter, Esther in 1917.

Esther married Joseph Wenig in 1937 and they had 8 children:

- a) Rupert (1938)
- b) Elwood (1941)
- c) Lorenz (1943)
- d) Linda (1945) (Mrs. Joe Vandenberg)
- e) Rita (1947) (Mrs. Bill Webster)
- f) Eileen (1949) (Mrs. Jacques de Boer)
- g) Alois (1956)
- h) Conrad (1957-1975)

The Wenig's have 15 grandchildren presently attending school in Hay Lakes.

Andrew sold his farm in the Camrose north area in 1923. He then moved to his homestead on NE 24-48-22-W4, which is 1 mile west and 2 miles south of Hay Lakes. He lived here in a novel dug out in the side of a hill until 1929 when he sold the farm to Mr. D Erickson. It was purchased by Mr. B. These in 1947.

Andrew spent the last 2 or 3 years of his life at the home of his daughter, Martha, Mrs. Emil Lyseng. He died in 1932.

Drydyk, Morris

Morris came to Canada from S. W. Zeeland, Holland in 1973. He moved to the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia where he worked in a feedlot with his brother Peter. In 1975 he came to the Hay Lakes district where he bought NW 20-49-21-W4, and operated a dairy farm. Upon selling his farm he remained in this area, helping his brother Peter with farm work in the summer and helping his brother Jack in British Columbia, in the winter.

Morris is a member of the St. Peter's and St. Paul's church which is located south of the village of Hay Lakes.

Peter Drydyk Family

Peter and Johanna (nee Pharazyn) were married in S. W. Zeeland, Holland in 1966. Their daughter Marylou was born there in 1968. They decided to come to Canada in 1969, first settling in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, where a brother, Jack Drydyk lived. Peter first worked in a feedlot. Their son Simon was born in 1972 in the Okanagan.

The family decided to come to Alberta and bought SE 36-48-21-W4 in 1974 where they operated a dairy farm for three years. Upon selling this land



Mrs. Johanna Drydyk and children Marylou, Simon and Christina.

they moved to Cochrane, Alberta where they lived for a short while. At this time the family had an enjoyable visit to their homeland. Upon their return to Canada, a daughter Christina was born in 1978.

Peter and his family returned to Hay Lakes in 1978, bought four quarters of land and now live on NW 5-49-21-W4, where they operate a mixed farm.



Peter Drydyk.

Their children attend the Hay Lakes school and they are members of the St. Peter and St. Paul church.

Eliason, Algot

"Al" came to Canada from Vilhelmina, Sweden in 1921. He obtained work in the Yak-Nelson area of British Columbia, working on the provincial highway construction as far as Spokane, Washington. He also worked as a lumberjack in the same area for a number of years. In 1927, he came to Alberta and worked in lumber and tie camps around Peers.



Algot and Anna Eliason — 1929.

In 1929, Algot married Anna Johnson, daughter of Amandus Johnson of the Hay Lakes area. They started farming in the Bawlf — Daysland area.

He bought the John Broen farm in 1946, and farmed in the Hay Lakes area until 1966 when they retired and moved to Camrose. In 1968, Al and Anna took a trip to Al's homeland in Sweden.

Al and Anna celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding

Anniversary in February, 1979. They continue to enjoy good health.

Elliot, Poulett

Mr. Elliot and his brother, Albert, immigrated from England in 1894. They spent two years in the Turnip Lake District, north of Edmonton, before coming to the Hay Lakes area, on S18-49-21-W4.

This land was a Military Bounty Warrant, given to William Rowland for serving in the Riel Rebellion and had been purchased by Mr. Hutchings.

Mr. Elliot bought the land and he and his brother spent two years clearing it, building a home and planting a few small fields. In 1898 Elliot's wife came over from England and settled on the homestead. The next year their only child was born, Florence, and she was the first white child to be born at Hay Lakes.

Other settlers arrived, Callahoon and Fergusons with cattle, and the Blakely Brothers with horses. Mrs. Hope Blakely became a lifelong friend of Mrs. Elliot.

At first South Edmonton, thirty-five miles away, was the nearest Post Office and source of supplies. Later, Bittern Lake Post Office and store was opened by Mr. Roper. Other settlers came and now there were the beginnings of a community.

Early in 1905, Mr. Elliot launched a petition for a local Post Office. Mr. Elliot did not wish to use his name for the Post Office, so the Moravian minister, Rev. Hayler, chose the Biblical name of New Sarepta. Thus the New Sarepta Post Office was opened in the Elliot residence, with Mrs. Elliot in charge. Martin Thompson was the mail carrier, bringing the mail from Bittern Lake and later, Halley.

During the eight years Mr. Thompson and his buckskins never missed one mail day. The Post Office continued there until the building of the Canadian National Railroad from Edmonton to Camrose. In 1913, the Post Office was moved to the town that bears its name, while the present town of Hay Lakes (which had called itself New Sarepta) reverted to its former name taken from the surrounding lakes.

Bill Harke now owns the former Elliot land.

Florence Elliot has passed away.

The Rudy Fuernkranz Family by Rudolph Fuernkranz

I was born on December 23, 1936, at my parents' farm, about two miles east of the village of Hay Lakes. I was baptized, attended Sunday School and Church Services regularly and later became a confirmed member of St. Lukes Church in Hay Lakes.

My first five years of education were at the Swan Hill School. I still have many fond memories from



L. to R., Back: Elaine, Kaye, Rudy. L. to R., Front: Adele, Sheldon, Bonnie.

these early school days, particularly the fun we had practicing for and participating in Christmas concerts and school picnics. Also, I remember the time Lawrence Gruntman and I, both grade one boys, saw some of the older boys of the school swimming under the bridge in Stoney Creek. Thinking it to be quite a joke we ran off with their clothes. At first they threatened us, but as school time came nearer they promised not to punish us if we brought their clothes back. Naturally being young and afraid of what might happen if we didn't we quickly complied.

On nice days we walked to school, but if it rained we'd take off our shoes and walk barefoot. In the winter we'd sometimes ski or when it became very cold catch a ride in Uncle Frank's covered sleigh.

We moved to our present location (SE 6-49-21-W4) in 1948. Here I took grades six through twelve at the Hay Lakes School.

During these years my brother and I played alot with Bill Sware Jr. We boys considered ourselves, "The Mighty Hunters", shooting gophers, ducks, pigeons or whatever else might be available. I remember one time we shot a pigeon and were plumb determined to eat it. We cleaned it by the water trough, then we built a fire and tried to roast it outdoors. Needless to say we didn't eat very much of it. Then also I remember a duck hunting expedition, we came upon a whole sloughful of ducks, but somehow we all managed to shoot at the same duck. When we finally retrieved our prize, to our dismay there was more buckshot than there was duck.

I very much enjoyed all sports and I participated in baseball, hockey, curling, football, soccer, fast-ball, table tennis, and volleyball. I feel very fortunate to have been a part of many championship teams.

Probably, 1950 is the year I remember most as that was my first year of hockey and curling. This was also the year I first started hauling bundles in our threshing crew. My brother and I both being quite young took one team together.

After graduating from school I took up farming, working on the home farm for Dad until I got married and started on my own.

On July 3, 1965, I married Bonnie Mathilda Bieganek a girl who had grown up in the Edberg district. Through the following years Bonnie became involved in the Circle "S" Club, the Girl Guide Program, the Preschool Program, and also the Curling Club.

Our family consists of three girls, Elaine, Kaye, and Adele and one boy, Sheldon. All our children were born in St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose with Dr. Hamp Smith the attending physician. The girls have been interested in the Girl Guide Program and also in sports. Sheldon is also already interested in Beavers and hockey.

Goclon, Zenon and Helen by Lance, Zenna and Patricia Goclon

Dad was born on December 4, 1926 in Poland. In 1932, he came to Canada with his Mother to live with his Dad in the Elscott area. Dad worked at a very early age to make money.

Mom was born on February 7, 1921 on a farm presently owned by Leo Schnell and Mr. Martin in the Ellswick district. Then her parents moved to the Big Hay Lake area and Mom went to school there.

Our parents, Zenon Goclon and Helen Hamula, were married on November 10, 1951 at Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Hay Lakes. They then moved to a farm in the Devon area, that they rented for five years. They rented two quarters of land from Frank Smith and one quarter from Mike Halwa. They started farming with very few material things, such as machinery and livestock, but they tried to make a go of it anyway.

Lance, the eldest of the three children, was born in 1955. In 1956, they moved back to the Hay Lakes area, and lived with Frank and Isadore Hamula. Mom and Lance lived there for the winter and Dad went to work in the Hinton area as a lumberjack. In April of 1957, they moved to the Irvin Lechelt farm where they rented two quarters. In 1961 they rented one more quarter of land from Pauline Maruschak, and rented it until 1968, when her son took over the farm in 1961. They bought the quarter SE 25-48-22-W4 where they are now living. In 1969 they rented a quarter from Rudolf Lachman, and are still renting it today. Then in 1972 they bought another quarter of land from Raymond Pelz.

Lance was born on April 1, 1955 and attended the



Goclou Family. L. to R., Back: Lance and Zenna. L. to R., Front: Myrna, Helen, Patricia and Zennon.

Hay Lakes School where he was active in many sport activities. Lance was married to Myrna Lyle on November 5, 1977 and they have been living in Edmonton since. They are planning to move to the farm and help with the farming duties.

Zenna was born on June 14, 1960 and also attended the Hay Lakes School. She was very active in school activities, including sports and academics. Zenna graduated from High School on June 3, 1978. That fall she enrolled at the University of Alberta in the Commerce Faculty in which she completed in one year. She is presently working for the City of Camrose and is residing there.

Patricia was born on December 13, 1961 and she also attended the Hay Lakes School. She was very active in sport activities, winning several trophies, medals and ribbons. She graduated from High School on June 21, 1980 and is presently living in Camrose with Zenna and working in Camrose. She plans to go to Calgary in the early part of 1981 and take an apprenticeship type vet-assistant course.

In the summer of 1977, Mom and Dad built a new house that they are enjoying at the present time.

Simon and Berthea Grue

Simon Grue was born in Grand County near Wendell, Minnesota, U.S.A. on Feb. 7, 1885. He came to Alberta, Canada in 1894 with his parents, Thore and Beret Grue, three brothers, Lars, Theodore, Oscar and one sister Bella, also his aged grandparents. They settled on homestead N.W. 12-48-21-W4, 7 miles north and 5 miles west of Camrose, what is now Armena district. Thus they became the first

settlers in that area. Their nearest town was Wetaskiwin until Camrose came into being in 1905. A younger brother Nels and sister Josephine were born at Armena.



Simon Grue Family in 1926. Simon, Berthea, Bertha and Irene.

Simon received his education in Thordenskjold school house which was built of logs.

Thore Grue, Simon's father, brought a case steam engine from Minnesota. During the first years, Thore owned the only threshing outfit between Wetaskiwin and what is now Camrose. He also had breaking plows and a sawmill. Simon, being the oldest son, was the engineer at the age of sixteen. In 1901, Thore and sons moved their sawmill to White Water Lake where spruce logs were plentiful. Besides threshing in fall, they cleared and broke land around Camrose, also doing custom work in summer, sawing lumber and grinding feed and flour in the winter. In 1905, they moved the sawmill to Miquelon Lake — north shore where much lumber was sawed for the needs of the community such as the Thordenskjold School and many other buildings, some still remaining in the Armena area.

In April, 1903, Simon chose a homestead located south-east of Hay Lakes on N.W. 32-48-21-W4. Later he purchased the quarter section east adjoining the homestead where he made his home. He was united in marriage to Berthea Broen on Dec. 21, 1911. Berthea was born at Owego, North Dakota on May 5, 1886 to parents Gina and Christian Broen. She came to Alberta, Canada in 1909 and resided a few miles N.W. of Armena with her father and sisters and brothers who had arrived earlier. Gina Broen

passed away in the U.S. when the children were young. Simon and Berthea were members of St. Joseph Lutheran Church. Simon was active in church affairs, was sec.-treas. for a period of nearly twenty years. He enjoyed singing solos and in church choirs and was also a member of Maple Leaf Band, a brass band. He devoted a great deal of time to community work, served on school board and drainage district board. Berthea was a member of St. Joseph Ladies Aid. She was a dressmaker and a lover of flowers and gardening. Both kept busy with farm work and fruit orchard where they planted several varieties of apples, plums, cherries, etc. Eleven apple boxes of large golden transparent apples were picked from one tree.

Simon and Berthea had two daughters — Bertha born Sept. 14, 1912 and Irene born May 5, 1918.

In early days, Simon freighted merchandise for L. Larson who had a store in Hay Lakes. It took about fourteen hours round trip with wagon and team of clydes sometimes two teams depending on road conditions. He did lots of threshing with the steam outfit west and southwest of Hay Lakes and east to Kingman. After it was sold he purchased a gas outfit and threshed a stook run for the neighbors for many years. When stooks had been threshed the machine would move to farms to thresh stacks of grain bundles. Stack threshing could be carried on after the snow. Threshing crews were many men to cook for. It was hard work from early morning until late hours but it was a lot of fun. Besides the threshing crew there were some visitors and helpers for meals.

There was tobogganing and skiing on a good-sized hill. A ski-jump was built by Jostein Nordmore and Johnnie Johnson on what was called Suicide Hill in Grues' sheep pasture. Mr. Nordmore won the all-round Canadian Ski Championship at Ottawa in Feb. 1930. Living in Hay Lakes at the time, he managed the Manning-Sutherland Company.

The site of the farthest west telegraph station from Winnipeg was built on the farm of Simon Grue in 1876. A cairn was erected in 1960 commemorating that site on land now owned by Raymond Stavne.

Simon was actively engaged in farming operations until he was in his early 80's. He sold the farm and moved to Camrose in Jan. 1970. In Oct. 1974, he became a resident of Bethany Sunset Home in Camrose. Simon passed away there on Jan. 2, 1980. He was predeceased by his wife Berthea May 29, 1943.

Irene Grue

Irene Grue, youngest daughter of Simon and Berthea Grue was born May 5, 1918 at Hay Lakes. She received her education in Hay Lakes and took

piano lessons from Mrs. D. C. Braun who came from Edmonton once a week; She sang in St. Joseph choir and taught Sunday School for several years. She resided on the farm with her parents until her mother passed away in May 1943. She continued to make her home with her dad, helping with the work until they sold the farm and purchased a home in Camrose and moved there in Jan. 1970.

Irene is a member of Messiah Lutheran Church and of L.C.W. circle. She keeps busy with her many handicrafts.

Thore and Beret Grue

Thore Grue was born on July 27, 1853 at Roros, Norway. Beret (nee Mikkelsen) was born on September 12, 1861 at Osterdalen, Norway. She immigrated to America in 1870. Thore came to America in 1868. They were married February 16, 1881 living on a farm at Wendell, Minnesota until 1894 when they sold and moved to Alberta. Here they farmed in the Armena district until their son Nels purchased the farm in 1919. Then Thore and Beret moved to a vacant house on the Simon's place and lived there for a time before adventuring to White Court to take up another homestead. Thore was seventy years of age at the time. Thore passed away December 23, 1932. Beret passed away July 23, 1952.



Thore Grue and oxen.

Haak, Erhard

I was born on March 25, 1921 in the Ukraine. During my teen years I learned the carpentry trade. I was in the army from 1940 until 1948.

In 1949 I married Margaret (Gretel) Wolff who was born in Germany on February 2, 1926. We lived near Hamburg until 1951 and I continued to work as a carpenter. Our first son, Rudy, was born in Germany in April, 1950.



Haak Family. L. to R.: Lother, Gretel, Erhard, Brigitte, Rudy.

In 1951 we decided to make a new life and emigrated to Edmonton, Alberta. Our daughter, Brigitte, was born in December, 1951 and our second son, Lother, was born in March, 1956.

In continued the carpentry trade and soon we started our own business which was Haak Sash and Door Limited. My wife and three children helped as much as possible. We had the business for nineteen years, until 1973.

In 1970 I ventured into farming, buying SE 30-48-21-W4 from Herbert Henschell. We enjoy our life on the farm.

Our children are now all grown. Rudy married Lorraine Dohlerty, and they have one son, Jason. Brigitte married Harvey Abraham and they have three children, Connie, Corinne and Brent. Lother married Linda Hirsch. They all live in Edmonton.

Albert Hansen

Albert, the elder son of Halvor and Johanna Hannsen, grew up with his five sisters and one brother on the farm, and attended the New Sarepta rural school. Despite the hard times, there were good times. Albert enjoyed singing in the choir at St. Joseph's Lutheran Church, and also in the male Quartette which included his brother, Ted and cousins, Emil and Magnus Sollid.

In 1939 Albert married Grace Thronson, of Camrose North, and they made their home in Edmonton for a time where Albert was employed at Swifts'. They returned to the farm and worked with his brother, Ted, until 1946 when they purchased the John Lund farm, three miles north of Hay Lakes. Much hard work lay ahead as all the buildings had to



L. to R.: Benny Thompson, Dick Gellert, Albert Hansen, Ted Hansen, Sadie Drebert. At the Halvor Hansen farm — 1931-32.

be replaced. Whenever possible Albert put his skills as a carpenter to work around the country.

By 1957 Albert and Grace had five sons: Dean, Neil, Clark, Randal and Perry. As the sons completed school they joined their father in the construction business as well as farming. In 1967 the farm was sold and the family settled in Camrose. It was then decided to incorporate the construction business, and it became known as A. Hansen and sons Construction.

In 1963 Dean married Janice (Atema); their children are Russell and Cindy. Neil and Karen (Grue) were married in 1965; their children are Lori and Cathy. Randy and Lyn (Dahl) were married in 1970; their children are Shauna and Troy. The family circle was broken when, on January 14, 1971, Dean passed away at the age of thirty years. In 1972 Clark and Wendi (Moger) were married and have a daughter, Michelle. Perry and Maureen (Yates) are planning a wedding, to take place in 1982.

The sons purchased the construction company from their father in 1977 and have been kept very busy with commercial building. The families all reside in Camrose.

The Halvor Hansen Family

Mr. Halvor Andreas Hansen was born in Mosjoen, Helgeland, Norway on April 3rd, 1870. There he was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. As a young man, Mr. Hansen worked at various jobs including building, Treasurer for a Mining Company and then he became a surveyor in Northern Norway.

Mrs. Johanna Marie Hansen (nee Sware) was born on August 19, 1880 in Gjyltvika, Norway where she was baptized and confirmed in the "Rosvik Kirke" Lutheran Church. In 1901 the Hansens were married in Tromso, Norway.

The young couple immigrated to Alberta in 1903.



Halvor Hanson Family in 1927 or 1928. L. to R., Back Row: Hilda, Theodor, Tillie, Albert, Aslaug and Jennie. L. to R., Front: Mother, Helen and Dad.

Mr. Hansen filed on a homestead in the Hay Lakes district where he resided until his passing. Mr. Hansen passed away on October 1, 1941 at the age of 71 years and Mrs. Hansen passed away on November 13, 1952 aged 72 years.

To this union ten children were born, of which the three first daughters died in infancy; namely Anna Helena, their first daughter was born in Bitivara Norway in December 1901 and passed away in Canada on July 5, 1903. Their second daughter Julia Marie was born in May 1903 shortly after their arrival in Canada and she passed away on July 23, 1903. Their third daughter Anna was born April 18, 1904 and passed away on April 27, 1904.

The remaining seven children are all living at this date and are, namely, Othelia, Aslaug, Albert, Theodore, Jennie, Hilda and Helene.

The Hansens were among the earliest settlers in this Community. Being a builder, dad was interested in the building up of the new settlement. He built houses, barns, sleighs, etc. in the surrounding area.

I remember well when grandfather Sware came to Canada in 1911. He was 66 years old and could not, of course, speak a word of English, but he arrived safe and sound. He never had a home of his own and he stayed six months to a year or so at some of his sons and at the Hansen home. He passed away in 1931 so he had twenty years in Canada. I will never forget his funeral. The choir in which all of us Hansens were members had to sing a Norwegian number. It was the hardest funeral to sing at even though we had been singing for many funerals before and after.

Mother and dad were good singers and supported their church well. Mother was also active in Ladies Aid work and dad was given to a lot of reading and writing. He delighted in contributing to various Norwegian papers in Norway, the land he loved so much. Mother was a wonderful mother and homemaker



Albert, Aslaug, Tillie, Hilda, Helen, Jennie and Ted.

with a marvelous sense of humor. She was very clever at sewing and cooking and thus made a wonderful contribution to life and circumstances at home. I shall never forget her singing when she worked. She had a great storehouse of hymns which she knew by heart so it was a delight to us through the years to hear her.

Christmas at home was a very special time for us. The house was decorated and all the 'goodies' were ready. Christmas eve we would sit around the table and dad would read the Christmas Gospel and we would all sing Carols in Norwegian. It was beautiful — something we have all treasured very much over the years!

The Descendants of the Halvor Hansen Family

Othelia (Tillie) born November 1905, and Aslaug, born July 1907, both single, are seamstresses and reside in Edmonton.

Albert born September 1909 and Grace (nee Thronson) reside in Camrose. They have four sons living in Camrose and seven grandchildren. Dean, their eldest son, passed away in 1971.

Theodore born August 1913 and Betty (nee Jones) live on the home farm. They have five children, namely, Carol, Donna, Theodore (Teddy), Lorraine and Timothy (Timmy), of whom all but Timmy are married and they have six grandchildren.

Jennie Nordin born August 1915 is a widow and lives in Camrose. Her husband Lennart passed away on December 13, 1965 at the age of 51 years. She has four children, namely, Eldon, Joanne, Lance and Annette, all of whom are married, and six grandchildren.

Hilda Hansen born November 1917 is single and lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She works in a fashionable ladies dress shop.

Helene born February 1921 is the youngest and is

married to Dr. A. L. Fjordbotten who is an ophthalmologist in Washington, D.C. They have three children, Allan, Joy and Lee and one son, Dale, passed away in infancy. Allan and Lee are Pastors in the Lutheran Church in the United States and Joy is married and has two sons.

The Reason For Coming to Canada

A man by the name of Volden who had previously left Norway for the enchanted land "Canada" wrote to the Sware family telling them what a wonderful country Canada was and saying they should consider coming over. Dad, having married Johanna Sware, was in the deal too. Mr. Volden lived in the Gwynne, Alberta area.

The great decision was made that they would leave Norway for the enchanted land. There were seven of the Sware family plus dad who took the big step, leaving at different times. Mother and dad sailed from Bodo, Norway in the spring of 1903 (I think!).

As we all know, boats in those days were a far cry from the present ones. They encountered terrible stormy weather practically all the way so that the boat began to give way. It had holes in the side that bucked the wind and a lot of food was thrown overboard to lighten the load. However, things got worse and worse so the Captain announced that they would have to turn around so that the sail would be in lee of the wind and hit for land, that land being the Azoris Island outside of Portugal. There they waited for three weeks for a German boat that would take them to New York. From there, they left by train to Gwynne, Alberta.

The Volden family was very hospitable and we understand that most of these immigrants stayed there while the men went on to file on homesteads. They all settled within a radius of six miles in the Hay Lakes district which made it quite a community of relatives and, boy, they needed each other in a new land and with a new language.

By now I am sure they wondered about this country. It took a lot of blood, sweat and tears to make it a great country however. The homesteads that they filed were dense forests out of which dad and the others had to cut down trees to clear a place on which to build and then build their log houses, of which some were a work of art.

Mother told of an incident when they were building their home when dad asked her to get the axe for him which he had secured in a tree. Mother went for it, but got totally lost, the brush being so thick. How dad ever found her I don't remember, but he did!

During the time of all these hardships, mother and dad had the misfortune of losing their three first daughters. Anna Helene at the age of 1½ years, Julie

Marie at three months and the second Anna arrived but lived only nine days. Anna and Julia are buried in Wetaskiwin which was the closest town. At the time Anna died, they had no Pastor so dad had to take the funeral service himself. He often spoke about that so we know how hard it was for him.

Canada today is a great Country because of pioneers like mother and dad. We are grateful for their foresight and determination as we see the results in the affluent society which we all enjoy today.

Ted Hansen

Theodor (Ted) Hansen, son of Halvor Hansen, grew up on the farm in the New Sarepta — Hay Lakes area. He attended the New Sarepta Rural School — later farming with his brother, Albert.

In 1948, he married Betty Jones, daughter of Walter Jones of the New Norway area. They have farmed the home place and still reside there.

Five children were born to them: Carol, Donna, Teddy, Lorraine, and Timmy, all of which attended the New Sarepta School and the St. Joseph Lutheran Church.



Ted Hansen Family. L. to R., Back: Teddy, Carol, Lorraine, Donna, Tim. Front: Betty and Ted.

In 1969, Carol married Conrad Tomaszewski, son of John and Dorothy Tomaszewski of Round Hill. They are presently residing in the Hay Lakes area and have a son, Dale, and a daughter, Gina, who are now attending the New Sarepta School.

In 1976, Donna married John Jacobs, son of Ollie and the late Ches Jacobs of Camrose, and they now

live in Stettler with their two daughters, Terrine and Penny.

In 1977, Teddy married Cindy Metzker, daughter of Waldemar and Marj Metzker of Hay Lakes. Teddy and Cindy with their son, Matthew, and daughter, Heather, are farming the home place with Ted Senior.

Also in 1976, Lorraine married Ron These, son of Otto and Gertie These of Hay Lakes. Ron and Lorraine live on Ron's home place with their daughter, Melissa, and son, Russell.

Timmy is presently living at home and employed with Texaco Refinery in Edmonton.

Hansen, Teddy

Teddy is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hansen. He was born in June, 1954, and was raised on the home farm. Teddy attended the New Sarepta School and graduated from there in 1972. He then went into the dairy and farming business with his father.



Teddy Hansen family. Cindy, Teddy, Heather and Matthew.

On October 1, 1977, Teddy married Cindy Metzker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Metzker who farm in the Bittern Lake area. Cindy was born in April, 1959 and took her schooling at Hay Lakes.

Teddy and Cindy built a new home on SE 30-49-21-W4, and have two children, Matthew, born in July, 1979, and Heather, born in September, 1980.

Harke, Alvin and Donna by Donna Harke

Alvin Harke was born at New Sarepta in 1916. He was the second oldest of a family of two girls and nine boys. He received his education at the New Sarepta

rural and New Sarepta village schools. In the earlier years there were fifty-six pupils in one room and only one teacher to teach the eight grades. Employment was difficult to obtain after completing high school. In 1937 he was employed by L. Wensel. His was a varied job, selling dry goods, groceries, flour, feed, lumber and repairs and driving the occasional truck. Another interesting job was buying live and dressed poultry.

In 1940 he married Donna Henkelman, daughter of Martin and Lydia (Schlender) Henkelman. Donna received her education in the Hay Lake village school. It was a one room school with sixty or more students with one teacher to teach the eight grades. In about 1928 or 1929 grades 1-4 used the former Bloom's store on the main street of Hay Lake as a class room. This must have been very difficult for the teacher since there wasn't a play ground for the children. After a year or two the former Pithouse store on the east end of town was used until a second classroom was added to the school. High school was now taught in the school.



Alvin and Donna Harke and their family. L. to R.: Douglas, Delores, Darlene and Dwayne.

Donna attended the Prairie Bible School in Three Hills, Alberta for two years. She taught Sunday School in the New Sarepta Moravian church on Sunday mornings and for awhile taught Sunday school in Swan Hill school on Sunday afternoons. Donna sang in the church choir and was very active in the Church youth group and the community youth group. Was secretary for the Church Ladies Aid a few years after it was organized. In later years she served as President for a number of years. She also served as President of the Canadian Regional Moravian Church Women's Fellowship board for four years.

Alvin was employed by L. Wensel from

1937-1952 except for the time he spent in the armed forces during the second world war. Donna and son, Douglas continued to reside in New Sarepta while he was in the armed forces.

In 1952 the family moved to Hay Lake on the Martin Henkelman farm and operated that for three years. Our first winter was quite trying for us since our stock took Shipping Fever. We managed to pull the cattle through with medication but lost a number of calves. We were blessed with good crops. We sensed the Lord's guidance and help all through our lives. It was either the second or third year we were on the farm that Alvin started cleaning and treating the grain real early in spring so it would be ready when he needed it. Every time he would get nicely started something would come up so he would have to leave it. He was getting a bit discouraged. When spring did come it was a very wet one and a lot of the land couldn't be seeded. If Alvin would have been able to treat all the grain he intended to it would have been wasted.

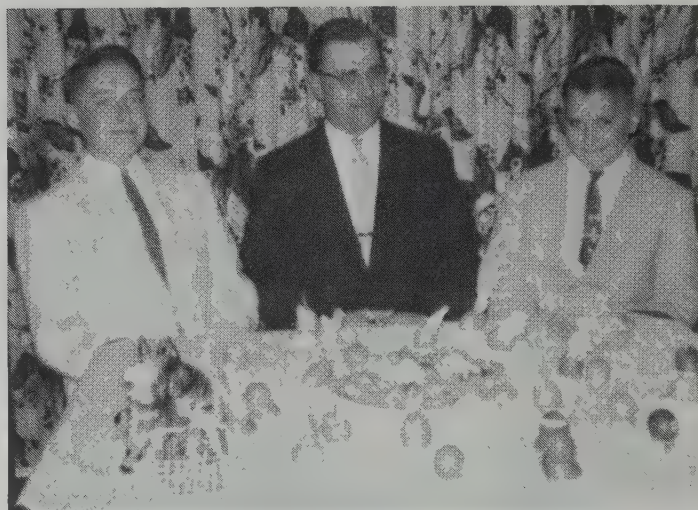
In 1955 Alvin bought the S½-21-50-22-W4, two hundred and twenty acres of land through the Veteran's Land Act and moved there. The land was not very productive the first years so the first summer was spent working for the County of Leduc in farmland assessment. The next five years were spent in full time farming and he leased additional land. In 1961 he was employed by the County of Leduc on a full time basis but continued farming with the help of his family. In 1968 the farm was sold and the family moved to Edmonton.

Now in 1981 Alvin is still employed by the County of Leduc as the Assessor. During the earlier years of employment it was necessary to take courses at the University of Alberta through their extension department for accreditation in the field of assessment. He received his diploma in April of 1968. During the years in New Sarepta, Alvin served as President of the Home and School Association, on the local telephone board, as superintendent of the New Sarepta Moravian Church Sunday School, on the board of Elders and was a Sunday School teacher for many years. He, also, served a term on the District Executive Board of the Moravian Church in Canada.

Alvin and Donna have four children — Douglas James is now Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Geneseo, New York, is married to Diana Archer of Terre Haute, Indiana. They have three boys. Darlene Faith is married to Gerald Bateman and lives in British Columbia. They have two boys and one girl. Dwayne Merle is a Systems Analyst in Edmonton and Delores Elaine is on staff of Campus Crusade for Christ of Canada on the Campus of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Harke, Lawrence Reuben by Meta (Hiebner) Harke

Lorne was born July 1, 1917, on the farm near New Sarepta, third son of August and Lydia (Reeve) Harke. They had six more sons, so with nine boys, poor Mom and Dad must have had their hands full, but being brave people, they adopted a daughter, not taking any more chances, I suppose.



L. to R.: Lyle, Lorne and Dennis Harke.

At one month of age, Lorne fell off a buggy, the wheels running over his head, flattened it, but a doctor molded it back into shape. He went to the New Sarepta Rural School for eight years. I heard the teachers seldom lasted more than one year. He attended High School in New Sarepta for three years and was confirmed by Reverend William Kroening in the Moravian Church. Being musically inclined, he played a variety of instruments in the church orchestra and band. Being Moravian, he had a choice of going to Conscientious Objector's camp or go into the army. He and his brother Clem, chose the camp and worked around Maligne Lake, building roads for fifty cents a day. This lasted four months. Later he was called up again, but the army turned him down because of his health.

I was born in part of Wolhynia, Russia, first child of Paul and Eda (Mohr) Hiebner. We came to Canada in September, 1926. We lived in the village of Hay Lakes when I started school.

My parents had told me how strict schools in Russia were, so I was scared stiff, the first half day I spent hiding in bush around school, then went home for lunch when the other kids did. After lunch, Martha (Kiel) Nordin picked me up at home and took me to school. Thank-you, Martha, I might never have made it alone. She introduced me to Mr. Kilpatrick, who at the time was teaching twelve grades in one room.



L. to R.: Phyllis, Wendy and La Verne Harke.

One has to admire the stamina of teachers in those days, in spite of the fact that I understood no English, he had me reading in a short time, and I haven't stopped since.

Later, Anne (McCoy) Sware came here to teach. The younger classes were housed in Pithouse's store which is now Hay Lakes Hardware. She was the teacher who made me love school and learning. She had a heart of gold, nerves of steel and could handle even the toughest kids effectively, without too much physical punishment. The Christmas Program was the most important event of the year, something we really looked forward to. Going to and from school was fun, it was amazing how many kids could hang onto that little cutter Ivor Lofgren drove, to take his sister Mary to school. People were really kind those days, when Mr. Sandbu and Mr. Arnston hauled grain in winter, they'd give us rides home, and if they had bought a box of apples or something, they'd give us some.

For several years in the surrounding community, the Young People had Interdenominational Meetings in the homes. They were started by Art and Clarence Henkelman and served as the only social occasions available to many of us. Young People came from many miles around, we did a lot of walking those days. In winter, we travelled by sleigh, sometimes over twenty people on one load. If I had received one dollar for each time we were dumped in the snow, and put it in the bank, I'd probably be a millionaire by now. I have a sneaking suspicion that most of those upsets were not accidental. We went to the Evangelical Church at New Sarepta where I was confirmed by Reverend W. F. Krotz.

On November 17, 1942, Lorne and I got married, during the worst snow storm in history (I'm quite certain of that). Dad had to shovel out the horses

many times when he went to get the minister and we were married in our dining room without the benefits of a wedding March or anything else. It was surprising how many people braved the elements and came for the wedding. We lived with Lorne's folks for six months, then bought a place in the village of New Sarepta, where we stayed for eight years. Lorne worked at odd jobs, then worked for Lorne Wensel until the store burned down and the family went out of business. Lyle and Dennis were born while we lived there. For twenty-five dollars a month, we were janitors at the school for three years. It had three classrooms, two long halls, a full basement, plus outhouses to clean and the snow shovelled on sidewalks and paths. We also tended two large coal furnaces and carried the water quite a distance, carried out the slop pails and ashes, washed windows, etc. We must have been out of our minds.

In 1950, we bought the farm from Dad and at the end of March, 1951, we moved out here, NW 8-49-21-W4. Bill and Frieda Harke also moved to the farm that spring, we worked together and shared machinery, which was a real help in getting started. We proceeded to fill the house by adding three daughters to the family, — LaVerne, Phyllis and Wendy. Everyone worked hard those days, but we enjoyed life and associated with many friends and relatives. There was a real community spirit, people worked together and helped each other out when necessary without asking "What's in it for me?"

An important part of our life has always been with the Church, for twenty-five years we attended the Moravian Church where Lorne had grown up, then we joined the Evangelical Church in New Sarepta.

Lorne was gone alot, playing in bands, starting in the Moravian Church, New Sarepta Community Band, Hay Lakes, Camrose then back to New Sarepta.

Lyle started school in New Sarepta, but our other children got all their school education in Hay Lakes and all graduated from high school. Dennis took two years at NAIT, taking Heavy Duty Technology, then worked at Union Tractor for twelve years. LaVerne attended Camrose Lutheran College and the University at Edmonton and received her Bachelor's Degree in Education. She travelled alot during this time, first to Expo, then spent the summers in French Universities in Edmonton, Quebec City, Montreal and Charlottetown, P.E.I. She also spent one semester at French Bible School in Lousanne, Switzerland, seeing a bit of Europe and England at the same time. She taught school in Hay Lakes, Lac La Biche, Desmarois, Mallaig, Prince George and Vancouver. She has just completed two years at NAIT training as

a Medical Records Technician and is now interning at the University Hospital in Edmonton. She is married to Michael Anthony and they live in Edmonton. Phyllis took one year at Hillcrest Christian College in Medicine Hat. She spent four years at the University of Alberta training as Dietary Technician and worked summers in Nursing Homes and the Good Samaritan Hospital. For twelve months she interned in the University Hospital in Saskatoon. She started working in the Hospital in Fort MacMurray and is now working in the new hospital there as Medical Dietician. She also has an office for Diet Counselling as a Public Service. Wendy took three years training at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, receiving her R.N. Degree in June, 1976. She worked there for several months, then took a full year of Bible School at Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose for almost two years, and since then she's been working in the Tofield Hospital. She is married to John Reist and they live on a dairy farm in the Tofield area.

Phyllis and Wendy have also did their share of travelling. One summer, they went with Dennis to Florida, going down through the Central States and coming back through the eastern states to Ontario, returning home through Canada. In February 1979, they visited Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti and Fiji. Right now, Phyllis is preparing for a camping trip through several countries in Europe and Great Britain.

Lyle married Margaret Tauber and they have one daughter, Charene. He has farmed, had the Imperial Oil bulk station in Hay Lakes, worked as a partsman for the Ford Garage in Camrose for several years. For the last eight and a half years, he has worked for Pan-Arctic at Rea Point, Melville Island as partsman for the Drilling Equipment. He lives on his farm at Hay Lakes.

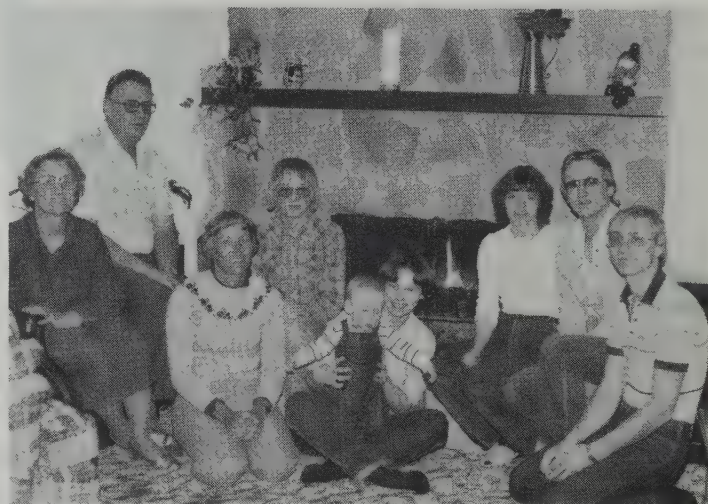
When people started putting plumbing in their homes, Lorne took a plumbing course while still working for Wensel's. For several years he worked on his own, selling and installing Floor Coverings, Ceramic Tile, Paper Hanging and Painting. He even tried farming occasionally. When Natural Gas came to the area, he took up heating and gas fitting, working for Hay Lakes Hardware. He has probably installed most of the gas heating and plumbing in the surrounding area.

Everyone has their problems and sorrows, but God has been good to us. We both had good Christian parents who trained us well and I personally will always be grateful to my folks for coming to Canada. It has been a wonderful country to live in and in my opinion, Hay Lakes is the best place in the world.

Harke, Wilmer and Frieda and Family by Frieda Harke

Wilmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Harke of New Sarepta attended the New Sarepta Rural School. Frieda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Buss of Rolly View attended the Parkdale School. Bill and Frieda were married on October 20, 1948 in Edmonton and lived in New Sarepta for two years before moving to the Hay Lakes area.

In the fall of 1950, Lorne Harke, who was already living in the Hay Lakes area, informed us that his adjoining farm neighbour, Albert Lachman and family were ready to pull up roots to move to Vancouver Island. "Come, Buy! You can use my machinery to get started," said brother Lorne. Thanks to Henry Drebert and Lorne Wensel who loaned us money we purchased our home quarter (SW 18-49-21-W4) in October for the sum of \$9,500.



Frieda, Bill, Jennifer, Ken, Grandson Brett, daughter-in-law Carol, daughter-in-law Theresa, Glenn and Morley.

We stayed in New Sarepta for the winter. During this time we purchased our first car — a 1929 Ford Model A for \$200. In spring of 1951 with four month old Jennifer we moved to our farm home only to discover that the mice had invaded during the winter months. After establishing a firm hand, the mice recognized the new owners and vacated the premises.

Bill continued employment as butter maker in the New Sarepta Dairy for a year to subsidize our farming income. During this time we purchased our first cow for \$200. He quit his job at the dairy in fall hoping to become a full time farmer but we soon discovered our expenses were higher than the income, with number one feed oats selling at only 39.5 cents per bushel. So Bill took employment at the Hay Lakes Dairy Pool and worked there until 1953.

On August 14, 1953 an opening was available with Edmonton Pipe Line. Bill took this job to con-

tinue subsidizing the farm income. We slowly bought our own machinery and a few cows and chickens, and he continued trying to farm and work. This meant that lots of help was needed from me.

Morley came along in 1954 — the same year Calgary Power was brought to the farm. This was the end of the wind charger. Glenn arrived in 1957. We soon discovered the house was too small for five people. So in the summer of 1958 we added an addition and remodelled our home. So Bill kept working.

Soon the boys were old enough to lend a hand with the farming and we decided to expand the business. We purchased the quarter section to the south of us — the Sagert farm in 1959. We also built a new barn in 1967 (Centennial year) and began shipping milk.

In 1966 we were blessed with yet another son — Kenneth — who became the centre of attention in our household.

In 1973 our friends and relatives honoured us in the community on our 25th Wedding Anniversary celebration.

Jennifer entered college at Camrose and then went to the University of Alberta to earn her Bachelor of Education degree. She is at present teaching for the Edmonton Public School Board.

Morley went apprenticing as an electrician. He earned his journeymen's ticket and is presently employed by Commercial Electric in Edmonton. On Sept. 7, 1977 Morley married Carol Kjosness of Sherwood Park and they reside in the village of Hay Lakes. Carol is employed by the Royal Bank in Edmonton.

Glenn is presently employed by Citation Industries where he is installation and service manager. On May 3, 1980, he married Theresa Galenza of Hay Lakes and they are now living in the village of Hay Lakes. Theresa is employed at the Royal Bank in Edmonton.

Bill, Kenneth and I still live on the farm. Kenneth is in grade nine at Hay Lakes and plays hockey in Camrose. Bill and I are still involved in community activities. Bill served on the church council at Our Savior's Lutheran Church for many years and I was superintendent of the Sunday School. Since the older boys were ardent Boy Scouts, Bill served as chairman for the Group Committee in Hay Lakes for many years. He also served as district president for the Wild Rose District and I was lunch convenor. Morley earned the Queen Scout award for Scouting and attended jamborees in Churchill and Alberta. He was also selected for a Scout exchange with another Scout in New Brunswick — Eric McCumber. We were honored by the church when Bill received the Lambs

award for Youth service in 1976. At present we are both involved with the Recreation Association and Curling Club. While involved with the Recreation, Bill served on the building committees for the Recreation Centre and the Curling Rink. He is at present Vice-President of the Recreation Association. We are both active participants in the Curling Club.

As the children took off on their own and Bill continued working with oil field, we decided to cut back on the farming operation. We sold our milk cows and replaced them with beef cattle to make the farming easier. Two years ago the farm land was turned over to a renter so we have been able to enjoy ourselves more and take holidays away from home.

Last June Bill got promoted to area foreman for the Central Area for Norcen. We're still planting trees and shrubs and flowers to further beautify our farm site.

Hartmann, Bruno **by Bruno Hartmann**

I was born in West Germany in May, 1948, the first child of Adolph and Hulda Hartmann. At the age of nine months, we emigrated from Germany to Vimy, Alberta. In 1959, we moved to Hay Lakes.

On May 7, 1977, Kathleen Schultz (McGonigal) of St. Brides, Alberta, and I, Bruno Hartmann, were united in marriage.

I am employed in a steel mill (IPSCO) in Edmonton, commuting to work every day.

We purchased a mobile home and moved it to the farm of my mother, Mrs. Hulda Hartmann. While residing there, our first child, a son, Tracy Scott was born on October 7, 1977. That same fall, we purchased our present farm, NW 25-48-22-W4, from Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Berkholtz. As there was no building site established, we had to build a driveway, drill a water well, and apply for Calgary Power and Natural Gas. (This was not done until the spring and summer of 1978.) Also that spring, May 7, 1978, we started to plant trees for a shelterbelt for the new building site, which has become an annual event.

The first building that was erected in the new yard was a double garage. In the summer of 1978 it was built by Bernard McGonigal, Kathleen's father, and Floris Looy. Then finally when we were ready to move the mobile home to the new site it started to rain and rain so we had to delay the move. It was later in the fall when finally the rain stopped, so we called a moving truck from Edmonton to pull the trailer. The day the truck arrived it also brought some more rain which made it impossible for the truck to pull the mobile home, so the truck had to return to Edmonton. Later that day, it got to be sunny again and in frustration I decided to use my tractor to move it. I

was successful and got the mobile home moved that same day.

On August 25, 1980, we were blessed with another child, a daughter, Sherry Lynn.

We are still busy landscaping, etc. in our new yard. The land is rented by Allan Hein, on a crop share basis. In the future I hope to quit my job in Edmonton and establish a dairy farm.

Henkleman, Art and Velma

Art is the eldest son of Martin and Lydia Henkleman and was born in 1914.

Velma is the second daughter of Lars and Avey Grue and was born in 1922.

We only lived in the Hay Lakes district on SW 8-49-21 W4 for three and one-half years after our marriage in 1942. But we cherish the memories of our years of growing up in this district. We are especially thankful for the Christian influence of our parents, and cherish their memories.

It was also here where we enjoyed our very first home together and where our first child was born.

In 1946 we moved to Edmonton where Art was in a garage business for twenty-two years. He is presently in Real Estate business and we live on the same acreage we moved to east of the City twenty-three years ago.

We have been blessed with four children who have over the years brought us much love and happiness.

Gail, born in 1945, is now married to Arlie Jespersen and they have three children, Kareen twelve, Kirsti ten, and Andrew eight. They live on an acreage near Spruce Grove.

Wayne, born 1949, will be married May 8, 1981 to Dorothy Whitson and they will live in their home in Edmonton.

Brian, born in 1951, is married to Leslie (Copper) Roberts and they live on an acreage just east of us. They have three children, Robert five, Megan three, and Scott Arthur, three months.

Craig, who was born fourteen years later, in 1964, was a special added blessing to our home. He lives at home and is in Grade eleven.

God has been and continues to be our source of joy and peace.

Henkelman, Clarence

I, Clarence Henkelman, was born in New Sarepta on April 8, 1917. In 1918 I moved to Hay Lakes with my parents Martin and Lydia Henkelman and my brother Arthur. I attended the Hay Lake School. As a Teenager, feeling God's call I made a commitment to serve my Lord and Saviour in whatever way it would please Him most. In 1935 I enrolled at the Prairie Bible Institute at Three Hills, Alberta. Upon gradua-

tion I entered Moravian College and Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pa. to prepare for Missionary Service. Due to the second World War and conscription I had to return to Canada where I received an indefinite postponement to do farm work due to my father's failing health.



L. to R.: Dale, Pauline, Jim, Joel and Clarence Henkelman.

In the late thirties a youth group across denominational lines was organized called the "Young People's Fellowship Club" to better learn God's will for our lives according to the Scriptures, to have inter-denominational Christian Fellowship and to bring the Community closer together. Meetings were usually held in homes willing to accommodate them. The young people who attended were some of the finest in the Community. The recollection of these meetings are very pleasant to me.

In 1946 I was able to persuade a beautiful charming store clerk to become Mrs. Clarence Henkelman. Pauline is the daughter of Frieda and Adolph Busenius. Pauline attended the big Hay Lakes School and the Camrose Lutheran Bible Institute.

In 1948 we left the farm and moved to Alaska to undertake an all new challenging venture; to try to be substitute parents to children who lost the dearest thing in their life, their parents. This was a far greater challenge than we had anticipated but we are thankful to the Lord for every minute of it. We were assigned to the Moravian Children's Home near Kwethluk under the direction of the Moravian Church Mission-

ary Program. The first six years we were in charge of twenty to twenty-six boys. The battered emotional needs of a child who has lost father, mother, their love, his own home, his bed and place at the table, creates a vacuum in one's life which is not easy to fill.

After six years we returned to Alberta for a year's furlough. Nine months of this time was spent in Bethlehem, Pa. where Clarence continued his studies at the Moravian Theological Seminary. When we returned to Alaska, Clarence was appointed Superintendent of the Children's Home and the four up-River villages. The "Home" family consisted of nine staff members and thirty-five to forty-two children, mostly Eskimo with some Indians and some whites. We worked at the "Home" for over twenty-five years. Well over five hundred children were cared for during this time. Some were there for longer periods of time, some only for a few months. In the early years, most of the children were orphans, their parents having died of tuberculosis. In later years, when with the Government's good health program and modern medicine, tuberculosis was no longer so prevalent. The need for child-care services changed and more children came from broken homes due to alcohol and related causes.

Life in Alaska, in particular in the early years, was quite different than life in Alberta or the lower USA. Groceries and other supplies had to be ordered once a year and came in on the ocean freighter once and sometimes twice in summer. Winter travel was by dog team until 1964 when the snowmachine began to take over. When the winter snow fall was light and after the ice on the river was over ten inches, we would use a light truck or car for river travel. Very often small aircraft had to be chartered.



Pauline Henkelman having bed time devotions with Moravian Childrens Home little boys.

In the early years heating and cooking was done with wood stoves. Wood was hauled by barge in spring and summer, and by dog team in winter. Due to the long summer days, plants grew quickly, making it possible to have some gardens and a greenhouse which provided us with some fresh vegetables. Some berries grew plentifully, especially blueberries, salmon berries and cranberries, these were used to make jams and jellies. There was always an abundance of fish. Salmon was canned and smoked in summer for winter use.

Our three sons were born while we were living at the Children's Home and received their elementary schooling at the "Home". For High school they had to travel some five hundred miles north west to a little village of Unalakleet on the Bearing Sea Coast where the Covenant church had a boarding High school. This first separation from the boys was felt keenly. Upon graduation from High school each one in his own time enrolled at Seattle Pacific University (Free Methodist).

Joel also took two years at the Prairie Bible Institute. Upon completion of his studies at the Seattle Pacific University he got a job with the Federal Aviation Administration and has now worked for them for seven years. After Jim graduated from the Seattle Pacific University he enrolled at the University of Washington and received his Masters Degree in Social Work. This gave him the credentials for a job at the Alaska State Psychiatric Institute where he has worked ever since he graduated. Dale lost his life while driving a fish pick-up boat for a fishing Company in Bethel, Alaska. He fell overboard on the Kuskokwak river twenty-three miles above Bethel when the handrail of his boat broke off just outside the lower mouth of the Kwethluk River. His body was found over a year later. Funeral services were held at the New Sarepta Moravian Church and cemetery. James "Jim" got married to Ann Mayersluft of Ohio, who works for one of the five top Arco oil Executives in Anchorage. Jim and Ann have their own home and live in Anchorage.

The last five years of our time in Alaska was spent at Dillingham in the Bristol Bay area which is known as the Salmon Capital of the world. Here Clarence was pastor of the Moravian Church and supervised the outstation of Aleknagik. Here Spring and Summer brought an influx of people from different parts of Alaska and the South forty-eight to fish or work in the canneries.

Clarence took early retirement due to Pauline's health. She has Multiple Sclerosis and has been in a wheel chair for over four years. We are now enjoying the mild climate of Washington and visits from Canadian friends and relatives as well as visits from Alas-

kans who come here for medical needs, to attend College, University or just pass through.

Henkelman, Emil

Emil Henkelman was born on April 14, 1883 in Ludwignuwka Shitimer, Volhynia, Russia. He was the son of Gottfried Henkelman and Wilhelmina (nee Moller) Henkelman. Emil emigrated to Canada with his parents in 1897. This family settled in the Strathcona district where his father, Gottfried Henkelman became well recognized as a layman pastor. Gottfried Henkelman served as an assistant pastor to Bishop Clement Hayler who served the Bruederfeld and Hiemthal Moravian Churches. The Gottfried Henkelman family consisted of seven children who were namely Emil, Theodore, Reinhold, Emma, Lydia, Antoni and Alma. Emil and his brothers and sisters grew up in the Bruederfeld district presently known as Millwoods. He was confirmed in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church on April 3, 1898.

On April 21, 1903, Emil Henkelman accompanied a party of eleven men who followed the Hay Lakes Trail under the guidance of Bishop Clement Hayler. This party came to select their homesteads on Township 49, Range 22, West of the 4th Meridian which had been surveyed following a petition presented by Clement Hayler. Emil selected his homestead on the northeast quarter of Section 12 on this township. He settled on this homestead as a bachelor in 1904 and became a charter member of the New Sarepta Moravian congregation when it was organized in the fall of that year. He also served as secretary-treasurer for the first school district that was organized in 1906. This was the New Sarepta School District No. 1548.

On March 15, 1906, Emil Henkelman was united in holy matrimony to Lydia Stelter. Lydia was the daughter of Ludwig and Amalia (Demm) Stelter. This marriage took place at Strathcona and was officiated by Bishop Hayler. Emil and Lydia Henkelman resided on their homestead near Hay Lakes for about three years. Two of their seven children were born on this homestead. These were Emma and Martha. Mona died as an infant.

The Emil Henkelmans sold their homestead to Emil Diewert around 1910. They then settled on a farm near Bruederheim where Lydia's parents made their home. There were five more children born to this family at Bruederhiem who were namely Elsie, Clarence, Mabel, Evelyn and Percival. At present the five remaining in the family are Elsie, who is married to Norbert Henning, Mabel married to Allen Kupsch, Evelyn married to Rev. Wilbert Frey, and Emma has remained single. The Rev. Percival Henkelman is married to Martha Roth and serves the Reformed Church at Josephburg. Clarence was mar-

ried to Iris Aspeslet. He died on Oct. 18, 1957 at the age of forty-five.

Emil Henkelman passed away on April 22, 1959 at the age of seventy-six years. His widow, Lydia Henkelman passed away on April 2, 1970 at the age of eighty-three. The Emil Henkelman's homestead is presently owned by Leo Kiel.

Henkelman, Fred

by son Albert Henkelman

Fred Henkelman was born September 26, 1873 in Volhynia, Russia which is about fifteen miles from Stalengrad. He was the oldest son of Ludwig and Louisa Henkelman. In 1894 Fred came to Canada with his parents and with four brothers and one sister. Their names were Ludwig (Junior), Gus, Martin, Samuel and Marie (Jeck), and he had two more sisers who were married in Russia and came to Canada a few years later named Emilie (Mrs. Hirsch) and Julia (Mrs. Klammer).

The Henkelmans settled in Bruederfeld, which is about eight miles southeast of Edmonton, near where Bretona Station is today on the C.N.R.

Fred's first job was working for a farmer near where they lived to pay back a debt for his father — this farmer paid Fred \$50.00 a year and at the end of the year the farmer said, "You are such a good worker, stay another year and I will pay you \$55.00 for the second year". But Fred had enough of this so he quit and looked for other work. He and his brother Gus and two more young men from their district went to the C.P.R. rail yard and they gave a brakeman fifty cents each and he let them get in a coal car and ride to Calgary for this. There they walked out to some coal mines about 90 miles from Calgary but when they got there and looked down the mine they changed their mind about working in the coal mines so they walked all the way back to Calgary again and where they tried to board a freight train to go East. There the railroad police caught them and took them into custody overnight and at their hearing the next day the magistrate was so impressed with the honest intentions of the young men looking for work he arranged with the C.P.R. to allow the men to travel and even wished them a safe journey, and saw to it that they got some lunch for their trip. So after traveling about two hundred and sixty miles they came to a place called Assiniboia and they got work there on the section. They stayed quite a while and then Fred went to work for a sheep rancher where he stayed about one and a half years. He then returned home to Edmonton and worked around there and on April 1, 1900 he got married to a girl by the name of Kunigunda Lippert from Bruderheim, Alberta. In 1901 he moved to Morinville, Alberta and rented a place there but they didn't stay too long and came back to



Fred Henkelman Family 1923. L. to R., Back: Albert, Antonia and Gus. Front, L. to R.: Arthur, Fred, Allen, Mrs. Henkelman and Adena.

Edmonton. Then in 1903 Fred took a homestead one mile west and four miles north of Hay Lakes. He bought a team of oxen and started to build and clear some land. A Mr. Gottlieb Eckert broke Fred's first five acres of land with oxen.

Times were very bad. The closest store was Leduc, about twenty-six miles west but the roads were so bad that they were better off to go to Edmonton which was about forty miles — they would only go about twice a year.

In 1906 they formed a School District and in 1908 they built a school on Fred's farm on the Northwest corner and the school opened in the spring of 1909. The Henkelman boys, Gus and Albert, did the maintenance work at the school like starting a fire in the stove and the sweeping and dusting every school day and they did this for about ten years at fifteen cents a day.

In 1908 a store was started in the August Harke

house about one mile west of Fred's farm. A Mr. Lauritz Larson was the store clerk so things looked a lot brighter in the District. Fred still worked away from home a lot so Mrs. Henkelman and the small boys would have to carry on alone. The boys had to take the cattle to the lake in the winter for water as the well only had enough water for the house. Fred would make a hole in the bush about four feet deep and four feet square and, in the winter, the boys would clean the snow out of it — put sticks across and put a little green hay on it and the rabbits would come for the hay and fall in so in the morning the boys would go and get as many rabbits as their mother would want and turn the others loose — that's what they lived on mostly in the winter until the boys were big enough to have a gun. Then they would go out in the mornings and shoot partridges in the willow bush and ducks in the fall.

In 1908 some French people from Beaumont, by

the name of Charest, set up a small sawmill on Fred's farm and they sawed lumber for him and a lot of the neighbouring farmers who had gathered their logs there. Fred also had a team of horses by now and most farm machinery to get by with, but he had only a few acres of land under cultivation.

In 1912 the C.N.R. started to build a railroad through this country, the first passenger going through was in 1915 but freight trains were already going for quite some time.

A Mr. John Leidtke built a store across the road from Fred's farm and Mr. Larson went in partnership with Mr. Leidtke for a few years. Then in 1912 Mr. Larson started a store in Hay Lakes with a Mr. Lars Moland and after a year or so he went on his own after he got married to Miss Inga Lund who was a neighbor of the Henkelmans. Mr. Larson bought butter and eggs and helped the homesteaders all he could. He had a big business because he could speak three or four languages. Fred also sold beef and butter and eggs to the construction gangs when they were building the railroad, also all the hay he could spare as everything was done with horses. He also was Road Foreman so people could work off their land taxes by building the roads so people could get through.

The first thrashing outfit came to the District about 1909 by the Diewert Brothers, Emil and Jack.

Fred bought the farm next to his from his brother Gus in 1910 and in 1917 Fred sold his half-section to David Busenius and bought his father's homestead one-half mile north. He lived there for two years and in 1919 he bought the half section from Poulet Elliott which was two miles north of Hay Lakes, S $\frac{1}{2}$ 18-49-21-W4 — this place was the first New Sarepta Post Office from 1905 up to 1913 when the Post Office moved to New Sarepta District and a Post Office was started in Hay Lakes.

Fred lived on this farm from 1919 to 1928 when he sold to Mr. Emil Nickol and moved to McBride, B.C. Fred farmed in McBride up to 1944 when he sold his farm and bought a house in town. They lived there in retirement until 1951 when they sold their house and moved to Vancouver, B.C. They had six children, four boys and two girls. The oldest, Gus F. Henkelman, born August 30, 1901 lives in Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.; Albert, born October 10, 1902 lives in Burnaby, B.C.; Antonia (Mrs. Haynes) born November 1, 1905 lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.A.; Arthur, born November 14, 1911 lives in McBride, B.C.; Adena (Mrs. Young) born September 12, 1913 lives in Duncan, B.C.; and Allen, born February 22, 1918 lives in Burnaby, B.C.

Fred Henkelman passed away on June 16, 1965 at the age of ninety-one years and nine months. His

wife, Kunigunda, passed away on June 8, 1967 at the age of eighty-nine years and six months.

All the children are retired and well.

Henkelman, Martin

by Rev. Clarence Henkelman

Martin Henkelman was born in Volhynia, Russia in 1883. He emigrated to Canada in 1894 with his parents Ludwig and Louisa Henkelman and four brothers — Gottfried, Ludwig jr., Gustav and Samuel and two sisters — Martha and Mary. The family came to Canada in search of religious liberty.



Ludwig and Louisa Henkelman.

They left Volhynia, Russia, an area of the Ukraine, in 1893. By the time they reached Libau, the Baltic seaport, they did not have sufficient money left to buy all their tickets to their destination in Canada. Ludwig had to borrow \$100.00 from friends which he agreed to repay upon arrival in Canada where these men would immediately need their money themselves. Ludwig expected to do this with ease, because at that time the Canadian Government still granted a bonus of \$10.00 per person to all incoming settlers. By the time they arrived in Canada, a new law had gone into effect, cancelling this provision. The family found themselves minus the expected \$100.00. However, a friend, learning of their difficulties, helped them with a loan of \$100.00 so they could repay their debt.

When the family arrived in Winnipeg, Manitoba they had \$1.00 left and all their provisions were gone. With the last dollar left they bought a kettle, some

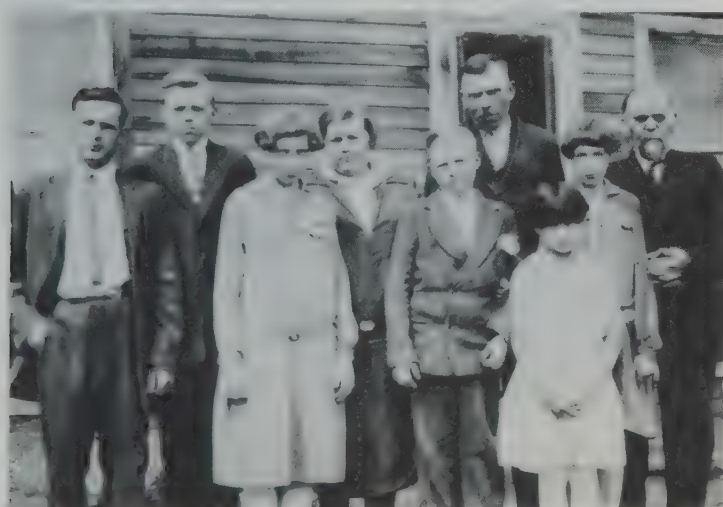
rice and a little sugar but had nothing left for bread. Another traveller heard of their need and offered to help them out with a dollar.

The scant provisions which they had thus laid up to last the entire family of ten persons until they arrived at South Edmonton. They could afford to eat but one meal a day. When they reached the end of their journey, they had nothing left — no money and no provisions.

Ludwig was soon able to earn a little money. He was a skillful builder of log houses and was engaged by various men to put up buildings. He received fifty cents a day for his expert work. Because he needed the money and his friends wanted him for their jobs at once, he could not build his own house immediately. His family, meanwhile, lived with the Philip Busenius family.

After his loan of \$100.00 was repaid he borrowed \$64.00 to make the first payment on the quarter section, NW 31-51-23-W4, in Bruderfeld (Millwoods). The family bought a yoke of oxen on credit and started to drag logs together for their house. They lived on the most frugal fare. Like others during that first year or two they subsisted largely on rabbits.

The older sons took jobs wherever and whenever available to help support the family and get them started in the new world. At the age of thirteen years Martin took a job caring for seventy head of cattle for an Indian rancher for the winter for which he was paid \$3.00 a month. With part of these earnings he bought his first horse and was on his way to becoming a farmer on his own.



L. to R.: Martin Jr., Arthur, Sarah, Lydia, Clarence, Martin Sr., Donna, Susan and Ludwig Henkelman.

The Henkelman family, under the direction of the Rev. Clement Hoyler, Moravian pastor, was largely instrumental in establishing the new colony called New Sarepta. They took part in the first land seeking trip in 1902. They filed on five homesteads. The

Ludwig Henkelman Senior's place was N.E.26-49-22-W4. It was here in their humble log dwelling that the New Sarepta Moravian Church was formally organized on October 2, 1904.

Martin Henkelman's homestead was situated on N.W.34-49-22-W4 where part of the village of New Sarepta is now situated. He married Lydia Schlender in 1912. Lydia was the oldest daughter of August Sr. and Carolina Schlender. The August Schlender Sr. family emigrated from Volhynia, Russia in 1890 and settled in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It was here that Lydia was born 1895. In 1901 the family moved to Strathcona, now part of Edmonton. Here Lydia did housework and also worked in a candy factory. She also received her education here. Two of their sons were born here — Arthur Fred in 1914 and Clarence in 1917. It was while living here that Martin injured his knee and was afflicted with a sore knee and stiff leg until a few years before his passing when it was necessary to have it amputated.

The land was poor with an abundance of stones so they decided to look for better land. They purchased S.W.8-49-21-W4 from the Hudson Bay Company in the Hay Lake district in 1918 and moved there.

The beginning in Hay Lake was extremely hard. Their first shack they lived in was built of shiplap boards. As a toddler, I remember pulling wads of paper out of the knot holes to see what was going on outside. A year later they had a five-room log house built. With very hard work other buildings were built and the farm began to progress. Martin paid \$20.00 an acre for the land, none of which was broken. There were no fences or roads. Livestock had to be herded day and night. This put an extra burden on Lydia since the boys were only one and three years of age and Martin was suffering from his knee injury. While suffering much pain and discomfort he was always there when there was work to be done, if at all possible, and took his responsibilities and supervision very seriously.

In 1922 Martin bought SE 8-49-21-W4 from William Kretchman and took over the payments to the Canadian Pacific Railroad. In 1926 he bought the quarter section one mile east from Mr. Osgaard. He also bought a threshing machine powered by an International Harvester "Tighten" tractor from Mr. Osgaard. It always needed a special cup of gasoline to get it started. It manouvered slowly and was very cumbersome but it had its advantages over the old steam-powered ones. In the early thirties he bought three more quarters of land, one quarter from Mr. Sandquist and the north half section from Mr. Pit-house. The two east quarters were sold to two young men who were needing help getting started with farming.

I remember in the spring of 1920 when Grandpa and Grandma, Ludwig and Louisa Henkelman, drove up in a horse-drawn buggy. We ran out to welcome them and Grandfather said, "We have come to stay". These were welcome words for all of us. Grandfather always had a sobering and uplifting influence to all around him. We were destined to benefit from his presence. They built a house in our yard. Grandmother was in failing health and passed away in 1921. Grandfather sold the house and moved in with us. He always adhered to the words, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you". Matthew 6:33. The day always began and ended with scripture reading and prayer. In 1935 he heard the summons, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord". The funeral service was held in the New Sarepta Moravian Church and burial in the church cemetery.

In the next few years a sequence of events took place which brought joy and meaning into the home. Martin and Lydia wanted a daughter and Arthur and Clarence wanted a sister so they had a beautiful little dark-haired four-year-old girl, Donna, now Mrs. Alvin Harke, join the family in the fall of 1921. The reward of this experience made the family take in others. In 1925 two more sisters, Sarah, now Mrs. Martin Henkelman Jr., and Susan, now Mrs. Norman Harke, joined the family. In 1928, eighteen-month-old Roy joined the family. He had a very alert and keen mind and could always figure out a better way of doing things. One day, while a teenager, the pastor asked him to speak at the Young People's meeting. He spoke well over an hour without notes. He loved his Lord very dearly and wanted the other young people to love his Lord too. In 1949, just before Christmas, this talented life came to an abrupt end through a traffic accident. In 1939, Mary and Rosie joined the family. Their warm, friendly dispositions had a very wholesome effect on the family. Mary, now Mrs. Raymond Davidson, lives in Didsbury. Rosie lives in Edmonton.

Arthur, being the oldest son, quit school after achieving the eighth grade to help with the farming. He carried the brunt of the farming and was depended on for almost everything from A to Z. Martin and Lydia built a new house and homesite on the N.W. quarter of section five. Arthur took over the old home quarter but continued to assist in farming the rest of the land. In 1942 he married Velma Grue. He sold his farm in 1944 and bought a business in Edmonton.

The farming operation was mixed farming. An abundance of hay was grown and put up in summer. During the winter months the hay was bailed and shipped to many places in Alberta, Saskatchewan

and British Columbia. Most of it was shipped to Edmonton and sold to the Edmonton City Dairy, the stock yards and packing plants. Some years, more than fifty rail carloads were shipped. Some of this hay was bought from neighbors for bailing and shipping.



Roy Henkelman



Rosie Henkelman



Mary Henkelman

Martin had the draying business in Hay Lake for several years. He served on the school board and the drainage board that was responsible for draining Little Hay Lake for good productive grain and hay land. He helped build the road with scrapers and horses and also helped build the telephone line.

The Rev. William Scheel, pastor of the New Sarepta Moravian church, started a Sunday School in the Hay Lake school. Martin and Lydia assisted him in this work. Rev. Scheel was called to serve in the

United States. The New Sarepta Moravian church was left without a pastor for awhile so the Sunday School was taken over by the Lutherans.

During the depression many needy travellers in desperate need of jobs were given a bed and meals, some for a few days, some for weeks and some for months and even years. For the most part these contacts resulted in many pleasant memories and experiences in later years.

Martin was a life-time member of the Moravian Church, attended faithfully and served his Lord faithfully and sincerely. He was a member of the church board until he was called home in 1946 to an "inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for (him) you". I Peter 1:4.

Lydia continued farming with Clarence's and Pauline's help. Clarence and Pauline Busenius were married in 1946. In 1948 they went to Alaska as missionaries under the Moravian Church. Roy, Mary and Rosie helped with the farming as well as hired help. In the mid-sixties the farm was sold and Lydia moved to Edmonton. She is at present residing at the Central Park Lodge.

Herbert and Hertha Henschell

Herbert was born at Hay Lakes, September 20, 1916. He grew up on his parent's farm two miles south of Hay Lakes. On October 26, 1939 he married Hertha Leicht, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Leicht, who came to Hay Lakes from Consort, Alberta in 1937. They have one son Ronald, who was born March 25, 1941.

In 1942 Herbert and his brother, Ferdinand, took over the family farm. A year later Ferdinand left the farm and moved to Vancouver. From that time on Herbert and Hertha farmed on their own.

Over the years Herbert suffered many severe bouts with an unknown illness which nearly took his life several times. Nevertheless he has outlived — many friends, relatives and also the well-known Doctor Mac Smith, who treated him from the beginning. Hertha was diligent and kept things going during bad times.

One of the highlights in Herbert's life was when he won a car at a Bingo in 1955.

In 1966 their son, Ron, left the family farm and married Inge Reppert of South Edmonton. He then began farming at South Edmonton, where he still resides. Herb and Hertha have three grandchildren, Mark, Ingrid and David.

In 1970 they sold the farm and moved to Edmonton. Herbert spent nearly ten years driving a taxi. As of this writing he has retired from taxi-driving in



Hertha and Herbert Henschell and son Ronald — 1944.

order to care for Hertha who suffered a severe stroke in September 1980.

Henschell, William and Anna

William August Henschell, born in 1886, emigrated to Canada from Volhynia, Russia in 1904. In 1906, he took up a homestead — SE 30-48-21-W4, two miles south of Hay Lakes. The first years he slept in the same building as the horses to keep from freezing. On November 25, 1908, he and the former Anna Parno were married by Pastor Rieczus in Edmonton. Anna was born in 1893 and had come to Canada from Poland in 1903.

Anna tells of the honeymoon trip to the farm on a Big Bain wagon. There she found a little house lined with paper and so cold the water froze solid in the pail. In the spring she mixed clay, cow manure and



L. to R., Standing: Rose and Emil Zucht, Emil and Freida Mittelstadt, August Henschell, Adam and Elsie Schreiber. Seated: Anna, Herbert, Ferdinand and William Henschell — 1932.

chopped straw together, and plastered the walls inside and out and then whitewashed them to cover the clay.

During their winters on the farm, William hauled firewood to Camrose. This he sold for \$1.50 per wagon box, cut, split, and delivered. The money received was used to buy groceries. The store they traded at in Camrose was Smith Bros.

The axe was the most useful tool on the farm in those days and William helped to cut trees for roads to Camrose and later to Ellerslie and Edmonton. When they started to plow the land they found Indian hammers and hatchets which are now in the museum in Saskatoon.

In 1912, another farm quarter of land was bought from Canadian Pacific Railroad for \$11.00 an acre. That same year when the first railroad was built, Anna was milking the cows one evening when the train passed through. The cows got so frightened that they scattered all over the place and ran into the bush. Anna never did find the cows to finish milking that evening.



Mrs. Henschell feeding her turkeys.

William bought his first car in 1921, which was a 1919 Chevrolet. When he drove it home he turned in the driveway, hollered whoa and drove right through the roadgate. When his wife, Anna decided to learn to drive the car, the first thing she did was to back it into a stone pile. In 1936 he was convinced by his sons to buy his first tractor. He was sure he would go broke.

While living on the farm, William and Anna

raised six children. One son, Walter died in early infancy.

Elsie, born in 1909, married Pastor Adam Schreiber. They served parishes in Newbrook, Alberta, California and New York. They now live in Florida and have four children, William, Ingard, Garry and Lorrain.

August, was born in 1911, moved to Vancouver and is married to Terry Weinburger. They have three sons, Kenneth, Leonard and Ronald. They now live in Kelowna.

Rose was born in 1913, and married Emil Zucht in 1930 and they farmed in the area before moving to Edmonton in 1944. Emil passed away in 1975, and Rose now lives in Kelowna, B.C.

Freida, born in 1914, married Emil Mittelstadt in 1932 and moved to Bruderheim. They had three children, Doris, Elmer, and Harvey. Emil passed away in 1955. In 1966, Freida was remarried to Archie McLeod and they live in Kelowna, B.C.

Herbert, born in 1916, married Hertha Leicht in 1939, and took over the farm when his Dad retired. They have one son, Ronald.

Ferdinand, born in 1919, married Vera Loomis in 1942.

In 1941 William and Anna bought an acreage in the Village of Hay Lakes, built a house and moved in. They still helped on the farm for a few years. On their acreage they kept some chickens, and a cow or two. They enjoyed working in their yard, taking care of the lawn, garden and large berry patch. Some years they even raised apples.

On November 25, 1968, William and Anna celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

In 1951, William suffered a serious heart attack and recovered, but had a second one in 1955. Despite this fact, he enjoyed relatively good health until 1969 when he passed away at the age of eighty-three.

Anna sold the house and acreage in 1974 and moved to Bethany Lodge in Edmonton. I believe she is presently the oldest living pioneer of the Hay Lakes district. At the age of eighty-eight, she still enjoys life very much.

Hiebner, Paul

by Meta (Hiebner) Harke and Marie (Hiebner) Waritzky

Paul Hiebner was born around Helnufka in the province of Wolhynia, Russia on April 15, 1893. He had eleven sisters and brothers and the family was very poor. At the age of six he was hired out to a family to herd geese for his food and clothing and, sometime during this period, he got in three months of school. At the age of fourteen, he apprenticed for a blacksmith where he worked until 1914, when he was

drafted into the army. During this time he was wounded twice, in the shoulder and wrist. He told us he had to stay awake for days because the doctor said his arm would have to be taken off. He refused to allow them to, so he didn't dare go to sleep for fear of losing his arm. He also spent several months in the hospital with typhoid fever.

During the war, the families were all shipped out of the area to get out of the way of actual fighting. They were shipped to Siberia and other desolate areas. He lost four brothers and sisters due to illness and hardships on the way. After the war he came back home. Everything was destroyed, and the land taken by the government. He started work as a blacksmith again, ending up with his own shop and business. On February 2, 1920, he married Eda Mohr and they had three children in Russia; Meta, Leonard and Nathalia. Eda was born on September 22, 1898. She had sixteen brothers and sisters; several of them passed away in their youth. Medical help was not available at that time. Her family was also shipped out, enduring many unbelievable hardships. This probably toughened them up for what was yet to come.



Paul Hiebner Family. L. to R., Back: Herman, Nathalia, Leonard, Meta. L. to R., Center: Marie, Elsie, Alvina, Lydia. L. to R., Front: Mom (holding granddaughter Lilly) Dave and Dad.

Shortly after this marriage the communists took over the country. They believed in sharing, if you had two cows, one was taken away and given to someone who was too lazy to work. In two years, they would return and do the same thing, the neighbor had eaten his cow by then. They couldn't own any land or

practise their religion, it had to be done secretly. They didn't want to raise their children in this environment, so in 1926, the wheels were put in motion to leave Russia and head out into a strange new world. The timing was very unfortunate because in two years the border was closed and many of their relatives literally starved to death. They sold what belongings they had and started the long journey to an unknown country. In Riga, Latvia, Meta got a sore leg and the family was quarantined there for three weeks. After reaching Liverpool, they finally boarded the Empress of France and were on their way.

The journey must have been rough, because I remember Mom and Dad staying in the cabin, too sick to move. Being the inquisitive kid that I was, didn't stop me from roaming all over the ship and getting into trouble. We landed at the Quebec harbor and started the long journey by train to Hay Lakes. They were amazed at the vast areas of open land because the area they came from was densely populated.

In September, 1926, we arrived at Hay Lakes and Dad's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Busenius who had lived here quite a few years and some of those who started the trip with us were there to meet us. I'll never understand how they managed to put us all up, there were five of us, Grandma Hiebner, Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Hiebner, and their two children and three cousins, Reinhold, Rudolf and Helen Schultz who had lost their parents and came with us from Russia.

The best of hospitality would get strained over a period of several weeks. They did harvest Uncle Paul's wheat crop, which was so badly lodged he couldn't cut it with a binder. So Dad and Uncle Adolf cut it with scythes and Mom and Aunt Martha picked it up and tied the bundles by hand. They were accustomed to this method of harvesting, so it wasn't any hardship for them.

Dad bought a place in Hay Lakes, a house and blacksmith shop, if I remember correctly, it was between Moser's Garage and Albert Werner's home. Speaking of luxury, we had a doctor for a neighbor. Dad took up blacksmithing again, in those days they built machinery and wagons. Mom milked a cow and I got into a lot of homes delivering milk. One of the many wonderful things about our new country was the helpfulness and generosity of the people. Our first Christmas Eve, was a wonderful surprise. Many people brought things over, I especially remember Gola (Kreamer) Berry coming over and bringing a brown tweed coat, a white dress and a doll. I had never seen a doll before this and I wore those lovely clothes for a long time. There were many more but I don't remember the others quite as vividly.'

Herman was born in Hay Lakes and baptised by Pastor Goos. The love of the land was always in their blood, so after a time they rented two quarters of land from Karl Werner, land now owned and occupied by Leo Kiel. The depression started at this time. I remember Dad shipping cattle to Edmonton. When he got his returns, the freight cost more than the cattle were worth, so he had to pay the rest out of his pocket. We made butter at home, and traded butter and eggs for groceries at the store.

Living with the railway crossing the land, we almost daily had men stopping in asking for food and Mom always gave them something to eat. Being on the farm had its advantages, we never went hungry. By this time, we had quite a few horses to work the land and some of them were not the quiet, gentle type. We had many runaways with machinery and wagons. It's surprising more people weren't killed or injured. I especially remember one team that ran away, we couldn't find them anywhere. About a car, with the horses trailing behind. I never could figure out how they knew they were ours; there weren't any telephones and communication wasn't good at that time.

Alvina was born while we lived here.

About this time, Dad bought a quarter section of land from Mrs. Mjelve and for approximately two years they had the house rented to the Gus Sagert and Mrs. Lerke families. Dad farmed the land.

In the spring of 1931, the farm we were living on was rented to Mr. and Mrs. Karl Ferko and we moved to our farm to start again.

We had quite a large house on the rented place. Now we moved into a two-room house with an attic which eventually housed two parents and eight children. In winter there was always frost on the walls upstairs, but when the wind blew, we'd wake up in the morning and the beds were covered with snow. The feather beds were quite warm, but getting out of bed in the morning was something of an ordeal. We never had enough water in those days, so in summer I'd always haul water in cream cans with the horse and buggy, from wherever we could, especially from the creamery, where we could get it heated, ready to wash clothes. In winter, we'd melt snow in the house, water tank and feed cooker, so we could water the cattle and those dozen or so horses we always had. Dad bought an all-bush farm at New Sarepta, where he cleared all the bush, broke the land, picked roots and the millions of rocks that land has. Leonard took over that farm when he started out.

Over the next years, Dad purchased the farm across the corner from home from Mr. Nickel and later the quarter west of us from Ted Schulze. We had more cattle and pigs now, so spare time was at a premium.

In 1935, we built the barn. The cows were getting up on the roof of the old one, and falling through which was getting pretty dangerous, especially when we were in the barn milking.

In 1938, the house was built and we finally had enough room. We still slept three to a bed, but what luxury with furnace heating.

With the war going on, Leonard was called up for the Army. Dad's physical health was at the Q level, so Dad applied to have Len stay home and help with the farming. A policeman came to check things. He arrived as evening chores were beginning, the timing could not have been more opportune if it had been planned. Lydia, the youngest then, a little sickly looking scrawny six-year-old was bringing in the cattle. Some were feeding, others were milking and pumping water, Dad and Len were stacking green feed. He watched all this in amazement for a while, and said, "This is the kind of farmers we need, somebody has to feed the soldiers". That settled that problem, the last we heard of it.

Our first and only car here was a beautiful green 1938 Hudson Terraplane which Dad bought second-hand. Royalty could not have ridden in a Rolls Royce with more dignity and pride than we did in that limousine. Our first and only tractor was a Minneapolis Moline which Dad purchased from Leo Trempner. Part of the payment were quite a few of our four-legged horse-power animals. We always had nice horses and we all learned to take good care of them.

During these years, there were also four children born here; Elsie, Marie, Lydia and David.

In 1948, Dad went to visit many of our friends in Chilliwack, who had transferred their roots to the Frazer Valley. He found them happy and doing well, the climate kinder to his rheumatism and the work a lot easier, because the winters were so much milder. He came back to convince Mom. He must have used all his powers of persuasion because she wasn't ready to go anywhere. In winter he went back to work and made a down payment on a dairy farm. In the spring of 1949, they had an auction sale, packed a freight car with their belongings, left part of the family, and many friends and relatives behind. This was especially difficult for Mom, leaving her family, but she came to like it there. She could raise three kinds of flowers on the same patch in one year, one after the other. They travelled by train to their new home, a twenty-acre dairy farm on Bell Road near Chilliwack. Meta, Leonard, Nathalia and Herman stayed behind, and Alvina, Elsie, Marie, Lydia and David went with them.

1950 was a bad year for the community surrounding Hay Lakes and our family in particular. In Febru-

ary Dad fell and broke his hip, and Herman went to the coast to help out. In spring he came back to put in the crop. On June 13, Herman worked hard helping Uncle August saw wood. In the evening, on his way to Young People's meeting at the church, he stopped for a much needed bath at Joseph Lake. He did not go where the people were but wanted to be more by himself, and he drowned there.

In August, our youngest brother, Dave, was hit by a car, suffering a broken leg among other injuries. He couldn't start school that year.

The land here was bought by the Lorne Harke family.

In 1955, they sold their farm and moved to the city of Chilliwack. Mom passed away on October 31, 1969, after several months of suffering with cancer. Dad stayed in the house for several years, then spent some time in the Eden Rest Home. His last year was spent in the Intensive Care Unit at the Chilliwack Hospital. He passed away March 17, 1976.

Currently Alvina (Mrs. R. Schmidt) and Elsie (Mrs. B. Reinhardt) live in Chilliwack, B.C., Lydia (Mrs. Bill McKay) in Vancouver and David at Gibsons, B.C. Meta (Mrs. L. Harke) lives in Hay Lakes, Leonard and Nathalia (Mrs. W. Schultz) live at New Sarepta and Marie (Mrs. Walter Waritzky) in Edmonton. Needless to say, the highways between the coast and this area of Alberta have been well travelled many times as we get together for all the important family events and just for visiting. All the family are great talkers so many times we just continue through the night, much to the amazement of the in-laws who can never quite last that long. Give them another couple of years and they'll get there, even the younger generation are pitching right in, chips off the old blocks.

We were fortunate to live only one and a half miles from school and though half of us started not knowing the English language, somehow, those wonderful teachers instilled in us a desire to learn. Despite all the hardships, cold weather, rain and whatever else came along, the trips to and from school were fun. After fooling around, we'd have to run like mad to get to school and home on time. School was also an adventure. Remember the missing strap, or the one that got a little shorter every day, the yard sticks which were the main form of punishment, the big stove where you roasted on one side and froze on the other, the frozen lunches, fingers, toes, cheeks, noses and legs. There was always the Christmas Concert, something you waited and practised for for two months, the candy bags. This was the social event of the year. What glorious plans were made and wonderful dreams conjured up in that

schoolhouse and I'm certain a good many of them have come true.

The church was probably the most important part of our social life. The first two years we attended the Hay Lakes country church, then we went to the Evangelical country church in New Sarepta. It was over seven miles from home and we made that trip every Sunday, often even twice. We went by sleigh, buggy, democrat and later Dad built a closed-in caboose with a little heater in it. We could take some lunch along, what a luxury.

Even after we got the car we still used the sleigh in winter. Later several others had sleighs like that, but to my knowledge, Dad built the first. For confirmation instruction, we walked many times, the younger ones rode a bicycle. Walking seven miles there and back wasn't such a big deal in those days. I don't ever remember asking, "What shall I do" because the list would have been too long to complete. Leisure time was, if not non-existent, at least very limited. When we played, we had lots of fun and appreciated it, and didn't seem to need toys.

We had no identity crisis — we knew who we were and that we were loved and needed, we all depended on each other and each was expected to pull their share of the load. For the duration of our being at home we certainly felt our importance even that we were indispensable.

As a family, we were almost self sufficient. Dad could do anything he set his mind to: blacksmith, carpentry, furniture making, farmer, mechanic, shoemaker, made toys, sleighs, wagons, sewed, darned, cooked, fixed anything that was needed.

Mom spun wool, knitted, carded, made quilts, sewed, mended did chores, cooked, canned, made mountains of bread every week, had a big garden and everything possible. She taught every one of us how to read and write German before we started school (we still can) and had enough house plants to stock a commercial green house.

As a family, we would like to pay tribute to our Mom and Dad, to the courage and the faith they stood for. They instilled in each of us the determination to do our very best, teaching us honesty, morality to help our fellow man and the perseverance to go on when things didn't go right. They taught us a faith in God that would sustain us, no matter what came in life, He'd see us through — He did!

They lived that faith every day.

As a family, if we live up to their expectations — we'll be okay!

Hintz, Johnathan and Juliana and Miller, Otto, Freida and Family

Johnathan and Juliana Hintz came to Canada

from Volhynia, Russia in 1913, leaving behind a small daughter.

Johnathan took odd jobs working on farms in the Armena area for a few years before they moved to Tacoma, Washington. When they decided to come back to Canada they settled in the Pincher Creek area. They lived there three years before returning to Hay Lakes. Upon their return they spent the first year at the August Lachmans before buying a farm SW 12-42-22-W4 from John Mittelstaedt.

When Johnathan passed away in 1936 Juliana continued to farm with the help of a hired man called Joe Elescher.



Mrs. Julianna Hintz and Joe Elisher.

She yearned for the daughter she had left behind, and with the help of the church and minister she was able to locate her daughter Freida, now Mrs. Otto Miller who had four children. The family had been moved around very often during the war, but were now settled in Germany working on a Co-op farm. They were caring for Otto's ill mother, Freida was anxious to be reunited with her mother and persuaded Otto to come to Canada.

In 1948 Freida, Otto and their children Olga, Adeline, Ervin and Ewald came to the farm to live with Mrs. Hintz. Another house was moved onto the farm and Otto took over the farming operation. The children were enrolled in school to learn the English language. In 1950 Olga left home and went to work at St. Joseph Hospital. She is now married to Martin Sebris and they have two sons and a daughter and live in Oshawa, Ontario. Adeline married a neighbor boy, Erven Soch, and they farm with their two sons.

When Otto passed away in 1956, Freida and her sons continued to farm and cared for Mrs. Hintz until her passing in 1958.

Ervin started working for the Canadian National Railroad and bought himself a house in Hay Lakes from where he commutes to Camrose to work.

Ewald has taken over the farm. His mother lived with him until her passing in 1981.

Hirsch, Arthur

by Arthur Hirsch

I, Arthur Hirsch was born at New Sarepta, on January 20, 1911. I received my education in a small country school two miles from where my father homesteaded in 1903. At the age of fifteen, I quit school with a Grade eight education and worked on the home place until the age of twenty-five years.

In December, 1935, I married Olga Klammer, daughter of Adolph Klammer and Juliana (Henkelman) who was the daughter of Ludwig Henkelman. We lived on a rented farm SE7-49-21-W4 in the Hay Lakes district to the end of 1941. We then bought a farm in the Dinant area.

We were blessed with four healthy children, Kenneth our first son, was born at Hay Lakes in 1937 and married Rita Rode in 1959. He is a Safeway manager in Edmonton.

Our second son, James, was also born at Hay Lakes in 1940. He married Mary Christenson in 1961 and is employed with the Alberta Motor Association.

When our third son, Garry, was born in 1945 we were living in Dinant. He married Maxine Sigurdson in 1968 and works for the Alberta Government Telephones.

In 1949 we were blessed with a baby girl, Dianne. She is an employee of the Federal Government.

We built a new home in Camrose in 1956 and I worked in the parts department of Dick's garage as well as farming until 1958. At this time we sold our farm to the Hutterites. I continued to work at Dick's until 1967, when we moved to Edmonton and I was employed by the Provincial Government until my retirement in January, 1976.

We now live in a comfortable home in Edmonton, not too far from our children so we can enjoy our nine grandchildren.

Our families, as well as we ourselves are enjoying good health for which we thank a loving God for the many blessings we received throughout these many years. We are members of the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Sherwood Park.

Gotfried Hirsch and Family

by Florence (Hirsch) Lange

Gotfried (Fred) Hirsch and his first wife, Christine (Olsen) Lippert:

Dad was born on August 20, 1880. He emigrated to Canada with his parents, Gotlip and Emelia Hirsch from Schetima, Verlinion, Russia. He grew up and helped his dad on the farm at New Sarepta. One day he heard about a young widow and decided his life would take a change. He went to see Christine who formerly was married to Emil Lippert and had three sons, Mense who had died in an accident at about one

year of age, Levi and Alphonse. He enjoyed the times spent with these two young characters and loved them as his own. But one day, in the not too distant future, I, Florence, disturbed and reversed some of his attractions. There were other family members who joined our family circle, Alexander, Henry, Geraldine, Benjamin who was known as Ben, Andrienne, Jane, Andrew (Fredie) and last, but not least, blue-eyed Doreen.



Christina (Olsen) and Fred Hirsch.

Dad and Mother first farmed on the north side of Miquelon Lake, then moved to just one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes, and after that they purchased the place now known as the Kittlitz farm. From there we all packed up and moved to Galahad. Two years later mother died, in 1932, and in 1934 the house burned down together with all contents. Now Dad was on the move again and settled in Bawlf, lived there for several years, got married again, then moved five miles northeast of Camrose, and retired in later years to Camrose where he lived until he died in 1973. Dad had eighteen grandchildren.

Mother, Christine (Olsen-Thompson) Lippert-Hirsch, was born on June 11, 1889 in Oslo, Norway. She emigrated to Canada with her parents, Thomas and Andrienne Olson. Mother had her troubles but always was happy and jolly. Her special phrase was "be fat and jolly". There were so many Olsens, so her dad decided to change the family name to Thompson. Christine was married to Emil Lippert on March 9, 1908 in the New Sarepta Moravian Church by Rev. Schultz. They had three sons, Mense, Levi and Alphonse. Mense was born on November 1, 1909 and was deceased in 1910, Levi was born on June 6, 1911, and Alphonse was born on November 23, 1913 and was deceased on October 23, 1969.

Mother always had extra food for many. We lived on the coal trail and on many cold wintry nights the men coming back with a load of coal found the weather too cold to journey on so would stop in and have dinner or supper and oftentimes stayed overnight.

Mother's first husband, Emil, passed away very suddenly from a heart attack. Here was a nice attractive widow and two young boys "up for grabs." Dad didn't waste any time; there was no chance for grass to grow under his feet. He went to court Mother and they got married in 1914 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmonton. Mother died on January 6, 1932. She suffered for a long time; her illness was a stomach cancer. God blessed her and took her home which relieved her of this terrible suffering. We all missed her greatly. We would tease her when her Norwegian accent got the best of her tongue and she would say "the jolk of an egg is jellow".



L. to R., Back: Levi, Alex, Henry, Benjamin and Andrew. Front: Florence, Geraldine, Andrienne, Jane and Doreen.

Dad's second marriage was to a very charming lady. Her name was Arvilla Mae Carnochan. One evening Dad asked Geraldine to answer an add for a housekeeper in the Free Press Prairie Farmer. The letter was mailed and the return reply was that she would come and keep house for him and his family. She wasn't here too long before they got married on December 2, 1938. They farmed in the Likeness area until 1943, then rented the farm to son Alexander and they bought a farm north of Camrose. In 1959 Dad sold the farm to Ben and Fred and retired to Camrose. Mother, Arvilla, was a good cook, housekeeper and business head. In her first marriage she had five daughters and one son: Margarete was a Registered Nurse, Sadie a faithful farmer's wife, Evlyne a teacher, and Florence a devoted wife to her husband and two daughters. One son and daughter were deceased. Arvilla had six grandsons and two grand-daughters.

The Gotfried Hirsch Descendants:

Menso Lippert: Died in an accident (November 1, 1909 to 1910)

Levi (Lippert) Hirsch: was born at Bruderheim, Alberta on June 6, 1911. He took his schooling at New Sarepta Rural. He joined the Armed Forces in September, 1940. He went overseas in 1942 and returned to Canada in 1945. He married Eva Poops and they have three children, Leaf, Mary and Jane. Levi and Eva live in Ontario where Levi works in engineering for Dupont of Canada.

Alphonse (Lippert) Hirsch: was born at Bruderheim, Alberta on November 23, 1913. He took his schooling at New Sarepta Rural School. He joined the Armed Forces in 1940 and served as an Instructor in motor mechanics at Camp Borden, Ontario. He went overseas as a Sergeant-Major. After the war he served with the Reserve Army and went to the Gaza Strip in Israel. He returned to Canada, worked in the Arctic and was then discharged from the army. He bought a quarter of land near Camrose. In 1968 he sold the land and bought a motel in Nanaimo, British Columbia, where he passed away on October 23, 1969. Alphonse had never married.

Florence (Hirsch) Lange: was born at Hay Lakes on November 17, 1915. Her school days were short; she started when she was eight years old and had to quit when she was thirteen because of her mother's illness. Her mother and father sacrificed \$13.00 of their meagre budget to let her have thirteen music lessons. She learned quickly and played for Sunday School and eventually the Sunday Church Service. At home she and her two brothers Levi (the violin) and Alphonse (the button-accordion) played and sang at various house parties. Florence was sev-

enteen years old when her mother died. The family tasks became her responsibility. In 1946 she met Adolph Lange and they were married on March 22, 1947 in the Moravian Church in Edmonton. They have two children, Dixie born on December 26, 1947 and Marvin born on September 11, 1954.

Alexander Hirsch: was born on the north side of Miquelon Lake. He started his schooling at New Sarepta Rural school and then moved to Galahad. There they travelled to school in a horse-drawn van that even had a heater. The heater was located in the front, across from the driver who would put on more wood as needed. In the spring, fall, and in nice weather, they rolled up the side canvas-curtains. Gottfried drove the school van for years. When the roads were good he drove the 1922 Dodge Touring car which had room for three seats. In the "hungry thirties," Alexander had to quit school to go working to help out the family. He was fifteen or seventeen years old when he hauled coal into Galahad just to make a dollar or two. The mine was six miles west of their home and Galahad was three miles northeast. It was a full day's work with a team of horses. The coal cost \$1.75 per ton was sold for \$2.75 a ton and two trips could be made in a day. Alexander left home in 1936 and worked south of Camrose. In the fall of 1939 and 1940 he pitched bundles for Simon Grue, in 1941 for Jack Hirsch, and in 1942 for Selmer Grasdahl of Edberg, his future brother-in-law. In 1943, Alexander got married. In 1943 they rented a farm and in 1953 they moved to Camrose where he worked for Macleods for ten years and then Woolworths for two years. In the fall of 1968 they moved to Edmonton where they looked after a 200-suite apartment house. After ten years they moved to Pine Lake where they look after the Salvation Army Camp. During Alex's years in Camrose, he became the District Commissioner for the Wildrose District. He worked with Walter Busenius who was in command of the Hay Lakes Scout Troop.

Henry Hirsch: was born on May 1, 1919 at Hay Lakes. He attended New Sarepta Rural and Galahad Consolidated Schools. He joined the Provost Corps in the Canadian Army and served for four and a half years but never went overseas. He was stationed in Quebec. After the war he went into the garage business for ten years and then in September 1957 he joined the Quebec Provincial Police Force. He received a long time service medal in May, 1977. and at the age of sixty, with twenty years service, he retired. He married Wilma Simpson in the Anglican church in Hungtingdon, Quebec on December 24, 1942. They have four children: Ann, Verna, Marvin and Lavergne.

Geraldine (Hirsch) Brown Kelly: was born on

December 12, 1921 at Hay Lakes. She attended school at Galahad. At the age of seventeen she married Thomas Brown in July, 1939. To them two children were born, Dennis, in July, 1942 and Sharon in July, 1946. Thomas took ill with Parkinson's Disease in 1946 and died in March, 1972. In June, 1976 Geraldine married Roy Kelly whom she had met at Bethany Home where both he and she were employed. They live in Camrose where Roy is still the chief cook at Bethany Home.

Benjamin (Ben) Hirsch: Born on June 18, 1924 at Hay Lakes. Took his schooling at Galahad and at Likeness. He stayed on the farm after his parents retired. He married Florence Brouillette who had two daughters from a previous marriage, Mel and Joan. Florence died in 1966. In 1968, Ben married Doris Solway who brought three daughters with her, Kathy, Sandy and Karen. In 1969 Jennifer was born. They live on the farm and specialize in show horses which have brought them many trophies and ribbons.

Andrienne (Hirsch) Robinson: was born on November 25, 1926 at Hay Lakes. She took her schooling at Galahad, Bawlf and Holden. She moved to Vancouver where she met and married Dan Mundreon. They had two sons, Barry and Neil. On November 10, 1978 she married George Robinson, a farmer from Farmington, British Columbia. She drives twenty-six miles to Fort Saint John where she is employed with the Department of Highways.

Jane Hirsch: was born on November 14, 1928 at Galahad. She attended school at Galahad, Bawlf, Camrose, Bible College in Saskatoon and the Dominion Business College in Toronto. In 1952 she accepted a Missionary position in the Belgian Congo. She served there for six years until their first war in 1960. She lost all her possessions. She contacted a tropical disease which sent her to the hospital for many months in Toronto. In 1969 she returned to South Africa to serve in radio ministry and then transferred to Manayhane High School in Gueazi-land as an accountant. Presently she is an accountant and field auditor at Mission Field Headquarters in Pietermaritzburg. Her furlough is due in January, 1982.

Andrew (Red Junior) Hirsch: was born on November 30, 1930 at three and a half pounds weight at Galahad. As a youngster, he and his sister Doreen were real good pals. He stayed with his parents until they retired from the farm. He moved to Camrose with them where he stayed and looked after them for fifteen years. He still farms, and has seasonal employment in a farm equipment shop. He joined the Solo Club about two or three years ago.

Doreen (Hirsch) Haude: was born on October 21, 1931 at Galahad. She attended school at Bawlf,

Likeness and Avonroy. She married Arnold Haude in November, 1952. They have four children: Laurel, Roger, David and Douglas.

Hirsch, Martin Family by Martin

My father, Gottlieb Hirsch, was born in 1870 in Martinowka, Zhitomir, Russia. My mother, Emilie (nee Henkleman) was born 1867 in Ludwegsckowka, Zhitomir, Russia.

They emigrated from Russia to Canada in 1902 with my brother Fred, two sisters Emma and Martha and myself, Martin. I was the youngest child at this time, born February 28, 1901. We travelled by ship and the fare was \$37.50 for each adult, which was very expensive at that time.

We lived with my grandparents in the Beaumont area before taking a homestead in 1903 in the New



Martin Hirsch and Elsie Schneider married February 18th, 1930.

Sarepta district. There was nothing but bush and rocks on their farm. My parents chopped down trees and built a little home with a sod roof. Two more brothers, Gus and Adolf, were born.

In 1904, my parents borrowed a one-bottom or walking plough and a steer to break some land. Grain was planted in the small field and in the fall it was cut with a scythe. When it was dry it was put on the floor and crushed so the seed separated from the stalks. To screen it, a sheet was put out in the breeze and the grain fell on the sheet. It was now ready to grind into flour and cereal. Mom baked delicious bread and served it many times with rabbit stew.

In 1910 my parents bought a democrat which they used to go to church and shop for groceries at a store on August Harke's place. When the railway was built, Mr. Larsen then moved his store in Hay Lakes. Most people would charge all their supplies until fall, hoping and praying for a good crop so their debts could be paid.

Our family consisted of eight boys and three girls, Fred, Emma, Martha, Martin (myself), Gus, Adolf, Albert, John (Jack), Sam, Arthur and Lydia. My father and mother, Fred, Albert and Jack have all passed away.

In 1924 I bought a farm four miles north of Hay Lakes. I cleared the bush by axe and broke all the land with horses and walking plough.

I lived alone for four years. I built a house and a log barn, grew grain and raised hogs and milked cows.

On February 18th, 1930, I married Elsie Schneider, second daughter of Emil and Ida Schneider. Elsie was born September 12th, 1909 and was raised in the Wetaskiwin area. The family moved to Grande Prairie where Elsie worked for different farm families and as a waitress.

I travelled to Grande Prairie by train, married Elsie in a little log school house near Huallen. We travelled to the wedding by horse and sleigh. I brought home my bride by train.

In the Spring of 1931, our marriage was blessed by a daughter, Dorene, born at home. Another daughter, Shirley, was born in 1937. About this time Dorene had begun her schooling in the New Sarepta Rural School, walking one mile.

We attended the Moravian Church until 1939 and then became members at St. Lukes Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

In 1941 we adopted a son, Harvey, aged fourteen months. Our family was now complete and we were very happy, working and playing together.

We purchased modern machinery such as an International 15-30 tractor with steel lugs. Hail damaged our crops often so they were poor. Some-



Hirsch Family 1972. Back: Richard and Dorene Easton, Marlene and Harvey Hirsch, Shirley, and Willard Cleland. Front: Elsie and Martin Hirsch.

times it rained in the fall so it was difficult to get the crop in except by working on the frost early in the morning. Dorene missed a lot of school one fall trying to help me by driving the 15-30 tractor.

After raising cattle for years, we built a large barn for raising registered black pigs. Later we purchased Purebred Shorthorn cattle and raised beautiful young stock. Shirley and Harvey entered some calves at the Camrose Livestock Show. After a time we raised White Leghorn chickens, producing three hundred eggs a day and selling them in Edmonton.

We stayed on the Hay Lake farm twenty-nine years until 1959, when we purchased better land in the Coronado district north of Fort Saskatchewan. Here we raised chickens and sold eggs at the Market Square in Edmonton every Saturday. In 1970 we sold this farm and purchased a home in Fort Saskatchewan to enjoy our retirement.

On February 18th, 1980 our children held a 50th Wedding Anniversary Reception for us. We enjoyed meeting and visiting with friends, relatives and neighbors from Hay Lakes, Camrose, New Sarepta, Fort Saskatchewan and many other places. Over 180 people came to celebrate with us and we were very happy to see them all.

We have just recently sold our home and moved into a new condominium, still in Fort Saskatchewan.

Our three children are all married and live in Edmonton. We also have ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Dorene Easton

written by Shirley Cleland

Dorene is the eldest daughter of Martin and Elsie Hirsch, born on the farm, April 1931. Dorene was always fond of cats and dogs and had many as pets

and friends on the farm. Dorene attended school at the one-room, New Sarepta Rural, a mile west of the farm. Classes were held from Grades one to eight taught by one teacher. She attended church and taught Sunday School at St. Lukes Lutheran in Hay Lakes.

As a young lady, Dorene went to Edmonton to work, there meeting Richard Easton. Dorene and Richard were married June 1950. Their family consists of four boys, Allen, Lyle, Stanley, Charles and three girls, Sharon, Shirley and Sharlotte. Five of the children are married and have presented them with four grandchildren. Dorene and Richard live at Wintburn.

Shirley Cleland

written by Shirley Cleland

I am the youngest daughter of Martin and Elsie Hirsch, born May 1937, and raised on the family farm.

Highlights of my elementary schooling at the New Sarepta Rural, were walking on and not breaking through the snow banks on the way to school. Many times when we arrived the school was still cold and the ink wells were frozen. The school was heated by a big old coal and wood furnace. One exciting thing was the annual Christmas program with skits and plays, and people coming from everywhere with teams and sleighs.

When the school was closed, I travelled by bus to attend Junior high in New Sarepta Village. Afterwards I travelled twenty-two miles to Leduc each day to complete my high school.

After high school, I went to work in Edmonton, there meeting Willard Cleland from Bengough, Saskatchewan. We were married in 1956, and have two children, Brian and Gaylene. Brian is a horticulturist and is getting married this June and Gaylene is a youth Staffer in Creston, B.C.

As a hobby Willard and I enjoy going out to our farm to ride horses near Lindbrook.

Harvey Hirsch

written by Shirley Cleland

Harvey is the only son of Martin and Elsie Hirsch, born July 1940. Harvey was fourteen months when he joined his new parents and family. As a tot Harvey enjoyed making toy trucks and heavy machinery from lumber and nails. When he was a teenager, he owned a beautiful black horse called Mid-Night.

Harvey completed his education in New Sarepta Village School and attended St. Lukes Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

Harvey worked for neighboring farmers before going to Edmonton into the towing business. Now

Harvey has his own large trucking company, in Edmonton.

Harvey married Marlene Petty on September 28th, 1962. They have one daughter Deanna, fourteen years.

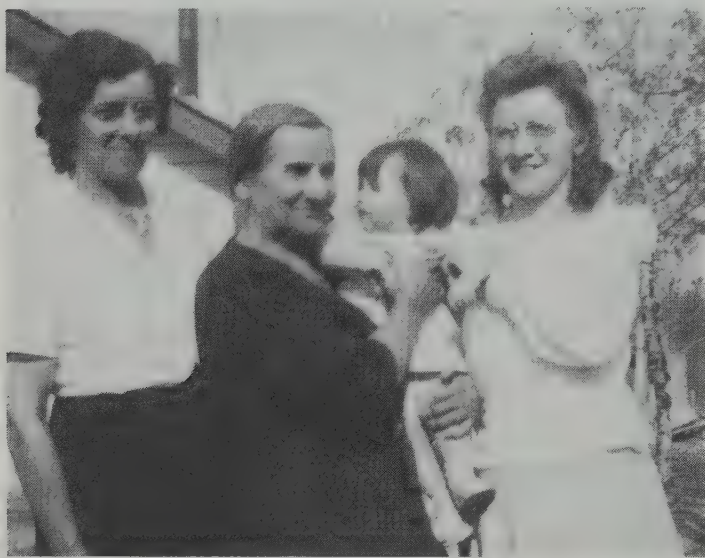
After thirty-eight years, Harvey met his real parents, brothers and sisters for the first time. They all had a beautiful time getting acquainted at their reunion.

Harvey and Marlene live in their own home in Edmonton.

Hodge, William

In 1914, Mr. and Mrs. John Hodge with sons William and Bob moved from Rock Creek, B.C. to Big Hay Lake District where they commenced farming. Their four children William, Bob, Malcolm and Anne attended Big Hay Lake School.

In 1930, John Hodge passed away and the farming operation was continued by his three sons. In those days, neighbors and relatives got together to help one another at threshing time to help speed up harvesting.



L. to R.: Mrs. C. W. Lechelt, Mrs. Forth, Judy Hodge, Mrs. Ruth Hodge — 1953.

In 1950, William married Ruth Lechelt, residing on the home farm at Big Hay Lake where their two daughters Judy, 1952 and Audrey, 1954 were born.

In 1955, the family moved to Millet and farmed there for one and a half to two years and subsequently moved to Hay Lakes where William farmed for the next seventeen years. William, Ruth and their two daughters moved onto the former Bittner farm in October of 1956.

In 1960, Ruth Hodge passed away and in March, 1961, William married Alice Chriest (Gunther), who had a daughter, Phyllis Chriest. All three girls attended Hay Lakes School.

In 1973, William and Alice sold the farm and moved to Edmonton where they still reside. William worked for three and a half years at the University of Alberta following their move to Edmonton.

Phyllis married Ron Milne in 1971, and they live in Lloydminster with their two daughters, Kathy and Colleen.

Judy married Randy Clark in 1974 and they live in Red Deer.

Audrey married Ron Popek in 1975, and they live in Edmonton with their daughter, Lisa.

Huebner, Christina (Mrs. Julius)

by Mrs. Helen Huebner

The German name Huebner is occupational in origin and means one who worked a hube. A hube is a plot of land of about one hundred and twenty acres. In the early 1800's the Huebner ancestry lived near Braumberg, Germany. Sometime during the middle 1800's the related families moved to Poland. It was in 1879 that Julius Huebner moved from Poland to the Province of Volhynia, Russia. They, like many other couples of German ancestry found Russia appealing in some aspects. Today the descendants of the people that left Germany and immigrated to Russia and later to the Americas are known as the American Germans from Russia.

Julius was born in 1862 in Poland and was the son of Ludwig Huebner and Ludwiga nee Messinger. His sisters were Mrs. Amalga Paul, Mrs. Carolina Fries and another sister named Christina. He also had a half-brother Michael Huebner who came to Canada after World War I and lived at Leduc, Alberta with his family. Ludwig passed away in 1879 when his son Julius was only seventeen years old. After the passing of Ludwig the Huebner family moved from Poland to Russia.

Christina Nachtigal was born on May 22, 1862 near Warsaw, Poland, the daughter of August Nachtigal and Elizabeth nee Mohr. Her brothers were George, Paul and August and her sisters were Mrs. Christiana Busenius, the late Mrs. Pipke of Bruederfeld and Mrs. Katherina Erdmann of New Sarepta who had come to Canada in 1949. The Nachtigal family moved from Poland to Russia sometime in the late 1870's.

Julius Huebner married Christina Nachtigal on December 4, 1883 in Volhynia, Russia. They were the parents of thirteen children that were all born in Russia. This family endured many hardships having lived through World War I, a severe typhoid epidemic and only seeing seven of their thirteen children live to adulthood. Julius Huebner passed away at the age of fifty four years on June 3, 1916. He is buried at Orenburg, Russia.

Christina, as a widow, lived near her children after the first World War subsided. In September 1926 she came to Canada to be with four of her married children and their families who were sons August, Paul and Adolph Huebner and her only surviving daughter Mrs. Marianna Busenius, who all made their lives at Hay Lakes. Christina had been confirmed in a Lutheran Church in Poland on August 4, 1876. Upon coming to Canada she lived with her son Adolph and family near Hay Lakes. She enjoyed being close to her children and grandchildren. She became a member of the New Sarepta Moravian Church by the right hand of fellowship on November 10, 1929. She attended this church with the Adolph Huebner family until 1944.

Christina had been sick almost all winter and got worse the last two months. She passed away in her sleep just before noon on June 7, 1944 at the age of eighty-two years. She was laid to rest on June 11th on the New Sarepta Moravian Church cemetery.

The descendents of Julius and Christina Huebner were:

Mrs. Carolina nee Huebner-Schultz born 1886 and died in 1914 in Russia. She had three children from her marriage that came to Canada. They were Mrs. Helen Metz formerly of New Sarepta, Rudolph of Barrhead, Alberta and Reinhold of Bowden, Alberta.

Paul, the first, died as an infant.

Christopher Huebner born 1887, who later married and had a family, remained in Russia where he died in 1932.

August Huebner was born in 1889 and married Emily Schmidtke in 1914. They were the parents of six children and later made their home in Hay Lakes.

Mrs. Marianna nee Huebner-Busenius was born in 1891 and married Paul Busenius in 1912 in Sjitmoir, Volhynia, Russia and had six children. She also lived in Hay Lakes.

Paul Huebner was born in 1893 and married Eda Mohr in 1920. They had ten children and made their home in Hay Lakes, later moving to Chilliwack, B.C. in 1949.

Katrina, Mrs. Fred Lumpe, lived and died in Germany but had come to Hay Lakes and New Sarepta to visit her relatives.

Adolph Huebner was born in 1897 and married in 1921 to Martha Kruger. They had nine children and lived in Hay Lakes and now are retired in Camrose, Alberta.

Gustav Huebner was born in 1899 and died in 1915; Lydia Huebner was born in 1901 and died in 1915; and Paulina Huebner was born in 1903 and also died in 1915. These three young children all died

from typhoid fever while being sent from their home during World War I in Russia.

The last of the family was a set of twins, Reinhold and Martha born in 1906. Reinhold passed away at the age of seven months. Martha lived until 1915 when she, like her two sisters and one brother also died of typhoid fever while being sent from their home.

The Huebner descendents have now lived in Canada for fifty-five years and are now in the fourth generation that has lived in Canada. Although the older generation suffered trials and hardships of wars and sickness the descendents can now count their blessings for the forethought of those that emigrated to Canada in 1926 and once made Hay Lakes, Alberta their home.

Huebner, Eric and Hilda

by Kathy (Huebner) Ansorger

Eric Huebner was born at home on January 25, 1928. His parents, Adolf and Martha Huebner, raised Eric and eight other children on a farm in the Hay Lakes area.

In 1948, he met Hilda Huebner, who had emigrated with her parents and sister from Germany in September of that same year. Hilda was born in Volhynia, Russia on May 7, 1931.

On August 16, 1950, they were married. They resided in Hay Lakes for a year before buying a house and moving it to a farm two miles north of Hay Lakes, which they had just bought. This was NE 7-49-20-W4.

Their first son, Raymond, was born on March 13, 1951, in St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose.

From 1950 to 1957, Eric was a bus driver for the Hay Lakes School and was also employed by the Blacksmith of Hay Lakes, Ralph Hickey. During this time, they had two more children.

Donna was born on December 17, 1952 and Debra was born on May 14, 1955. They were born at St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose.

In the year of 1957, Eric went to work for the County of Camrose, operating the road grader and road construction equipment until 1965.

Hilda gave birth to two more daughters, during this time. On June 6, 1958, Jean was born, and on August 31, 1961, their last child, Kathryn, was born.

Eric was employed by Harry Kuntz Seismac Drilling, in Camrose from 1965 until spring of 1973, when he went to work for the County of Leduc. Eric decided to put all his time into farming in 1977, so retired from working for the County of Leduc.

Their eldest daughter, Donna, met Rudolf Kneller of Rollyview and was married on October 16, 1971. They then took up farming on his parents farm



The Eric Huebner Family 1980. Adults on picture are Adolph and Martha Huebner sitting. L. to R.: Reg Matson, Rudolf Kneller, Jean Matson, Donna Kneller, Eric Huebner, Raymond Huebner, Hilda Huebner, Linda Huebner, Lyle Klein, Vernon Ansorger, Kathy Ansorger and Debra Klein.

by Rollyview. They now have three girls, — Patricia, Teresa and Gina.

Debra married Lyle Klein of Camrose on October 14, 1972. Shortly after they were married, they moved to Inuvik, N.W.T. In Inuvik, their three children were born, — Christina, Heather and Carey. They moved to Fort St. John, B.C. in 1978 and now live by Charlie Lake, B.C.

Jean married Reg Matson of Hay Lakes on May 31, 1974. In September 1975, they moved to Inuvik, N.W.T. with their first daughter, Deanna. In September 1976, they moved to Yellowknife, N.W.T., where two more children were born, Jill and Nathan. They are now residing on the farm Reg was raised on at Hay Lakes.

Raymond, Eric's oldest son, met Linda McMillian from Springfield, Oregon. They were married on July 21, 1974 and are at this time residing in Edmonton. They have three children — Sarah, Jonathan and Amanda.

Kathy met Vernon Ansorger of Rollyview and they were married on October 18, 1980. They are now farming with his family in the Rolleyview district.

Eric and Hilda celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on August 16, 1975 with their relatives and friends, and in 1980, celebrated their thirtieth wedding anniversary. They are still residing on their farm at Hay Lakes.

Hunter, Percy and Josie

In November, 1917 Percy and Josie Hunter bought SW 18-49-21-W4 from the Poulett Elliot family.

They were very active farmers. After Percy passed away in the summer of 1919 Josie continued to farm with the help of a young hired girl. She managed to farm some thirty-five acres and milked about a dozen cows.

Josie later moved to NW 30-48-22-W4 and with some help from her brother, Nick Miller, continued to farm actively for several years.

In 1928, Josie married Bill Evans who farmed near New Sarepta. They adopted two sons in the mid 'forties, Leslie who was nine years old, and Ivar, aged five. They lived in Vancouver and Lamont and retired to Edmonton where Josie passed away in August, 1972.

Jeck, Adolph by Otto Drebert

Adolph Jeck was the oldest son of Wilhelm and Anna (nee Mauer) Jeck. He was born in Volhynia, Russia, on August 8, 1892. His parents emigrated to North America in 1894. Wilhelm Jeck established a blacksmith trade at Kalispal, Montana. This was where Adolph and his two younger brothers, namely Charlie and Adam, were orphaned when they lost



Adolph Jeck pausing for picture. L. to R. are: H. Drebert, W. Kretchman, Adolph Jeck, C. Tober, A. Drebert, C. Jeck, Adam Jeck, G. Tober, Ed Diewert, R. Riemer is the conductor. Taken 1914.

their mother on May 22, 1897. This death came about while she was giving birth to her youngest son, Adam. Trying to cope with raising three small children and operating a blacksmith shop, proved to be more than the father could handle. Therefore, Wilhelm Jeck placed his three sons into the custody of their grandparents. Their grandparents were Karl and Emilie Mauer, who had emigrated to Canada in 1894, and had settled in the Edmonton district, presently known as Millwoods.

Adolph Jeck grew up in this district where he attended public school and was confirmed in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church. In 1909, Adolph's grandparents came to homestead in the New Sarepta area. By this time Karl and Emilie Mauer were reaching their late sixties, and were becoming dependent on their grandsons for operating the homestead. Adolph and his brother Adam came with the Mauers to this homestead, which provided their first home in the New Sarepta area. However, when Adolph reached maturity, he invested in Canadian Pacific Railroad quarter section that bordered the Karl Mauer's homestead. This farm was located on SW-9-50-22-W4.

Adolph Jeck settled on this farm following his marriage to Maria Henkleman, on January 25, 1912. Maria was the youngest daughter of Ludwig and Louisa Henkleman. Maria was born in Volhynia, Russia, on October 11, 1893. Her family were among

the first settlers to become established in the New Sarepta area in 1904. Adolph and Maria Jeck farmed on this quarter of land for about eight years. During the summer of 1919, he sold his farm to the Soldier Settlement Board who placed a War veteran on this farm, by the name of Frank Atkinson.

Following the sale of this farm, Adolph bought a quarter of land from Carl Schaefer. This farm was located on SE 7-49-21-W4, near Hay Lakes. The Adolph Jeck family resided in the Hay Lakes district for about five years. While farming on this quarter, Adolph invested in a Case tractor for doing his field operation. He also became involved in the Hay Lakes Drainage project, known as Hay Lakes Drainage District No. 11. Due to the fact that very few farmers could afford the use of tractors in those days, Adolph's farming operation was of short duration.

In the summer of 1923, Adolph Jeck sought employment in the logging operation, which proved to be the success of his lifetime career. His family remained on the farm near Hay Lakes while he was employed at Whirlpool River near Jasper. Adolph frequently returned to his farm to seed and harvest his crop, but in the summer of 1924, he became employed in building the first bridge across the Fraser River, near McBride, British Columbia. When Adolph Jeck discovered that the heavy timbers in that mountain valley could be claimed as homestead land, he soon filed his entry for a quarter section. By the

summer of 1925 he departed from Hay Lakes with his family to take up residence at McBride. Then, it wasn't long before some of their friends and relatives from the Hay Lakes and New Sarepta areas became attracted to these timbered homesteads at McBride.

Adolph Jeck began to harvest his timber by cutting railroad ties, mine props and telephone poles. However, most of the timber was utilized in that area when Adolph invested in a sawmill operation. This lumber industry provided the business trade for McBride until the timber resources were depleted. Much of the land is now being farmed, mainly for beef cattle ranching. However, Adolph Jeck's interest in the lumbering trade continued until he reached the age of retirement. For a good number of years he worked as an official lumber scaler for the British Columbia Government. He followed this trade until he was in his seventies, and it took him to various places of British Columbia.

Adolph and Maria Jeck eventually retired at Kamloops, British Columbia. They enjoyed excellent health and travelled frequently during their years of retirement. On February 1, 1977 Adolph and Maria celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary. Adolph was enjoying good health and operated his own car until he reached the age of eighty-seven years. However, in the winter of 1980, he suffered a stroke which left him slightly impaired. While he made a satisfactory recovery from this stroke, he suffered a second stroke in the late summer of 1980. Adolph was hospitalized in the Intensive Care unit where he passed away on December 21, 1980, at the age of eighty-eight years and four and a half months. His spouse, Maria, is now living with her oldest daughter, Mrs. Alice Flett, of McKlure, British Columbia.

There were ten children born into the Adolph Jeck family, nine of which are still alive. Six of those children were born while the family lived out here in Alberta, namely Alice, Frieda, Leonard, Florence, Gladys and Bernice. Alice was the oldest child born at New Sarepta on March 1, 1914. She started school classes at Hay Lakes and completed her education at McBride. Alice Jeck is married to Stuart Flett who resides at McKlure, British Columbia. The Fletts have eight children.

Frieda Jeck was born at New Sarepta on December 11, 1915. She died in her infancy and lies buried in the Moravian Cemetery.

Leonard Clarence Jeck was born at New Sarepta on December 11, 1917. He started classes at Hay Lakes and completed his education at McBride. Leonard has been living in Jasper, Alberta, since 1937, when he worked for an outfitter and guide on the mountain trails. In 1941, he joined the Royal

Canadian Air Force. Following his discharge in 1945, he established his own outfitting business at Jasper. Leonard Jeck is the author of a book titled, "The Elusive Big Horn Ram". He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Willmore Wilderness Park. Leonard and his wife, Helen, have one daughter, Pamela.

Florence Antoni Jeck was born at Hay Lakes on May 30, 1920, and attended school at McBride. Florence married Bill Cumonius, of Kennedy, Saskatchewan. She has five children and is now widowed.

Gladys Jeck was born at Hay Lakes, Alberta, on April 16, 1922, and attended school at McBride. She was married to Robert Barnes of Regina, Saskatchewan. Gladys is also widowed and presently resides in Jasper, Alberta. She had three children.

Bernice Agnes Jeck was born at Hay Lakes, Alberta, on August 24, 1924. She was educated at McBride and married Paul Schemenaus, of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. They have two sons, both married.

Myrtle Jeck was born at McBride, B.C. She married Ken Cook, who lives in Jasper. They have three children.

Cyrl Jeck was born at McBride, B.C., where he still operates the family homestead, known as the Holmes River Ranch. He and his wife, Alaire, have four children.

Floyd Jeck was born at McBride, where he lived until 1979. Floyd and his wife, Evelyn had four sons, but lost their second oldest boy in 1979. Floyd and Evelyn have recently moved to Williams Lake, B.C.

Mary Jeck was born at McBride, B.C. She and her husband, Fred Voykens, live near Kamloops, British Columbia. They have two children.

Adolph and Maria Jeck shared many of the hardships that were encountered by the early pioneers. In fact many of the contributions they made to our community remain on the record books, which are carefully being preserved for their historic value. Adolph and Maria were dedicated members of the New Sarepta Moravian Church, where Adolph served as a trustee and church elder for many years. He was also a member of the church band for which he provided the band leadership during the latter part of its existence. Adolph Jeck also served as Secretary-Treasurer for a number of School Districts in the area, and was instrumental in getting the Maple Hill School District organized in 1918. More than half a century has passed since the Adolph Jeck family departed from the Hay Lakes district. Preserving the history of this family in our local history book is a well-deserved tribute to Adolph and Maria Jeck.

Kiel, Edward and Emilia

Edward Kiel was born in Plotzk, Poland on January 12, 1854. He married Emilia Witzke who was born in August, 1853. Five children were born: Gustav on November 9, 1882, Edward on April 23, 1884, Lydia on February 28, 1891, Emil on August 11, 1889 and Otilia in 1893.

Gus immigrated into Canada and not many months after, in 1909, Emil decided to follow his brother to what they were sure would be a better future for them. Father Edward was the next to arrive and in 1910 they were joined by the rest of the family. Their first home was in Strathcona where Gus, Emil and Edward worked for Walters Saw Mill.

Gus married Caroline Stockman in 1918 and they moved to their homestead just north of Hay Lakes where they farmed until their retirement in 1956. They had four children: William, Leo, Rudolph, and Herman who died in infancy.



Edward Kiel Family: Ed, Emil, Gus, Otilie, Lydia, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kiel.

Ed married Martha Stockman in 1915 and remained in Edmonton where he was employed with Imperial Oil. They had four children: Frieda, Arthur, Herbert and Lawrence.

Emil married Jenny (Adelgunda) Schultz in 1913. After farming for thirteen years they bought and operated the Hay Lakes Hotel. They had one daughter, Martha.

Lydia married John Pawloske in 1911. They lived in Edmonton until 1917 and then moved to their farm north of Hay Lakes. They had six children: Edward, Violet, Otto, Hugo, Ida and Elsie.

Tilly, because of a birth disability, remained with her parents throughout her lifetime.

In 1914, Mr. and Mrs. Kiel and Tilly came to Hay Lakes and lived with Emil and Jenny for four years. They always had wanted a farm of their own and eventually moved to S.E. 22-49-22-W4. The land had to be cleared and it was while Mr. Kiel was thus engaged that he met an untimely death. On July 15, 1922 while cutting trees, one fell on him and shortly after, on August 17, he died.

Mrs. Kiel and Tilly then moved into a house owned by Gus which was about three miles north of Hay Lakes.

Tilly was well known for the lovely flowers she made and her intricate handwork. Many floral arrangements were made by her that graced the altar of St. Stephens Lutheran Church of which they were members.

Later they moved to Edmonton and lived next door to Edward. Tilly died in 1940 and Mrs. Kiel then moved back to Hay Lakes and lived with her daughter, Lydia, until her death on October 28, 1941.

Kiel, Gustav and Caroline

Presented by Bill, Leo and Rudy Kiel

Gus was born in Poland on November 9, 1882. In 1912 he came to Canada finding work in the coal mine and Walter's Sawmill around Edmonton. After his marriage to Caroline Stockman on April 28, 1918 in Edmonton their honeymoon consisted of a train ride from Edmonton to Hay Lakes and a walk to the homestead situated two and a half miles northwest. Gus and Carrie were one of the pioneers of the Hay Lakes District where they mix farmed until 1957 when they had an auction sale and retired in Hay Lakes. Gus was also instrumental in starting the Hay Lakes Drainage District.

Dad had two brothers in Canada, Emil of Hay Lakes, and Edward of Edmonton whose life Gus saved by pulling him out of the North Saskatchewan River after Ed fell among the logs when they both worked for Walter's Mill. He also had two sisters, Lydia Pawloski of Hay Lakes and Tilly Kiel of Edmonton. Gus passed away on May 7, 1960.

Caroline was born in Vohlinien, Russia on February 2, 1896. On May 7th, 1914 she came to Canada with her parents and worked on a farm at Bruderfelt for two years after which she worked in Edmonton until her marriage to Gus. Mom passed away August 26, 1977.

This marriage was blessed with four sons:

William: Born March 4, 1919 — After returning from the Navy during World War II he worked in Edmonton and married Ann Bezruki. Bill and Ann



Wedding of Gustav and Caroline 1918. L. to R.: William Wesenberg, Gus, Carrie, Lydia (Stockman) Adam, Herman Stockman, and Mary (Schmidt) Kittlitz.



The Gus Kiel Family — 1932. L. to R.: Leo, Gus, William and Caroline holding Rudolph.

have one son, William Arthur, and live in Edmonton where they run their own construction company.

Leo: Born May 5, 1921 — Leo married Lydia Sonnenberg in 1956. They have one son, Allen, and one daughter, Grace. Leo and Lydia continue to farm the same land worked by Gus and Carrie.

Rudolf: Born March 14, 1932 — He married Ruth Bittner in 1958 after starting work with the Canadian National Railways in 1952 and is still with them in Edmonton. The family consists of two sons, Randolph and Ronald.

Herman: Born March 14, 1932 — Passed away at the age of 21 days.

Some Interesting Memories in Looking Back

In later years we lived close to the railway (one mile north of Hay Lakes) and during the depression years Dad and Mom never refused food or a place to

sleep to any Hobo who dropped in. Doors were never locked and yet nothing was ever stolen. We remember an elderly Hobo who called himself "King of the Hobos" and his faithful dog who would call in twice a year, once in the Fall going West and again in the Spring coming East. Any food that was left on his plate he would put in a bag saying it was for his dog. However I am sure the food was shared.

A freight train used to pass the farm about 11:30 every night. The engineer would start blowing his whistle after leaving Hay Lakes and would not stop until we waved the lighted coal oil lamp in our upstairs bedroom window indicating everything was O.K.

We also remember the many rides given to us by the railway section forces which were really appreciated during the cold winters.

Mr. Hess, The Rawleigh Man, was always a welcome sight to old and young alike. He gave the children packages of round candies while the adults bought linaments and salves which cured both human and animal ailments. Mr. Hess also left his sleigh and horses at our place until he required them for winter travel.

Parts of the original road from Hay Lakes to Edmonton are still visible on S.E. 13-49-22-W4 where Gus and Carrie started farming. The large threshing crews meant hard work, good food and time for the odd joke like tying the bundles to the hay rack.

Kiel, Leo and Lydia

by Leo Kiel

I was born on May 5, 1921, approximately three miles northwest of Hay Lakes, the second oldest son of Gustav and Caroline (Stockman) Kiel. We lived there until I started school and by this time Dad bought another quarter of land which is only half a mile north of Hay Lakes and this became our home for the next few years. I received all my schooling in the Village of Hay Lakes, and was both baptized and confirmed in the Hay Lakes Lutheran Church.

After my brothers Bill, Rudy and I grew up so that we could help on the farm, Dad decided to buy two more quarters of land which were just west of our home. They were SE 12-49-22-W4 and NE 12-49-22-W4 and we again moved.

When Bill was twelve years old Dad bought him his first bicycle. How proud he was as he no longer had to walk to school. Every evening he would ride into town and, as my mother used to say, "had to help Charlie close the Café." My turn was next and I also got a bicycle but our youngest brother, Rudolph, was the most fortunate as the local section foreman, Mr. Donahue, would wait for Rudy every morning so that



Lydia and Leo Kiel, Grace and Allan — 1979.

he could take him to school on the Canadian National Railroad speeder. If Rudy was not there at twenty minutes to nine they would still wait until he arrived. With such special treatment it is not surprising that in later years Rudy went to work for the Canadian National Railroad and is still with them.

In those days you could get a permit to pick up used railroad ties for firewood quite cheaply. Ours were got free so Dad would have us saw up several extra ones and take them to the Canadian National Railroad employees in Hay Lakes. We hauled our coal from the mine at Round Hill; we started about 2 a.m. and would arrive home the next day. The price of coal was \$2.00 per load.

Dad bought the first tractor and hammermill when Rudolph Fischer obtained the Cockshutt Dealership in Hay Lakes.

In the 1940's, Dad and Eddy Kreamer bought a combine and Eddy and I did custom combining for farmers in the Hay Lakes area and as far south as Bittern Lake.

In June, 1956, I met Lydia Sonnenberg who was working for Arnold Miller on the farm now owned by Erwin Lachman. Lydia was the daughter of Fred and Martha (Wagner) Sonnenberg of Rolly View. She was both baptized and confirmed in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Rolly View and it was in this

same church that we were married on November 16, 1956.

After our marriage my parents retired to Hay Lakes and we lived on the farm for one year. I felt I should try city life which was the biggest mistake of my life. After a year we came back to the farm where we are still living.

We have two children. Allan was born on October 11, 1957 and baptized in the Rolly View Lutheran Church, confirmed in the Hay Lakes Lutheran Church and attended the Hay Lakes School. After helping on the farm for a short time he went to work in the oil field. He is presently employed with Amoco Oil Limited at Fox Creek.

Grace was born on May 11, 1962 and both baptized and confirmed in the Hay Lakes Lutheran Church. She also attended the Hay Lakes School and is presently working at the Hay Lakes Hotel and is living at home.

We are operating a section of land which my parents originally owned. For the past ten years I was employed on a part-time basis with North West Industries Limited as a security guard and this has now become a full-time job. This, together with farming, keeps me quite busy.

The old Hay Lakes Trail crossed our land and part of it is still visible. Ruts are so deeply imbedded that grass still does not grow there. Also, the machine shed originally built by my father on his homestead is still in use. It was built of logs and wooden pegs and used in place of nails.

Kohut, Mike

by Annie (Kohut) Marusak

My dad was born in 1880 in the village of Makowisko, county of Yaroslov. At the age of twenty-four, he married Anna Radawetz, a girl from the same village, two boys were born, John and Steve, while they lived in their native land.

In 1913, Dad left his home land and with his brother-in-law, Julius Radawetz, and Mr. and Mrs. Nick Sapelak, came to Canada to look for a better life for his wife and two sons.

They first settled in the Camrose area. For a few years Dad worked in the Dinant and Round Hill coal mines. He also worked part time for Mr. Maruszczyka taking care of cattle for \$5.00 a month.

In 1917, he purchased the S.W.25-48-22-W4. During the winter he worked in the coal mines, and in the summer he worked on his farm clearing land.

In 1920 he bought himself the first team of horses and started breaking the land so as to be able to seed some grain.

In the spring of 1921, my mother, my two brothers, John and Steve, and my grandmother Maria



Mike and Anna Kohut.

Radawetz joined Dad. When they arrived they had no place to stay, since Dad had no house, only a straw barn for his horses on his farm. They stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Julius Radawetz for a few months in their one-room house. That summer, with John's help, Radawetz's, and the help of the Karpowich boys, Dad built a two-room house of logs on his own land. When one room was finished the family moved into the house, finishing the second room after they were living there. The house still stands today.

In 1922, I was born.

During the summer Dad and John cleared the land, seeded some grain, and tried to improve the farm. In the winter months, they would go to the coal mines to earn some money, which was badly needed, since the income from the farm was very small. While they were away at work, mother and grandmother Radawetz took care of things on the farm.

In 1929, Grandma Radawetz passed away.

I 1930, John bought his own farm and moved onto it.

Steve left home in the fall of 1934.

In the fall of 1935, mother suffered a stroke and was bed-ridden for sixteen years. There was no one to take care of her, so I was forced to quit school in 1936, at the age of thirteen years, and help Dad look after mother and do the housework.

Dad did all his plowing with the walking plow until 1939, when he bought himself a gang plow. In the spring of 1940, he took sick and passed away that same fall. Steve came home for two months that fall, then left again for the winter. I was left alone with mother.

Steve came home for spring and summer of 1941 and 1942, but would go away after harvest. When he came home in the spring of 1943, he did not leave, but stayed with mother and me during the summer, fall and winter.

On February 14, 1944, I married Alexander Mar-

usak. Steve stayed with mother till May, 1944, and then left for Vancouver. Alexander and I took mother home to live with us. The farm was rented out and mother continued to stay with us until July 1951, when she passed away. Now I own the family farm and we farm it ourselves.

Kreamer, Allen and Jean

Allen Kreamer was born in Edmonton, February 20, 1942. He grew up on the farm and received his schooling at Hay Lakes. On October 14, 1961 he married Jean Ewaskiw of Daysland. For a few years, Allen and Jean lived away from Hay Lakes while Allen worked for the government, Department of



Allen and Jean Kreamer with baby Laurel and Great Grandmother Mary Kreamer.



Laurel and Darren Kreamer.

Highways. They lived in St. Paul, Bonnyville, Calgary, Ponoka and Camrose.

In 1966, Allen and Jean came back to Hay Lakes and bought an acreage, south of the grain elevators, which belonged to Ewald Miller and his mother. Allen has been farming Eddie's land since moving to Hay Lakes and has worked as a truck driver for Eric Lofgren and Gerald Trepner and now Allen owns his own truck.

Allen and Jean have two children; Laurel, born April 11, 1962 and Darren, born January 19, 1965. Laurel has finished her schooling and upon graduating in 1980, now lives at home and works in Hay Lakes. Darren also lives at home and works in New Sarepta.

In 1978, Allen and Jean sold the acreage and built a new home on the farm where they live today.

Kreamer, Edward and Esther

Edward Kreamer was born September 20, 1915 in Edmonton, Alberta and lived all his life on the Kreamer farm west of the Village of Hay Lakes. His parents were Joseph and Mary Kreamer.

He received all his schooling at Hay Lakes and on completion, worked on the farm with his father. He was very active in sports, playing hockey, baseball and curling.



Esther, Eddie holding Gerry and Allen Kreamer.

On October 25, 1939 he was united in marriage to Esther Amelia Sjolie of Camrose. Esther was born in September of 1912 at Donalda, Alberta. Her parents were John and Anne (Moe) Sjolie. She had one brother, Melvin, who resides in Camrose. She grew up in the south Camrose area and received all her schooling there. Her uncle, George Sjolie, owned and operated the Sjolie Bakery for a number of years. Before her marriage in 1939, Esther worked for the Oscar Grahm Sr. family in Hay Lakes.

On the retirement of Eddie's parents in 1940, he took over the farm and continued farming until 1964 when they retired to the Village of Hay Lakes.

They had three sons; Allen, Gerald and Danny.

Gerry Kreamer was born November 9, 1945 and has lived all his life at Hay Lakes. Upon completing his education, he worked for many years at Union Tractor in Edmonton. He now works for his brother, Allen, driving a truck. He lives in the Village of Hay Lakes in the house left to him upon his parents' deaths.



Danny Kreamer.

Danny Kreamer was born September 16, 1955. He received his schooling at Hay Lakes. Danny now lives in Camrose and is working out of Camrose with a Construction Company.

Eddie and Esther were active curlers and Esther belonged to the Circle "S" Club for a time.

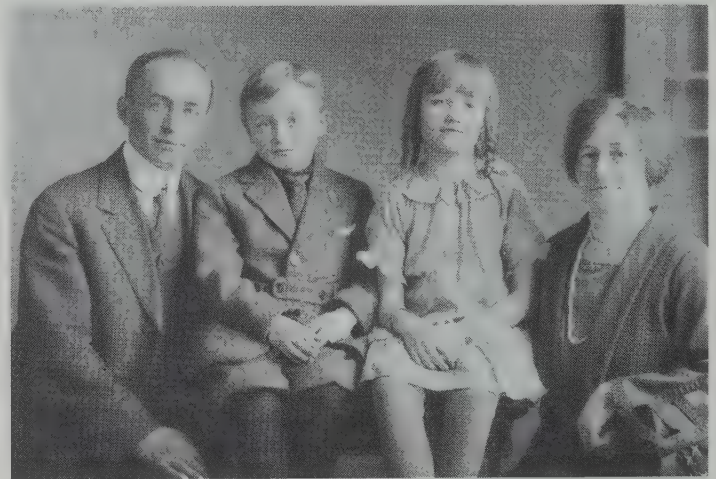
On June 10, 1966 following a car accident, Esther passed away. On May 18, 1971, Eddie passed away from a heart attack. Both are buried in the Camrose Cemetery.

Kreamer, Joseph and Mary

Joseph Edward Kreamer was born at Alberton (near Hamilton) Ontario, April 2, 1887 to parents

William and Elizabeth Kreamer. He was one of twins in a family of seven children. At the age of three years, he moved with his family to Oakland, California where they remained for two years. In 1892 the family came to the Bretona District near Edmonton and settled on a farm.

He received his schooling at Colechester and Wimbleton Schools and when older he and his brothers helped their Father with farm work. On August 7, 1905 he took out homestead rights on the SW 6-49-21-W4, receiving his title on May 26, 1910. Besides spending time on the homestead, he worked for Walter's Mill as a teamster and for Mr. Donnan who owned a Dairy and Lumberyard in Strathcona (now South Edmonton). He spent nine years at Donnan's Lumberyard, the last three as yard foreman.



Joe, Eddie, Gola and Mary Kreamer.

On August 27, 1913 he was married to Mary McGowan and they lived in South Edmonton. On June 10, 1914 a daughter Gola Mary was born. They continued to live in Edmonton until March of 1915 when they moved with horses and wagon to the homestead a half mile west of the Village of Hay Lakes. It was an all-day trip and upon arriving at Hay Lakes they stayed at Grahm's Rooming House till they got their own two-room house ready. On September 20, 1915 a son, Edward Desmond, was born.

There was a large lake on the land they came to and Joe Kreamer with the help of a neighbour undertook to drain it and seed it to timothy hay. There was a great demand for good hay in those days and this venture proved very successful and gave the family their start on the farm. Joe also baled hay for neighbors.

Mrs. Kreamer was born in Islandmagee (near Belfast), County Antrim, North Ireland, August 23, 1888. She was one of six children of William and Martha McGowan. They lived by the sea and fishing



Mary Kreamer in front of Joe Kreamer homestead cabin.

was their main source of livelihood. The children would often have to help their Father with the nets.

She received all her schooling at Islandmagee and religious training at the Presbyterian Church. Her interests were crocheting, knitting and sewing. She became a dressmaker by trade and did custom sewing. Her ambition was to come to Canada someday and the opportunity came when Donnan's of Edmonton, who were originally from the Belfast area, returned there for a visit. She accompanied them back to Edmonton in March, 1913. It was here she met Joe Kreamer who was working for Donnan's at the time. They were married in August of the same year.

The first years on the farm were very difficult but with lots of hard work they managed and little by little built up the farm, acquired more land, NW 31-21-48-W4, now owned by Allen Kreamer and NE 6-49-21-W4, also half a section on pasture land at Oliver Lake, now owned by the These Brothers. The Sports ground and some of the school playground are a part of one of the Kreamer quarters.

Shortly after they moved to the homestead, Mr. Chettleburg, a man in his eighties, came to live with the family and they looked after him for eight years. He died in 1923 or 1924.

Much of the land was heavily treed and required a lot of work to clear. Stumping powder was used to blast tree stumps from the ground. The larger trees were made into rough lumber at Zucht's Saw Mill for use on the farm and the rest sawed up for firewood for the stoves.

They ran a mixed farm with sheep, pigs, cattle and about twenty head of horses. Most of the farm work was done with horses. First the threshing of grain was hired out to a steam engine outfit but eventually Joe bought his own threshing machine and also did threshing for neighbors as well as baling hay. Part of the land tax was worked out by doing road-work for the Municipality.



Joe and Mary Kreamer and family — 1921.

With many hired hands, there was lots of baking and cooking to be done and lunches taken out to the fields. Weekly chores for the housewife were making large batches of bread, churning butter and washing clothes by hand on the scrub board. Milk, cream and meat were kept cool in summertime in an ice house. Large blocks of ice were cut from lakes in early spring and would be stored in a shed and covered with sawdust to prolong melting.

For extra pin money, butter was sold privately and to the stores, also milk to many customers in town.

Wool was carded for making quilts and spun for knitting into socks and mitts.

Yet, there was time for get-togethers with neighbors and friends for an evening of music and song. Joe played the violin and Mary enjoyed singing the old folk songs and hymns. A gramophone provided more musical enjoyment.

Joe Kreamer was a member of the first school board formed in 1919 and served on it for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Kreamer also took part in other community activities.

On March 23, 1922 a daughter, Isobel Elizabeth, was born. She died April 21 of the same year from diphtheria.

In 1926 they built the house that still stands on the farm now owned by their son, Joseph Reginald, who was born June 8, 1933.

On October 25, 1939 son Edward was married to Esther Sjolie and they ran the farm for a number of years.

Joe and Mary moved to Vancouver in June of 1940 and lived there for one year. In July 1941 they returned and retired to their home in Edmonton at 7931-82 Avenue. Joe continued to take an active interest in the farm until his death October 5, 1943

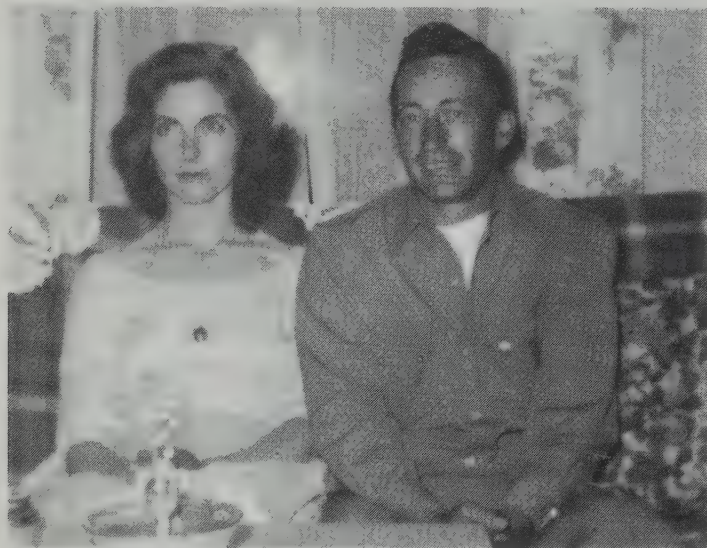
from a heart attack at age fifty-six. Mary and Reg continued to live in Edmonton.

In 1962, son Reg and family took over the family farm when Edward moved to the Village of Hay Lakes. Mary Kreamer remained in Edmonton until 1967 when she sold her house and came to live with her daughter and son-in-law in Hay Lakes. In failing health she went to reside at Westrose Home in Camrose in May 1973. On April 21, 1975 she passed away at the age of eighty-six years and eight months.

Kreamer, Reg and Lorraine

Reg Kreamer, son of Joseph and Mary Kreamer was born June 8, 1933. He resided with his family on their farm (NW 6-49-21-W4) and took his first year of school in the Village of Hay Lakes.

In June of 1940 he moved with his parents to Vancouver, B.C. In the summer of 1941 they returned to Edmonton where his parents had retired. His brother Edward ran the family farm at this time and his Father, Joe continued to take an active interest in the farm until his death in 1943.



Lorraine and Reg Kreamer 1966.

Reg finished his schooling in Edmonton and received his Journeymans Mechanic Certificate in 1956. In 1957 he married Lorraine Linklater, daughter of Frank and Margaret Linklater of Two Hills, Alberta. They resided in Edmonton until August of 1962 when they and their young son moved to the family farm near the Village of Hay Lakes.

Their first home was a small two-room (16 x 24 ft.) house moved onto the home yard. It was small, sometimes crowded but very comfortable. Many fond memories remain of the year spent there. This building was later purchased by the Town for a skating shack when the first one burned down.

On October 11, 1964 Edward and Esther and family moved to their new home in the Village and

Reg and his family occupied the larger farm home where they reside today.

Reg has continued to work out at his trade and farm which has left him little time for other interests.

Their three children have all attended the Hay Lakes School. Donald, born February 10, 1959 is presently living in Edmonton where he is serving his last year of apprenticeship in welding and is soon to be married.

Wendy was born November 27, 1962. Upon completion of High School she has been working in Camrose and resides with her parents on the family farm.

Karren, born December 9, 1968 is still attending school.

All the children have been active in local sports, taken advantage of the various beneficial organizations and still appreciate the opportunity to have been raised in a rural area.

Krell, Leo and Family

by Leo Krell

I was born on September 22, 1916 to Mr. and Mrs. David Krell in the small hamlet of Lockwood, Saskatchewan. Upon my arrival I was introduced to my eldest sister, Sarah. As the years went on I was one of a family of eleven — seven sisters and three brothers. Life at home on the farm was not easy as my dad had lost both his legs in an accident at the age of twelve.

School years were also difficult ones. There seemed to be a pattern formed of one day at school and four at home to help with the seeding, summer-fallowing, haying, harvesting and many other duties which were assigned to the eldest son. Many a night I slept under the stars while putting up hay on the alkali flats.

Christmas was always a highlight. I would hitch up the horses, put bells on the harness, gather a sleigh load of young people and drive for miles to country school Christmas concerts. At the close of the concert everyone would get an apple. That was a real treat for us.

Threshing was a time of excitement. We pitched bundles for \$1.00 a day. I always looked forward to the ladies bringing out the lunch. In those days we attended the Church of the Nazarene. Often on Sundays we would invite friends home for dinner and Mother would have the table pulled out the full length of the dining room.

I accepted Christ as my personal Savior at an early age and was baptized at the age of fifteen in the creek on the Hislop Farm.

The “dirty thirties” came, seven lean years of extremely poor crops, dust storms and grasshoppers.



Leo, Selma, Linda and Brian Krell.

During all one summer I walked behind a fresno to work off relief which my parents had received in 1937. By this time I had younger brothers who could carry on the farm work so I lifted my eyes towards Alberta. In 1939 I left Lockwood for the Three Hills and Trochu district. For the first time I saw real heavy crops of wheat which yielded sixty bushels to the acre. In 1941 I came to Hay Lakes and worked for Martin Henkleman, then went on to Vegreville and on to Holden where I began farming for myself in 1946. Thanks go to Rudolph Steinwand who signed a note in the bank so I was able to get \$600.00 to purchase eight horses.

I met Selma Reinke while I was working at Henkelmans, courted her, won her heart and we were married in June, 1946. In 1950 we chose Linda May as our daughter. She is now Mrs. Raymond Ertman, living at New Sarepta with two sons, Kevin and Jason.

In 1951, we purchased the Henkelman farm and moved to Hay Lakes. We lived in a log house, with no conveniences. All the work on the farm was done the hard way. Time went on and by 1953 we wanted another little one so chose Brian James to bless our home. Brian married Maureen Donnelly in 1973 and they are now living in Leduc. They were also blessed with two children, a son, Derek, and a daughter, Trina.

For several years we lived in the log house; it was heated by a "Warm Morning" heater. It was an exciting time when we made plans to purchase a home at the Airport, which was up for bids, and have it moved on to our property at Hay Lakes. It was a big undertaking and a great day when the task was finally completed.

What a feeling of accomplishment it was when little by little we were able to have some of the

modern conveniences, from a warm morning heater to a coal stove, to propane, and then to gas. And with this came the electric lights.

In 1963, Margaret and Maureen, a set of twins at the age of three years came to live with us and later we decided to adopt them. Now Maureen is employed in Calgary and Margaret is in Edmonton.

Dad passed away in February, 1969 and, as the saying goes, "it never rains but it pours". Tragedy struck our home when we learned that same year that Selma had cancer. She passed away on December 8, 1969. Life was very lonely and there were many demands, looking after the children and carrying on the other domestic duties on the farm. Mother stayed with me for several months but the responsibility was too much for her at her age for any extended period of time.

I took Mother home to Nokomis, Saskatchewan and heard that Mr. and Mrs. McLelland were residing in Saskatoon. They were old time friends of our family while we were living in Lockwood. I stopped in to visit them on my return home and there I met Rita again. I was surprised that she was still single as she had been caring for her parents. To make a long story short, we were married in the fall of 1970. Her mother passed away in September, 1970 and we brought Dad McLelland to live with us at Hay Lakes for three years. Due to illness he went to Bethany Auxiliary Hospital and passed away in November, 1977.

In 1973 we sold the farm at Hay Lakes, purchased a home in Leduc and moved in September, 1973. We both found employment to our liking. During the



Leo and Rita Krell.

four years Rita worked for Wardair we were privileged to travel to various parts of the world, something we both enjoyed and had never dreamed of doing.

We now attend the Leduc Pentecostal Tabernacle which meets our spiritual needs. We are thankful for the old friends at Hay Lakes and the new friends in the Edmonton and Leduc area.

If our retirement years are as happy as the ones already lived we will enjoy life to the end.

Kretchman, Wilhelm by Otto Drebert

Wilhelm Kretchman was the son of August Kretchman and Wilhelmina (Glubs) Kretchman. He was born in Helenuvka, Volhynia, Russia and came to Canada in his early twenties. On December 26, 1903 he was married to Julianna Tober in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church. Julia was the daughter of Karl and Katherine (Businius) Tober who was also born in the same part of Russia. The Kretchmans first made their home in the Strathcona district where their oldest son Sigmund was born on November 24, 1904. This infant boy was only eight and a half months old when he passed away on August 4, 1905.

In 1906 the Wilhelm Kretchmans came to the New Sarepta area where they settled on a homestead that was located on the NE 4-50-22-W4. While they lived in this area there were three more children born to the family. These children were namely Alma, born June 24, 1907, Hertha born on February 18, 1909, and Leo born on April 11, 1917. Leo died from the Spanish Flu epidemic on December 4, 1918 at the age of one year and nearly eight months.



August Drebert and William Kretchman operating steamer in 1914. Kretchman standing in foreground.

The Wilhelm Kretchmans farmed on their homestead for about thirteen years. In the spring of 1919 they sold their farm to Karl Kadatz and moved to the Karl Tober farm who were Julia's parents. This farm

was located on the SW 32-49-22-W4. The arrangements were made for the Karl Tobers to retire on this farm when they built a house of their own for retirement. However, this arrangement only lasted for a year, after which the farm was sold to Gustav Wentland. In the spring of 1920, the Kretchmans moved to the Hay Lakes area where they bought a farm located on the NW 5-49-21-W4. This farm was on the outskirts of Hay Lakes across the road from the present ball park.

While the Kretchmans lived on this place their two daughters Alma and Hertha got most of their schooling in the Hay Lakes Village School. Prior to their move to Hay Lakes they had only one year of class attendance due to the lack of class room facilities where they had homesteaded.

In the spring of 1923, the Kretchmans sold their farm at Hay Lakes to Martin Henkelman. After dispersing their farm and household equipment by public auction, they settled on a farm at Pualup, Washington.

During the seventeen years when they farmed in the New Sarepta and the Hay Lakes area, the Kretchmans were active members of the Moravian Church where much of their family history was recorded. They were both members of the church choir. Wilhelm was also a member of the Church Band that remained active for more than a decade. Wilhelm Kretchman was best remembered for his trade skill as a blacksmith. He provided this service for settlers for more than a decade while there was no village blacksmith in the area. For a good many years, Kretchman shared an investment in partnership with August Drebert. This investment consisted of a traction steamer along with a threshing machine and sawmill. Besides operating this enterprise he owned a stationary gasoline engine for doing custom jobs in winter, mainly for saving fire wood and grinding feed for the settlers.

Many old timers recalled that Kretchman's investments kept him in a state of bankruptcy. However, this could have been contributed to the many different makes and models of cars he had operated since 1917. It was recalled that bankruptcy compelled him to move to the States to attempt a fresh start. According to reports, the Kretchman's last place of residence was at Twin Falls, Idaho. The only surviving member of this family is their daughter, Alma, who is now in the Valley Terrace Nursing Centre in Pualup, Washington.

Lachman Albert Family by Alice Lachman

Albert Lachman, the youngest son of August and Lydia Lachman, was born at Hay Lakes in 1910. He

was baptized at St. Stephen's Church and was confirmed by Pastor E. G. Goos. Albert attended the Canard school, and was married to Leokadia Radtke on February 9, 1932 by Pastor Schreiber.



Leokadia and Albert Lachman — February 9, 1932.

The young couple moved onto the farm now owned by Erwin Lachman, NW1-49-22-W4. 1932 to 1944 were difficult years for them. It was hard for them to get ahead with the Depression and their young family. From 1944 to 1950, they farmed the land that Bill Harke now owns, SW 18-49-21-W4. During this time it hailed every other year. The hail chased them to B.C.

The trip to B.C. was made in December. With a lot of cold and hardships they arrived at Vancouver Island on December 3. They stayed with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kopp for three weeks.

They bought a farm on the north side of Duncan. Albert was working in a copper mine and Leokadia

stayed home and tried to keep the dairy farm going. After two years of working in the mine, it caved in and the mine was closed. Albert then got a job making power poles for two summers. He also worked at the Youbou Mill for five years. By this time, the farm was going pretty well, so Albert stayed home for the next twelve years during which time a new house was built. Many a good time were had on this farm. The first Christmas was lonely, but after that, they had many friends.

Albert was getting itchy feet, and so they moved to a much larger farm on Mays Road. Much had to be done. A milking parlor had to be built and a great deal of land had to be cleared before the cattle could be moved. With the entire family pitching in, all was ready in good time. The fields were in poor shape with many rocks and stumps, which had to be cleared for pasture. The fences were all down also. The house was large and had to be repaired. But over the years, a lot was done and a good producing and well-kept farm appeared. John, the youngest son, stayed home and helped farm.

In 1969, good health was not with them; as a result they had to sell the farm and retire to the city. After two large operations, Albert regained his good health, and he now enjoys hunting, fishing and is a member of the Old Age Pensioners Club.

They are very happy now, with all their children living close by, with many family get-togethers.

Children of Albert and Leokadia Lachman

1. Eileen was born on July 28, 1934. She was married to Walter Burnside in October, 1951. They lived at Sominos, near Duncan, where Walter worked in a sawmill at Youbou for twelve years. The following three years, he worked in a copper mine.

They bought a dairy farm at Cowichan Station. Eight years later they sold the farm and bought the Sportsman Hotel at Ladysmith, B.C.

During this time, they raised five children and have two grandchildren. Their children are as follows:

Judith Ann is married to Robert Windsor who works for Mid Island Co-op driving a bulk milk truck. They have two children.

Steven Walter has worked as a recovery assistant for seven years in the Crofton Pulp Mill.

Katherine Gail is married to Chris Dinsdale, who works for McMillian and Blodell. Kathy works in a hardware store in Duncan.

Thomas James has worked for five years for McKenzie, a big logging company.

Janet Lynn, the baby, is in grade eleven and plays a mean game of hockey.



The Albert Lachman Family 1970. L. to R., Back: Johnny, Otto, Eileen and Wilfred, Leokadia and Albert.

2. Wilfred Lachman was born June 15, 1936 in Edmonton. He married Doris Elenor Leslie on June 30, 1955 in the United Church in Duncan, B.C. They have four sons; the three oldest enjoy hunting with Wilfred. They have shot moose, deer and bear on the Island, up North, and along the Alaska Highway.

Their sons are as follows: George Wilfred, who was married to Lynnea Ruth Strand on August 5, 1978 in Duncan. George works for Ladysmith Forest Products at various jobs such as greenchain and booms.

Ronald Chester works for MacMillar and Bloedel (logging division) as a Chockerman and chaser. He is married to Janice MacDonald.

James David and Larry Robert are in school.

3. Otto Albert was born in 1939 and is married to Reta Marlene Densmore. Otto works for B.C.F.P. Youbou as a millwright. He is an active member of the Fish and Game Association. He enjoys fishing, and was an active member of the Fire Department for 13 years, and retired with full honors. Reta is studying to be an artist.

Their children are Allen Albert, born on March 21, 1957. Allen works for B.C.F.P. Youbou as a green chain operator. He has obtained his private flying license.

Manda Jennifer was born December 15, 1959. She works as a night nurse at the Amberside Lodge. She married Matt McGonigle on September 15, 1979.

William John was born on December 14, 1963. He is in grade eleven.

4. John August was married on October 9, 1971 to Judith Irene Hearsey. John works for the B.C.F.P. as

a By-Products charge hand. Their children are Cindy Marlene, born on January 24, 1975; Angela Judith, born on October 22, 1976; and Amy Susan, born on February 24, 1978.

Lachman Christian

by Christian and Emma Lachman

I was born on November 12, 1893 and came to Canada with my parents August and Lydia Lachman. When I was a young bachelor father bought a farm for me close to Hay Lakes. Land was cleared and we built a one-room house. I dug a well by hand and got lots of water at twenty-five feet.

World War I broke out and I got a call from the army. I went to Calgary in 1917 but was sent home. Six months later I got another call, but this time I was issued a pass to go home and continue farming. The war came to an end.

In October 1918 the flu epidemic broke out. Schools were closed until January 1919. I worked alone on my farm.



Christian and Emma Lachman 1919.

I began to think how nice it would be to have a wife around me. On November 28, 1919 I married Emma Kopf, a neighbor's girl.

I, Emma Lachman (nee Kopf), was born on August 28, 1903 in Otostiwini, N.W.T. A short time later it became Nisku, Alberta. I was the first born child of Ludwig and Karoline Kopf (nee Erickson). I had one brother Albert and one sister Martha. In January 1911 my parents moved to homestead near Hay Lakes. Our house was a log house with a sod roof.

I began attending Canard School, but I don't remember the name of the elderly man who was my first teacher. Going to school in the winter across country, two and a half miles with no road was no fun. Sometimes Dad took us to school with the horses and sleigh. He would drag a log behind the sleigh to break up the snow to make walking home easier for us, but by the time we went home our little road was all drifted up again. I remember one day when I was about ten years old, I went to school alone and when I was half way there I got very cold and thought I would freeze to death, but kept going hoping to get to Karl Sikstrom's place to warm up. By the time I got there I didn't stop as I felt warmer but I was quite late for school.



Chris and Emma Lachman. Reg, Lydia and Leonard.

A little east of the school, down the hill there was a large slough and in the winter after eating our lunch, we would go play or skate (not many had skates) on the ice. One time I broke in and got my feet wet and my teacher Rudolf Lechelt told me to go back to school and get dry. A few days later while playing on the ice, four girls were standing together when suddenly the ice broke and the girls went down into deeper water. That made me feel better.

Stelmaker's Lake just north of the school was much larger and on a nice day Mr. Lechelt, during noon break, would take the whole class skating on the lake. As we watched him skating, the ice broke and he fell into the water up to his waist. After he struggled for awhile to get out, we all went back to school. We never went skating on the big lake again.

We were married in November and moved to the farm in January 1920. It was a tough winter. Snow fell on October 7 and stayed until May 6. When the snow finally went we had lots of rain. Our neighbors said it was too late to seed wheat but I did anyway. Fortunately there were no early frosts that year and we were able to harvest a good crop.

We also had a few cows, chickens, pigs and turkeys. In fall we would kill and dress the turkeys and sell them to a buyer in Edmonton.

During the summer of 1922 I gave a contract to Chris and Karl Christman and Gabriel Miller to clear fifty acres of land. I bought some stumping powder to blow the large stumps out, a stump puller and a horse for the job. We supplied room and board for the men. It took them about three months to finish the job. They were paid \$350.00. The same crew cleared another fifty acres in 1923.

In fall I piled all the trees and stumps and burned them. The next summer I broke the land with a five-horse team drawing a large breaking plow. We weren't finished yet! There was still lots of work picking roots and stumps to burn. At first we worked the land with horses, but in 1926 I bought my first tractor, a new Fordson.

For entertainment we would visit the neighbours, especially Jo Kreamer. We all looked forward to the July 1st picnic and hoped for nice weather for the games, food and entertainment. But it seems as often as not that it would rain.

We prospered at our farm but I began to think about my children going to school. Our farm was in the Swan Hills school district and the school was about five miles away. I bought a farm from John Broen for \$6000.00 and eight per cent interest in 1927. It was as close as I could get to Hay Lakes. NE 31-48-21-W4. With the help of our hired hand Leopold Schinkel we cleared and broke a few acres of land, dug a cellar and foundation for the house and moved the buildings over to the new farm.

It was a handy place for us all with school, church and shopping within easy walking distance. Once I walked into town to get some machinery repairs before lunch. When I passed the bar, I decided to have a quick beer. Well by the time I'd reached the tracks on the way home, I was sure I'd been poisoned. I never did trust that beer slinger.

I bought a new Case tractor and bigger machinery. We also bought one of the first Model A Ford coupes that was introduced in 1928.

We had cattle, pigs and about one hundred and thirty sheep as well as grain crops on our mixed farm. We would also clear and break more land. Prices were good and a lamb would sell for \$6 or \$7 with wool selling for ninety cents a pound. But then wool dropped to five cents a pound — and even at that there were few buyers. I could make no profit on sheep when wool was so cheap so I sold them and expanded the hog herd.

Rough times lay ahead. Our son Leonard had his fourth birthday in the General Hospital where he stayed for fifty-two days recovering from a mastoiditis operation performed by Doctor Claude Jamieson. The doctor and hospital bill came to \$300.00. We had a poor crop because it was a very dry year and were unable to make the payment to John Broen.

By the time the “Dirty Thirties” arrived there was no way to make money. Men were riding the rails and walking the tracks. They would come to the house and ask us for something to eat. We usually fed them bread, eggs and coffee. One morning we invited four men into our house for a meal. I still remember an old man with a great big dog who shared our supper. He sat outside the house sharing his food with his dog.

I was in the custom-grinding business for about five years. I got started rather by accident. One day I sent my hired man, Ernest Werner, with a few sacks of grain to have it ground at Rudolf Fischer's. It happened that Fischer could not get his engine started, so he sent the hired man back with the sacks of grain along with the grinding machine and two other customers! From then on I was in the grinding business so I set up the machine and moved up some granaries. I would grind every Saturday. In the busy time I started at eight in the morning and finished at eight in the evening without stopping.

My brother Gus and I bought a threshing machine together in 1933. We used it to thresh our crops for the next thirteen years.

I bought a farm in the Tofield area for pasture land. There was no good road from our home farm to Tofield — just a path through the bush. Our family and Ed Schlender's family used to pack up some food and a four gallon keg of beer and go to the farm for a

picnic. Those were the days, we thought they would never end as the song goes. I sold the farm to Gus Schmidt.

Then I bought another farm for pasture on the north shore of Ministik Lake from George McAllister. The lake shore was a beautiful beach and we had many community picnics there and the Pentecostal Church held their yearly baptismal service there.

I built a new home on the farm in 1938. I thought it was a pretty good looking house in those days. We had a big basement with a coal burning furnace for heat, and we even had a “thirty two” electric lighting plant. That was a big change from the old one-room house.

In 1944 I bought land in South Edmonton. In spring 1949 we moved out there and gave our son Leonard the farm near Hay Lakes. Reggie stayed with Leonard to finish school. He was very interested in playing the accordion. Reinhold Mittelstedt taught him how to play. Reins provided music for various dances and Reg went with him.

In 1950 Reg formed his own orchestra called the Silver Saddle Ranch Boys, which provided music for various dances and social gatherings. He has kept up this dance band activity for over thirty years. His group is now called the Polka Dots and they have several albums to their credit.

In 1964 we bought a farm in the Ellerslie area from Otto Glasere and moved again to our present home.

We were fortunate enough to celebrate both our 50th and 60th Wedding Anniversaries (1969 and 1979) and are still enjoying good health and looking forward to our 70th Anniversary to keep us going.

We still have a few head of cattle, a few chickens, two dogs and two cats that follow us around on the yard.

I am still driving my little truck at the age of eighty-seven and may have established a record for operating a vehicle for sixty-two years. This record would be hard to challenge for any one who started to driving a Maxwell at the age of twenty-five years.

We were blessed with one daughter and two boys. Lydia was born May 29, 1921. She married John Leicht of Hay Lakes. They are now living in Edmonton. They have four sons, John, Sherwin, Rickey, and Eugene. A daughter Shirley, the oldest, died January 1947 at the age of four of leukemia.

Leonard was born April 9, 1925 and married Eileen Rost of Hay Lakes. They have three children, Larry, Julie and Donald. They are living in South Edmonton area.

Reginald was born July 7, 1934. He married Marion Petruk of Edmonton and are now living in the

Nisku area. Their children are Christopher, Daniel, Anna, James and Mark.

We currently have eight great grandchildren. They are Krista Leicht, Jason Lachman, Jonathan Leicht, Michele Dahl, Janice Leicht, Angela Lachman, Robin Leicht and Katherine Leicht.

We are proud of each and every one of them.

Lachman, Emil

Emil, the third son of August and Lydia Lachman, was born on July 9, 1903. He faintly remembers when they built their log house on the farm. He went to the Canard School, and he sometimes played hookey with Gus Hein. They would sneak a dozen eggs, walk to New Sarepta, and then exchange the eggs for candy. He was confirmed at St. Stephen's Church.



The Lachman Brothers and their Wives 1978. L. to R.: Chris and Emma, Rudolph and Elsie, Emil and Adele, Gus and Lydia, Albert and Leokadia.

Emil started making eyes at Adele Mogdans who was working for his folks at the time. Adele was born in Russia and she moved to Germany in 1915. She went through World War One under the care of her sister, Mrs. Anna Radtke. Adele was fourteen years old when her father sent for her, and she lived with him and her stepmother when she arrived in Canada. The next few years she worked for Knellers, Kiels, Heins, and then August Lachmans.

Emil married Adele on November 27, 1927. Pastor Goos was the minister. They set out on their honeymoon to Thorsby with horses, a sleigh and a double box. The bridesmaid and bestman went along with them. It started raining, thus melting the snow. They stayed over night at some friend's place. Next day there was a terrific snowstorm. They started out, got stuck, and upset at Hanks' place. The horses had to be shovelled out. The girls were cold, wet, and miserable.



Emil and Adele off on their honeymoon to Thorsby with their bridesmaid and bestman.

They moved onto the farm that is presently owned by Lawrence Berkholtz SW 36-48-22-W4. A few years later, they bought Erickson's quarter to the south. All was going well until the Depression hit, which stopped all progress. They would get seven dollars for a cow, two dollars for a pig; however, no one went hungry or cold. Adele would knit socks and gloves from their own sheep, and sew outfits for the kids from old suits. Finally, things picked up.

In 1937, they bought their first tractor from brother Cris. It went three miles per hour. Their first car was a 1916 Maxwell, then an eight horsepower Model T Ford for which they paid sixteen dollars. Then Emil traded it in for another Model T Rumble seat.

Threshing time was always an exciting time. The kids could get away with a lot more, and then there was all that good food. In the evenings the wives and kids would all come for supper to the home where the machine was. After the threshing was finished, a keg of beer was bought and a party was held.

Emil owned a crystal set, then he bought a radio with earphones. He listened to a Salt Lake City station; the only one he could pick up.

Life on the farm was made easier with the coming of the fence phone, their own power plant, and later, Calgary Power.

Emil always enjoyed having bees. One hot summer day, the family was waiting for him to come in for dinner, after checking the bees. All at once there was such a racket in the basement; a banging on the furnace pipes, crashing around; it sounded like a moose was loose in the house. Emil had his pants full of bees, and to this day he hasn't told anyone where they stung him.

After raising a family of four they decided to retire. On September 21, 1967, they moved to Camrose. Emil enjoys the Drop-In Center, the auction mart and fishing. He is still in good health.

Their Children

1. Elsie was born on December 12, 1929. She was a very energetic and active girl, and much was accomplished when she was at home. Elsie went to the

Hay Lakes school and was confirmed by Pastor Koss. Elsie married Leonard Schneider of Nisku on July 14, 1949. They farmed on the Schneider homeplace, starting out as a mixed farm, and later on they specialized in grain and hogs. They have one daughter, Linda, born on March 1, 1955. Linda has her science degree and is working for the Alberta Research Council as a junior research officer.

2. Erwin was born on September 3, 1931. He was Elsie's partner in work and play. He attended Hay Lakes school, and was confirmed by Pastor Koss. On August 5, 1955, he married Alice Hirsekorn. They are farming the August Lachman home farm and the one formerly owned by Arnold Miller.

They have two daughters; Sandy is married to Kelly Graves, and is presently teaching in Leduc. Valerie is in her third year university, taking elementary education.

3. Lorraine was born on September 1, 1935. She was the quiet one at home, and she enjoyed watching the others get into trouble. She attended Hay Lakes school and was confirmed by Rev. Keitel. Lorraine married George Elliott on June 22, 1955. George was in the oil field work starting out at Redwater, moving to Devon and then to Drayton Valley, where they are presently living. George is in the oil well servicing business now.

They have three children. Leslie, born on June 22, 1956, is attending N.A.I.T. Beverly was born on August 28, 1960, and is working in a restaurant. Bob was born on February 15, 1967, and is at school.

4. Lawrence was born on March 13, 1941. He attended Hay Lakes school and graduated from grade twelve at Camrose Lutheran College. He was confirmed by Rev. Keitel. Lawrence attended the U. of A. and graduated as an accountant. He is now a chartered accountant with the firm of Lachman and Associates.

Lawrence married Irene Hawka on May 23, 1963. They reside in Edmonton and have two children. Stephanie was born on August 4, 1970 and Karstan was born on May 17, 1972.

Lachman, Erwin

Erwin was born on September 3, 1931 at home with Mrs. Henry Tober acting as midwife. He went to school in Hay Lakes, and at the age of fourteen he was determined to be a farmer. No amount of coaxing from his parents could persuade him to return to school. At the age of 23, he decided to strike out on his own with his new wife Alice, nee Hirsekorn, from Pipestone. They were married on August 5, 1955 at St. Peter's Church, Millet. Erwin borrowed one hundred dollars for their honeymoon, and as soon as they came home, the fellow wanted it back.

They moved onto the August Lachman homeplace. The house was run down, cold, and had no electricity. It was a very scary place to live with the trees being so close to the house. When the wind blew, the branches would scrape against the house and windows, making a very frightening noise.

In May, they rented Leonard Lachman's farm NE 31-48-21-W4 for four years. Here, they increased their cowherd, raised pigs and chickens. It was a very busy time for Erwin, who had almost no machinery of his own. The Moline Z was the only tractor, plus the machinery he borrowed from his dad.

Sandra was born in 1957 on October 2nd, during a terrible snowstorm. Soon there would be help for Erwin. (?)



Erwin and Alice Lachman on their 25th Wedding Anniversary 1980 with daughters Sandy and Valerie.

In 1960, they borrowed money for a down payment on the Arnold Millar farm NW 1-49-22-W4. They moved on April 1st, chasing their cattle down Highway 21, which was under construction. There was much work ahead for them, building every year, putting up fences, and landscaping.

Another bundle of joy arrived on December 23, 1960. They called her Valerie Jane.

In 1966, they built a dairy barn and started shipping fluid milk in 1970. They sold out their pig herd as they found it to be too much work. In January, 1980, they sold their dairy herd, and are presently raising beef, hay and grain. They bought one hundred and fourteen acres of the Zucht farm in 1979. They are renting Lawrence Makar's eighty acres and Emil Lachman's sixty acres.

Erwin and Alice celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on August 8, 1980, and two weeks later, their daughter, Sandy, was married to Kelly Graves of Wetaskiwin. They are residing in Edmonton, where Kelly works, and Sandy is teaching in Leduc.

Valerie is finishing her third year university, taking elementary education.

Leonard Lachman

I was born in 1925 in Hay Lakes. I attended Hay Lakes school and was also a member of the Boy Scouts with John Llyle as the Scout Master. I was very active in sports, especially hockey and curling. The main highlight of my hockey years was the winter of 1945-46. It was the play-offs in Camrose and in the final game, I scored the one and only goal for Hay Lakes, which was the winning goal, and won the championship for the district. Then, in the Camrose Canadian it was reported that "Freddie Switzer" scored the winning goal (no such person). That sure put a crease in my hockey career.

In my younger years I used to go with my dad (Chris Lachman) to haul coal with horses and sleighs, spending one day going and the next coming back. Later on when times got better my dad let me take the tractor (big old John Deere) with three wagons behind, to haul coal for the neighbors, sometimes on icy roads.



Leonard Lachman Family. Back: Larry and Julie. Front: Eileen, Donald and Leonard.

Later I became very interested in big game hunting and went every year. My first hunting experience was with uncles Rudolph and Albert Lachman. The guidance I received later from Trevor Roper Sr. was certainly appreciated in later years of successful hunting. I was always interested in fishing — going to Dried Meat Lake, Buck Lake and other lakes; even having my own boat. We caught lots of Jack fish and even Perch in those days.

Eileen May Lachman (nee Rost)

I was born in August of 1931 into a large loving family of brothers and sisters; Lydia, Art, Sally, Reins, Martha, Bertha and Ruby (Don came later). Our house at that time was always full of young people and music.

I attended Canard School and Irna Graunke was my first teacher. She later became a part of our family by marrying my brother Reins.

Some of my most vivid recollections of my years at Canard school was the annual Sports Day (Field Day) which was always held at New Sarepta. The intense competition between the New Sarepta School and Canard School was the highlight of the school year. My dad (August Rost) would take his big truck and load all the Canard kids in the back of it. We would cheer all the way to New Sarepta, and if we won, we'd cheer all the way home. The rivalry between the two schools really gave us the incentive to gain the most points to be the top school.

Growing up with a musical background, I was privileged to sing at different functions such as weddings and community affairs. I also sang in a trio known as the "Ruby Sisters" (my sister Ruby, my niece Ruth and myself). We sang on the "C.F.R.N. Search for Talent" contest and we were especially thrilled to be asked to sing on the C.F.R.N. Radio's 20th Anniversary program (Elaine Middlestead filling in for Ruth on that occasion).

The greatest inspiration in my life for my wanting singing lessons was my sister Sally who encouraged me the most. Not only was she my favorite sister, she was also my best friend. She shared her many talents with all of us and I spent many happy hours at her home with her and her family.

In July 1948 we were married and farmed on the Chris Lachman (Leonard's Dad's) farm ½ mile south of Hay Lakes. In July 1949 our son Larry was born and he took his Grade one in Hay Lakes School. Our daughter Julie was born in January 1956 and in the same year we moved to Edmonton where we lived until June 1958. We then moved to Chilliwack, B.C. where we dairy farmed for a number of years. While in Chilliwack our son Donald was born in April 1975.

While farming in Hay Lakes in about 1952, a

wildcat oil well was dug on my dad's farm (½ mile south of Kreamer's corner off Highway 21). It had been a very rainy summer and they had a difficult time getting to the rig with their trucks, consequently driving all over my barley crop. When they couldn't reach the rig at all, because of the mud, they would drive right through our farm yard and across the pasture. When the rains made even that impossible, I was called upon many times to pull them through the worst mud holes with the John Deere.

We were very glad when Calgary power came into Hay Lakes district which really changed the life style at that time.

In 1977 we moved back to Ellerslie, Alberta, with our son Donny, where we now reside.

Lachman, Rudolph

by Elsie Lachman

Rudolph is the second oldest son of August and Lydia (nee Werner) Lachman. He was born in Russia in 1897 and came to Canada in 1900 with his parents and his older brother, Christian. They lived in the Leduc area for a short while, and in 1903 moved to their homestead in the Canard district, just west of Hay Lakes, which is now owned by Ervin Lachman, a nephew.



Hilbert and his Dad Rudolph Lachman 1949.

When the Canard School was built, Rudolph was pretty well past school age, so he attended school for only one year. Although he lived on the farm, and helped his parents with farm labors, he was always and primarily a trapper and a hunter. Deer, rabbits, ducks, geese, and chickens were very plentiful at that time and it was always his responsibility to ensure the family had enough meat to eat. Trapping, mostly muskrats at that time, gave him his spending money. He was always active, in many things, from motorcycle riding to sawmilling and big game hunting with his friends. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and for a time was a member of the church band. He was a member of the Canard United Farmers, curled in the Farmers' Union Bonspiel for many years, and is still a member of the Fish and Game Association.



Rudolph and Elsie Lachman 1950.

Rudolph eventually got his own farm, a quarter section, two miles southwest of Hay Lakes in 1918, which he still owns. In 1933 he married Elsie Gravon of New Sarepta. They settled on his farm in very humble beginnings. Their first house was a small

one-room granary, which also served as a tack room and granary. Additions were soon made and a new house was built in 1953. They farmed this land until Rudolph retired and moved to Hay Lakes in 1971 where they still reside.

Rudolph and Elsie have one son, Hilbert, who was born, raised and finished High school in Hay Lakes.

Hilbert left home in 1956, when he joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Camrose. After extensive travels throughout Alberta, Northern B.C. and N.W.T., he is still with the bank — now the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and with the Inspection Department, Edmonton.

Hilbert lives in Edmonton with his wife Marge (nee Wachowicz) from Lamont and their children, Jacqueline, Jim and Barbara.

Rudolph and Elsie Lachman enjoy their retirement in Hay Lakes with their many friends and neighbours, but they say, “Once a farmer, always a farmer” and Rudolph now eighty-three years of age still visits his farm, which is rented, just to see how “things are going”.

Rudolph passed away February, 1981.

Lebsack, Ben

by Meta Harke

In the mid-fifties, Ben and Vera Lebsack and their sons, Gerald, John and Danny, moved onto the Martin Hinkelman farm. While there their daughter, Carol, was born. Before this they spent several years at the Moravian Children’s Home at Kwethluk, Alaska.

The Lebsacks were active in the community, especially in the Moravian Church where he taught Sunday School and was on the Church Council. Vera was active in the Women’s Missionary Society. The boys attended school in Hay Lakes.

From here they moved to Viking and are now residing in the Okanagan Valley in British Columbia.

The Herman Lechelt Family

by Marge Drever

	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Herman Lechelt	13 April 1890	1943
Martha Lechelt	10 Nov. 1897	1948
Alma Lechelt (Koch)	1 Dec. 1919	1976
Ella Lechelt (Halbach)	22 Aug. 1926	1978
Ernest Lechelt	1923	1937
Irvin Lechelt	17 March 1924	
Marge Lechelt (Drever)	15 Oct. 1929	
Doreen Lechelt	5 April 1937	
Herman and Martha Lechelt moved from Nisku		



L. to R., Back: Herman Lechelt and his wife Martha. Center: Marge, Irvin, Ernst. Front: Doreen.

to Hay Lakes in 1924 taking over the International Harvester Dealership. In 1925, Herman installed the town’s first electric lights. He wired the homes, constructed the distribution lines and supplied 110-volt direct current power. The charge was \$2.00 per month. The system was battery operated so the plant had to be run for peak demand periods such as Mondays for washing clothes, Tuesdays for ironing and nights when there were dances in town. Also from dark until 12:00 midnight.

Herman also operated the Imperial Oil bulk station supplying the farmers and service stations with gas and oil. He stocked aviation gasoline and was able to supply the barn storming pilots with fuel when they came to our area.

Both Herman and Martha were very active in church affairs. Herman was a school trustee for many years and responsible for the planting of many of the trees that now line the streets of Hay Lakes. It is believed that Mr. Ogilvie was also involved in the tree planting.

(The following dates and info are vague and may be substantiated by some senior who will recall more details.)

About 1935 or '36, Herman was instrumental in the demolition of the Henschell Blacksmith Shop

(which property was donated by Mr. Henschell for the church) and the construction of the church.

The Lechelts and August Rost were the first residents to have radios. They were operated on batteries, naturally (one-six-volt, three-forty-five-volt and three “C” batteries). Neighbours would drop by to hear the “News” and the grain buyers would get the up-to-date grain prices on the daily noon show via Herman’s radio.

In 1936, the Lechelt’s business was sold to John and Eric Lofgren. Herman bought the Pithouse farm (SE 6-49-21-W4) on the edge of town and in 1937, the family moved from their house near the creamery to the farm. Extensive renovations were done to the house which included installing power (wind-charged) and plumbing. Within a few years the grounds reflected Herman’s love and talent in growing things and there were many beautiful flowers and trees.

My childhood memories of growing up in Hay Lakes are very pleasant indeed. I am sure the secure, loving home atmosphere and the friendly environment of the village have had a great influence on my life. Although I was only fourteen years old when my father died, he made a great impact on my life for which I will be eternally grateful. His gentle, understanding nature combined with this great “tall” strong man combined to make a perfect “Daddy” and I recall as a very young child being impressed at seeing this “tall, strong Daddy” trying out the new electric curling tongs on some neighbour lady’s hair in our kitchen. I will jot down some of the incidents that have remained in my memory.

pre 1936 — I remember the croquet games in our back yard on Sundays, after church.

— the very beautiful beds of roses that Dad grew.

pre 1936 — the many transients (“bums” we called them) who passed through town during the depression looking for work, and how Mom would feed them on the back porch in return for some menial task she would ask them to do, like chop wood or something.

1935-36 — how Eileen Hein and I would sit on the fence between our yard and Mrs. Schmidt’s and sing “Moonlight On The River Colorado” in harmony and how Mr. Nordmoe would walk over from the lumber yard and give us nickels to keep on singing (I’m sure they could hear us clear across town).

Our social life in the years ’35 to early ’40’s evolved around the skating rink in the winter and I recall the times my Mom would walk over near the end of the evening and invite the whole gang over to our house for doughnuts and coffee.

I was in my teens before I was told that those mysterious goings-on I used to hear during the night

as a small child was my Mom being called for by some neighbouring farmer to come and help deliver a baby. I also recall people coming to our house on Saturdays with various ailments or sick children and Mom referring to her “Doctor Book”, as she called it, for a remedy. Surprisingly, they usually worked!

Our home was always full of music and this tradition has carried on to the present day’s generation.



The Lechelt home a place of beauty in 1940’s.

An amusing incident: Don’t ever think our little village is remote! While working for the Canadian Federal Government in Germany in 1964, Marge was speaking with a senior official who asked her where she was from. She replied, “Oh, you’ve probably never heard of it, it’s a little village in Alberta called Hay Lakes.” The officer replied, “You’ve got to be kidding — I’ve been there, duck hunting!”

Remember those mission festivals at the church — the first thing that comes to mind is the smell of coffee cooking, balogna sandwiches and chocolate cake. It was so good! And we saw so many people.

Of the family, all that are left is Irvin who resides in Edmonton and works as a free lance “electrician — repair man — Mr. Fix-it”. He has three children, one married and is the proud “Papa” to three grandchildren.

Marge lives in Barrie, Ontario with her daughter Bonnie and works for a Consulting Engineering Firm. Her two married children also live in Barrie and her only son (the eldest) is a policeman in Barrie. Marge directs a fifty-five-voice Ladies’ Barbershop chorus that entertains in the area and has competed internationally in Chicago, Cape Cod, Lake Placid, Montreal, Toronto and numerous other locations and has placed eleventh internationally.

Doreen resides in Toronto, is a reading Specialist (consultant) for the Scarborough Board of Education. She has just recently been successful in having a series of text books published by Oxford University Press for Grades VII, VIII, IX, and X. These texts

are entitled "Telling the World" and may very well be used in Western Canadian Schools in the very near future.

Ella Halbach died of cancer at Wetaskiwin, Alberta in 1978. She had three children and was residing on a farm at the time of her death. Alma also died of cancer in 1976 in Metropole, Illinois, where she resided with her family. Her husband was the Lutheran Pastor in that town.

Lund, John and Family

John Lund was born on September 17, 1864 in his native country of Norway. He married Seriana Moen who was also born in Norway on February 11, 1866. When the Lunds first left their homeland they settled in South Dakota where they lived for about ten years. In the spring of 1902 the John Lunds decided to emigrate to Alberta where free homestead land was still in abundance. They travelled by train to Wet-



John and Seriana Lund.

askiwin where they made a temporary stay while John Lund sought a homestead of his choice. This land seeking adventure brought him to the Hay Lakes territory where a number of Norwegian immigrants came to settle and he selected SE 24-49-22-W4 as his homestead. This area was commonly known as Long Prairie lying to the northwest of Little Hay Lake.

John Lund spent the best part of the summer building a log shelter for his family and clearing some land for cultivation. By the month of August the Lund family came by horse and wagon to settle on their homestead. At the time when the Lunds settled here their nearest Post Office and supply center was Wetaskiwin. This caused many hardships for the families who had to travel the Indian trails where they encountered many hazardous spots during the wet summers. However, the settlers would share these burdens by taking turns in bringing these provisions to the settlement. In spite of these hardships the Lund's home was not a lonely place for the family. There were two Indian trails that passed by their farmyard. Their home became a stopping place for many travellers. The means to provide for their family were somewhat meager, yet the Lunds never charged anyone for food or lodging.



The John Lund homestead in 1910. L. to R.: Hildur, Solvig, Mrs. Lund, Agnes and Liv.

The Lund family soon became accustomed to living in the wilds. When they first settled in the area there were a number of squatting ranchers around who had their cattle roaming wild. One day Mrs. Lund hitched their horse to the handsome top-buggy, taking her children with her to visit a family living nearby. They were soon to encounter a herd of steers which came running towards them. This struck terror into the family. These cattle had never seen a buggy before and their curiosity was aroused. However, they wandered off after taking a good look at the strange object. Even the presence of wild bears roaming in their garden was accepted as natural in a new settlement.

One of the first problems the Lund family was to encounter was providing an education for their children. Since there were no schools in the settlement they had their two oldest daughters board with an elderly couple at Pretty Hill where they attended school. After the settlement became more developed John Lund became actively involved in organizing the first school district. This was the New Sarepta Rural School district where John Lund served as board chairman for a considerable time. The school was located approximately a mile from their home. A number of the first teachers boarded with the Lunds. They were Rebecca Maxwell, Florence Wagner, Martha Anderson and Frank Butcher.

Another problem the Lunds had to cope with was the lack of a place to worship. Pastoral visits were made by Rev. B. Anderson who would travel from Bardo to visit these families. Rev. Clement Hoyler, who had established a Moravian colony near by, also came to visit on frequent occasions and would conduct services in the Norwegian language. By 1908 the Lund family became actively involved in organizing the St. Joseph Lutheran congregation which became their place of worship.

The travel burdens were somewhat relieved when the Poullett Elliotts opened up the first settlement Post Office in 1905. The Elliotts were the closest neighbours to the Lund family and a close friendship was established between them. It was about three years later that the first store was opened on Long Prairie. The store was operated by Lauritz Larsen who was later to become a member of the Lund family. One of the worst tragedies that the John Lunds encountered on their homestead was when their house was destroyed by fire in 1918. Everything was destroyed including the family organ and worst of all the diary which Mrs. Lund had kept since the family arrived at Hay Lakes in 1902. Had this diary been preserved a much more detailed account could have been written.

The John Lund family consisted of five children: Inga, Agnes, Liv, Hildur and Solvig. Inga was born on March 16, 1894 in South Dakota. She started her schooling in South Dakota and later continued her classes at the Pretty Hill and New Sarepta Rural Schools. She completed her education by attending the Grand Trunk Business College in Edmonton. In 1912 she married Lauritz Larsen and resided in Hay Lakes until 1927. At present she is the only member of the Lund family still living.

Agnes was born in South Dakota and came to Alberta at the age of six years. She attended the Pretty Hill and New Sarepta Schools. She married Ole Rosendahl on October 2, 1914 and resided on a

farm near Camrose. They had four children; Myrtle, Berna, Almira and Lois. Agnes is now deceased.

Liv Oloug Lund was born in South Dakota. She came to Alberta with her parents and attended classes in the New Sarepta School. On March 21, 1918 she married Alvin Luther Loveseth of Hay Lakes. They lived in Edmonton where they raised four children, namely Leonard, John, Iris and Iona. Liv is now deceased.

Hildur Lund came to Hay Lakes with her parents as an infant child. She also attended classes in the New Sarepta School. She remained single all her life and is now deceased.

Solvig Lund was born on the homestead near Hay Lakes in 1903. She attended classes at the New Sarepta School and worked in the Larsen Store at Hay Lakes for a considerable time. It was here where she met Lawrence Dumont whom she married. The Dumonts made their home in Edmonton where they became the parents of Ken who was their only child. The Dumonts are now deceased.

The John Lunds operated their farm north of Hay Lakes for twenty-eight years. Mrs. Lund passed away in 1930 at the age of sixty-four years. At this time John Lund retired and his son-in-law, Ole Rosendahl, operated the farm. The farm was later sold to the Hansen family and became the family residence of the Albert Hansens. John Lund lived in retirement until he reached the age of ninety years. He passed away in 1954 and lies buried in the St. Joseph cemetery.

Makarowski, Ron and Jeannette by Jeannette (Klein) Makarowski

My father, Rudy Klein farmed in the Armena area for many years. I was the only girl among four brothers. My twin brother, Lyle, is now living in Fort St. John and has a family of three girls. My brother, Keith, still lives in the Armena area and has a family of three girls. His twin brother, Ken, now lives in Peace River and also has a family of three girls. The oldest brother, Marvin, lives on an acreage near Gwynne and his family consists of one boy and one girl.

I went to school in Armena up to Grade eight and then was bussed to Hay Lakes for Grades nine and ten. After finishing Grade ten, I decided to finish my education at the Camrose Composite High where I took Business Education.

On May 19, 1973, I married my husband, Ron, who was raised in the Daysland area. His parents, Dave and Alma Makarowski, are still farming at Daysland. In 1976, we moved into the Hay Lakes area and have enjoyed living here ever since. Our

first son, Derek, was born on Sept. 23, 1980 and our second son, Bradley, was born Sept. 21, 1981.

Marusak, Alex

Memorable recollections of my childhood days are from about the age of three years. I vividly recall the place where we lived in a two-storey house near the railroad tracks at Erith.

Then when the parents moved on a farm, the sod-covered house with no floor in it, Uncle Nick (Dad's brother) helping build a new house of white logs in the midst of heavy bush. They would walk to the building site through the bush, crossing a stream on a huge log laid across the stream. When I went along with them I was carried across, but one time I attempted to walk the log alone and fell into the cold, icy water.



Alex Marusak Family. L. to R.: Laurie, Joyce, Janice, Annie, Alex, Orest, Donni and Thomas.

When the parents moved to Edmonton, we lived about two blocks west of Swift's packing plant where the water tower presently stands.

I would roam the streets and steal rides on street cars. When a street car would stop for people to get on or off, before proceeding the conductor would ring the bell and close the doors. I would stealthily sit on a protruding rear door step and hold on to the hand post and ride till it would come to a sharp curve, it would slow down considerably. Then I would jump off and walk back.

One time I presumably miscalculated on the decelerating speed. The car running at a fair speed, I jumped off tumbling down a steep grade bruising the knees, elbows and got a bleeding nose and that was it for riding.

In the spring of 1922 we moved back to the farm. That spring I was to start school but there was no

room. In the fall we both (with sister Eva) started school at Hay Lakes, walking a distance of three miles.

In the winter when it was very cold, Dad would take us in with a team and sleigh. Later we drove with a horse and buggy in the summer and cutter in the winter. Our first teacher was Mr. Davis, then McKinnon, Samis, Tivey, McKittrick and Kilpatrick. At times there were seventy-four pupils taught by one teacher from grades one to grade ten. In 1930, I left school in grade eight.

That fall, I was hired by our neighbor, Harry Willisko to help thresh his crop for one dollar per ten-hour day. Not being accustomed to handling a pitchfork the hands were full of painful blisters for the first couple of days.

I helped the parents with farming till I married Anne Kohut on February 14, 1944. The parents retired and moved to live in Hay Lakes. We took over farming and are still living on the farm. (SW30-48-21-W4)

To our marriage we have six children, three sons and three daughters.

Orest, born on October 30, 1949 is farming.

Janice, born on July 21, 1951 is married to Ron Rocco. They have two children and are living in St. Albert.

Joyce, born on October 13, 1954 is employed in Victoria, B.C.

Donald, born on June 23, 1956 is employed by North West Utilities in Edmonton.

Laurie, born on October 30, 1959 is married to Tim Roehr. They have one child and are living in Edmonton.

Thomas, born on June 9, 1961 is working for Cantrac Rail Service in Edmonton.

Marusak, Harry as told by Alex Marusak

Harry was born on April 16, 1882 in the village of Harasymiw, district of Horodenka County of Kolomeya, then occupied by Austria. He came to Canada in 1903, was employed in the area of Winnipeg, Manitoba, for a couple of years before coming to where his brother Nicholas homesteaded on SE 14-48-22-W4 in 1901.

As there were few homesteads in this part of the country it was difficult to decide which would be the best land to pick; the few that were left were heavily forested with huge poplar trees, and lower places, which were numerous, overflowing with water.

His brother advised him to take SW 30-48-21-W4. He built a shed of logs covered with hay and sod near the trail about the middle of the farm. This trail was the main thoroughfare in this part of the country.

In summer months he went out working, mostly on railroads, and in winter lived on the farm to comply with the law of the Land Titles Act. The law was that every homesteader was to clear ten acres of land per year in order to gain title to the land. When the title was acquired, he left the farm and was employed as section foreman for the Grand Trunk Railways, west of Edmonton at Erith.

In February, 1913, he married Annie Weselosky of Leduc, Alberta.

In 1917, he moved to the farm, built a one-room house of logs with shingled roof, a barn and a granary, also of logs, near the municipal road where the present buildings are situated.

The fall of 1919, was a very wet fall. Snow fell the first week of October and it turned out to be a severe cold winter. Feed for cattle was very scarce; poor quality hay and straw sold for a hundred dollars a small rack full.



L. to R., Back: Kate, Alex, Nellie, Doris, Eva. Front: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Marusak.

With a sleigh and a team of horses he drove through heavy snowdrifts, approximately forty miles to his father-in-law's place, seven miles west of Leduc and brought a jag of hay and a few sacks of oats and was advised to mix sawdust with grain to feed cattle. Toward spring, some of the cattle died of malnutrition.

That spring, an auction sale was held, the stock and farming equipment was sold and he moved to Edmonton and went to work at Swifts' Packing Plant.

The farm was leased to Ed Kallis where Ed was very unfortunate, losing his arm by the threshing machine. In the spring of 1922, Harry moved back to the farm.

There was not much land cleared, so the heavy growth of bush and the trees were cut down with an axe, — some of the trees measured sixteen inches in diameter. The branches of the felled trees were limbed, piled and burned. The stumps were left two and a half feet to three feet high. A stump puller was bought with approximately one hundred feet of cable. It was operated by a team of horses driving around in a circle, winding the cable till the stump was pulled out. The ground from the stump had to be grubbed away with a grubhoe to expose the roots, and cut with an axe, then the stumps were piled and burned.

Some of the logs were hauled to the sawmill to be sawed into lumber and the rest were sawed into short lengths and split for firewood and burned in the cookstove and heater. This was the only source of fuel supply for cooking meals and heating the house.

The sod was broken with a breaking plow pulled by three or four horses, cutting a furrow fourteen inches wide and walking behind the plow for more than seven miles per acre. Then the land was disked and the roots picked, piled and burned which was a back-breaking task.

In 1924, another quarter of land was bought from the C.P.R. Co. on payments for nine dollars per acre. This was NW 19-48-21-W4.

In 1933, a two-storey house, twenty-four by twenty-six, with a full basement was built on contract by L. Mudry of Calmar, Alberta, for eighteen hundred dollars, furnace included. Lumber at that time sold for twenty dollars per thousand board feet, delivered.

The first car was bought in 1934, that was a 1928 Pontiac for four hundred dollars.

The land was worked with horses till 1939, when a brand new Cockshutt 80 tractor and a four-bottom plow was bought for twelve hundred and fifty dollars.

To this marriage five children were born, one son and four daughters:

Alexander was born on January 7, 1914, and married Annie Kohut on February 14, 1944. They have six children and live on the farm.

Eva was born May 31, 1915, married to Pete Haluschak in October, 1939. They have two children, living in Edmonton.

Nellie was born February 24, 1917, married to Ted Brachman in April, 1948. They have one son, and live in Ponoka.

Kate was born January 22, 1919, married John Meketsell in 1941, was remarried to Alex Lesiw in 1948, had one son. They are now living in Vernon, British Columbia.

Doris was born September 2, 1922, married to

Melvin Stefura in May 1950. They had no children and are living in Oceanside, California.

They had ten grandchildren. They retired from farming in 1944. Alex took over farming that year. In 1945 the NW 30-48-21-W4 was bought from Henry Bittner for five thousand dollars.

Annie passed away on March 8, 1967 at the age of sixty-nine years. Harry passed away on May 10, 1974 at the age of ninety-two.

McKenzie, David (Bob)

by Mrs. Ray Stavne

Shortly after the Telegraph Office at Hay Lakes was abandoned, Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie started a ranch on this land. This was before the year 1900. Mr. McKenzie built a shack against the side hill about one hundred yards northwest of where the office stood and used the old telegraph office for a barn. Later this land became Simon Grue's homestead.

Once when Mr. McKenzie was away, his wife, taking two dogs with her, went out to find their milk cows. She hunted until darkness came on and then wandered around until she was lost. Since bushes, trees and sloughs seemed all alike, there were practically no landmarks to guide her. When Mr. McKenzie came home and did not find his wife, he began to hunt for her but without success. The next day he secured help and they searched until the following day. The dogs had stayed with her and when they heard people, they started barking which led the searchers to her. She had been lost for three days and three nights. During this time she had lived on a few raspberries and some water from the sloughs. She was in an exhausted condition. The howling of coyotes had kept her awake at night and the mosquitoes had been terrible. Mr. McKenzie had brought tea along and immediately prepared a hot drink for his wife. This, she said, saved her life as she felt she could not have survived much longer.

The McKenzie's home was one of the stopping places on the trail leading to Edmonton from the south side of Beaver Hill's Lake, east of Tofield.

McLeod, Robert and Family

Robert Fraser McLeod was born in the Highlands of Scotland on August 4, 1873. On March 6, 1895 he married Wilhelmina Helen Rollo, born in Cupar, Fife on December 2, 1875.

Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, along with their infant daughter, Ann, emigrated to Canada in the fall of 1896, travelling via steamship up the St. Lawrence River to the port of Montreal. After a long journey by train across the country to Calgary and then to Wet-



Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLeod.

askiwin, the end of the Canadian Pacific Rail line at the time, they completed their expedition to Strathcona in the back of a wagon.

Mr. McLeod found employment as a brewmaster at Ochner's which is now Bohemian Maid. In 1905, he started to work at Gainers Packing Plant where he was employed for a few years. They lived in the Strathcona district and during that time four sons were born. Mrs. McLeod often told stories about their life on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River near 105 Street. She remembered the original Fort Edmonton located below the site where the Alberta Legislature now stands, the ferry crossings in summertime and ice roads across the river in wintertime, and the building of the High Level Bridge.

Mr. McLeod, longing to farm, rented some land in the Coalchester area. In 1911, Mr. McLeod realized his dream to purchase his own homestead and the family moved to their land near what was called Rock Lake, which is between Big Hay Lake and Bittern Lake.

The children were enrolled in the Big Hay Lake school and in 1913 the youngest McLeod son, Jack, was born.

The Haley store and Post Office operated by Mr. Ladell was about five miles from the homestead also an Anglican Church with Rev. Jones as Rector. Finlay and Jack were baptized here. The closest



L. to R., Back: Mr. and Mrs. R. McLeod, Bob, Findlay and Jim. Front: Gwenneth Rice, Jean and Duncan McLeod.

school at the time was Ellswick and though it was several miles away the older children did attend when conditions were favorable.

Mr. McLeod became involved in the organization of a school in the area. The Big Hay Lake School was opened in 1914. Mr. McLeod was also a Fire Ranger, Game Guardian, Justice of the Peace and the home was a stopping place for the North West Mounted Police when they made their rounds on saddle horses.

In 1915, after years of struggling and hard times, they sold this homestead and bought the Wested farm at Hay Lakes which amounted to five hundred and sixty acres. This farm had very good soil but was covered with heavy timber that required a lot of axe work. By this time, sons Bob and Jim were helping with the farm work, enabling Mr. McLeod to become active in community affairs. Mr. McLeod was instrumental in getting the Hay Lakes School District organized in 1919 and served on the board for several years.

He was a Councillor and Reeve for the Municipal District of Black Mud for several years prior to 1937. He was responsible for building and maintaining roads in the area west of the Village of Hay Lakes. He was a Justice of the Peace and held court at the McLeod home on a regular basis. He was also active in the United Farmers of Alberta.

Mrs. McLeod kept a daily journal which became not only a personal record of the family but a portrait of the community as well, mentioning births, marriages, deaths, and highlighting the many social events that took place.

Hay Lakes was a very active community in the

'twenties, 'thirties and 'forties. As early as 1923 an organization known as the Hay Lakes Community Club was in operation. Mrs. McLeod writes of her work with the Red Cross and in 1935 mentions packing cartons of used clothing "to ship to the destitute in Saskatchewan." In the 'forties she mentions getting together with the women of the community "to knit socks and mitts for the boys overseas". Regular picture shows and dances in the community were attended by most families.

Unusual weather conditions were duly reported in the diary. January 19, 1935: ". . . 43 below this morning", July 21, 1940: ". . . at night a terrible storm. The crops are entirely hailed out", as were plantings and harvests, October 6, 1936: "finished threshing for another year, a good crop".

There were several comments on national news . . . February 11, 1940 Mrs. McLeod writes, "Canadian Governor General Lord Tweedsmuir died today, a fine Man". Events of worldwide significance were noted: May 7, 1945, "everybody is celebrating V.E. Day" . . . and on March 1, 1932, "a terrible thing has happened, the Lindbergh baby was kidnapped."

Exciting events warranted a note in the diary too. On March 30, 1931 "an airplane was landing in the field and taking Hay Lakes passengers for rides". On June 2, 1939 Mr. and Mrs. McLeod were in Edmonton to see King George and Queen Mary at a public appearance, "had a good look at the King and Queen, a grand day".

Mrs. McLeod was active in church organizations. She was an instructor in Sunday School and Bible Study. As a member of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church she helped organize the Ladies Aid chicken suppers held each fall. This meant several days of preparation for the ladies involved, killing and dressing chickens and baking before the big day, then cleaning and tallying up the next day. From Mrs. McLeod's diary notation of October 27th, 1933: "Ladies Aid supper was a good success. Proceeds \$128.40 for inside work on the church".

In the winter of 1928 Mr. and Mrs. McLeod made their only return visit to Scotland to visit relatives and friends. In November, 1937, they purchased the Johnstone home in the Village and moved there. The McLeod home was the centre of activity as many of the grandchildren spent summers there. Duncan and Jean McLeod and Grace, Marjorie and Gwennyth Rice established many friendships in the community.

Robert Fraser McLeod passed away at his home on January 12, 1942, after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. McLeod continued to live in the village and was known as "Grandma" to a couple of generations of young people growing up in the community. She was an enthusiastic gardener and remained in excel-

lent health. At the age of eighty-one after the death of her daughter-in-law she took over the care of her grandchildren, Heather and Hamish.

One of the highlights of the year was the Annual Grandmother's Tea hosted by Alpha MacLean. It was a special time for renewing old acquaintances and in 1964 a special picture was taken uniting five of the earliest pioneer families in the Hay Lakes District, the Ropers, Blakelys, McLeods, Pithouses, and Lofgrens.

In November, 1970, Mrs. McLeod suffered a broken hip after a fall in her home and was confined to the hospital. But at the age of ninety-six she made a remarkable recovery and was able to banish her wheelchair to a closet and walk again. She resided in the Bethany Nursing Home until her passing on August 2, 1972.

Ann, born in 1896, married Charlie Rice of the Wetaskiwin district where they first made their home. She had six children: Grace, Marjorie, Charlie, Gweneth, Palmar and Robert. Charlie was killed in combat during World War II. The children enjoyed visiting their grandparents when they were on the farm. Ann Phillips is presently living in Victoria, British Columbia.

Neil (1898-1927): Neil joined the Army during the First World War at the young age of sixteen. While in the trenches in France he contacted tuberculosis. He married an English girl, Elsie Jacobs, and they had two children; Jean and Duncan. They lived in Hay Lakes and Neil passed away from tuberculosis in 1927. His wife stayed in Hay Lakes operating a café for a few years with the help of a sister, Nellie Campbell, who came from England. She later moved to Fort Assiniboine and then to Calgary to be near her family. She passed away in the late 1970's.

Robert (Bob — 1900-1975): Bob left the farm to go to Mirror where he worked in the Roundhouse. While there he married Mary Halsal. They had no family. Bob was transferred to Vancouver, British Columbia where he worked until his retirement. He passed away from cancer in 1975. His wife still resides in Vancouver.

James (Jim — 1902-1981): James remained on the family farm until 1967 when he moved into the village to be with his mother and children. In 1945, Jim married Margaret Moore who passed away in January, 1956. Their two children were Heather who is now an advertising manager in Edmonton, and Hamish who works in the hotel business in Calgary. William James (Jim) McLeod passed away in Victoria, British Columbia on February 18, 1981.

Findlay was born in 1909. He attended Alberta College in Edmonton and worked for a few years as a Telegraph operator. He returned to Hay Lakes to help

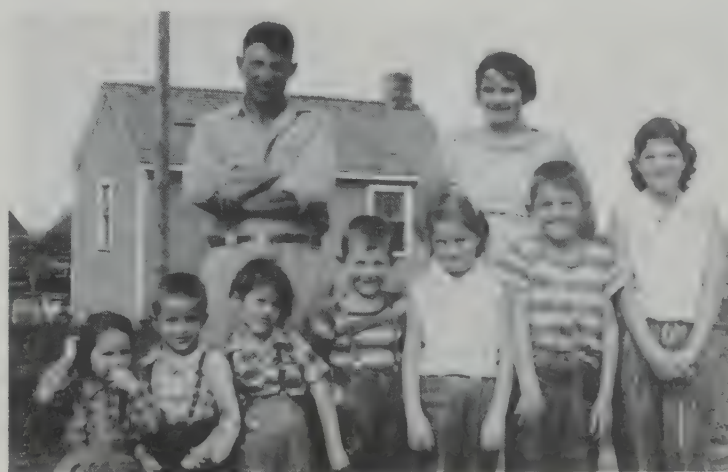
on the farm and married Lily Pithouse. They had three children: Lillian, Kenneth and Charlie. He then moved to Fort Assiniboine where he married Kate Lougheed who later passed away. He still lives there farming eight hundred acres of land with the help of his wife, the former Stetchy Miller.

Jack was born in 1913. He made Hay Lakes his home for several years starting out as a livestock buyer for Ed Schlender. He married Elizabeth Wagner of the New Sarepta area and they had one son, Roger. He moved to Barrhead where he continued buying cattle. Then he moved to Edmonton where he bought cattle for Gainers for twenty years, making a total of forty years in the business. He is now married to Irene (Johnson) Villettard and is living in Edmonton where he keeps himself busy selling Real Estate. He owns a piece of land in the Hay Lakes area near Miquelon Lake Park.

Miller, Arnold and Dora

I, Arnold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Miller, was born in Poland, October 13, 1919. I came to Canada in the beginning of August, 1939 with my parents. They made their home in the Genesee area. In 1945 they sold their farm and moved to Bittern Lake, where they bought another farm. I farmed with my father.

On July 12, 1945, we were married. Dora is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ertmann Bittner of Hay Lakes. My wife was born on December 27, 1924. She was raised and had all her schooling in Hay Lakes.



L. to R., Back: Arnold and Dora Miller. Front: Norma, Dale and Lynn (twins), Alvin, Gladys, Marvin and Sharon.

After we were married we stayed with Dora's parents until the fall of 1945, when we bought a farm west of Hay Lakes, NW 1-49-22-W4, from Rudolf Stalmaker. We moved there in October, 1945.

We have seven children: Sharon, born October

30, 1948; Marvin, born April 17, 1950; Gladys, born March 12, 1952; Alvin, born June 6, 1953; a set of twins, Dale and Lynn, born March 25, 1955 and Norma, born June 15, 1956. Sharon, Marvin and Gladys took some of their schooling in Hay Lakes.

Sharon married Lorne Lawrence of Thorsby. They have two sons, and live in the Warburg area. Marvin married Jan Myers. They live in Millwoods. Gladys married Morris Hanas of Thorsby. They have three sons and live in Drayton Valley. Alvin married Gale Mottl of Sunnybrook. They have one daughter and one son and live in Sunnybrook. Dale married Nina Scott of Drayton Valley and they live there. Lynn is single and lives in St. Albert. Norma married William Day of Edmonton. They live in the city.

Moren, Manfred

by Eva Moren

Manfred was born on October 16, 1919 in Rich Valley, Alberta. At an early age the family moved to Onoway where he received his education. He liked sports and enjoyed playing baseball. He worked for several farmers before entering the Armed Services, where he served in the Army for four and a half years.

I, Eva (Kosovich) Moren, was born in September 1920 and raised in the Hay Lake area. I received my entire formal education at Big Hay Lake school and played soft ball for the Ellswick Blue Birds for several years. I worked for Northern Alberta Dairy Pool for six years as secretary.

In 1944 we were married in Hay Lakes. We bought our first farm in Onoway in 1946 after Man-

fred was released from the Army. We rented his parents' land and machinery, and farmed both quarters of land. In 1946 our son Keith was born. We lived in Onoway until 1949 when we sold and moved to Hay Lakes.

In 1950 we bought our present farm SW 23-48-21-W4 where I still live.

In 1967 our son married a local girl (Ferne Johnson). I have three grandchildren, Rick, Karrie Anne and Todd. Keith is employed by Calgary Power Ltd. in Camrose, where they reside. He is also farming the present home farm since Manfred's death in November of 1978.

Mullan, James

James George Mullan was born in Armagh, Northern Ireland in 1907 — one of nine children born to David and Esther Mullan. As a young man he was in the British Army and spent considerable time serving in India.

He met Kathleen Simmons in England and they were married there in 1937. A daughter, Patricia, and three sons, Mike, James and Kenneth were born in England. The family emigrated to Canada in 1949. They first came to Vermilion, Alberta where Jim's brother, Robert, was farming.

Jim soon became employed with Cannor Oils and worked at various locations in Alberta. Two more daughters arrived to complete the family. Jean was born at Vermilion in 1953, and Terry was born at Ponoka in 1955.

The family moved to Hay Lakes in 1957 where Jim was employed with Fina Oils. James and Kitty were both active in the community and were always willing to lend a helping hand. Kitty and Esther Dyck were instrumental in organizing the Girl Guides at Hay Lakes in January, 1962, and Kitty served as the Assistant Leader. She was also a member of the



Manfred and Eva Moren with Keith 1947.



James Mullan Family. L. to R.: Jim, Kitty holding Terry, Mike, James, Ken. Front: Jean 1958.

Lutheran Church Women and taught Sunday School at St. Joseph Lutheran Church.

James was an active member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. He was also on the board of directors for the J-L Credit Union and was involved in the Hay Lakes Home and School Association. Jim loved his cup of tea. He said he had tried coffee once but that was the first and last time! Jim was always the life of a party and could never be topped when it came to telling jokes. One incident recalled was at the time of his retirement. A member of the family had placed a sticker on his car which said, "I'm not a dirty old man but just a sexy senior citizen." Jim had the last laugh after coming home from downtown when he told his family that he had to remove the sign because everytime he parked his car there were too many notes tucked under his windshield wiper with names and addresses of ladies wanting to get to know him better.

While at Hay Lakes the Mullan family had the misfortune to lose their home and all their belongings in a house fire on December 26, 1960. The family had gone to Edmonton that day and when they returned home everything was burnt to the ground. They had the pleasure of celebrating their twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary while at Hay Lakes and they were honored at a program and social afternoon held in St. Joseph Lutheran church.

Following their departure from Hay Lakes in 1966, Jim continued to work with Fina Oils at numerous locations and was at Carnduff, Saskatchewan at the time of his retirement in 1972. They then moved to Camrose where Jim passed away suddenly in November, 1973. He is interred in St. Joseph Lutheran cemetery.

Kitty continues to make her home in Camrose. A daughter, Pat, (Mrs. Stan Garbe) also lives in Camrose and has five daughters. Mike spent several years in Libya and Saudi Arabia with General Seismic International. He is presently employed with Gulf Oil and based at Calgary. James married a local girl, Sharon Leicht. They have two sons and live in Wainwright. Ken married Leslie Clayton of Edmonton. They live at Spruce Grove and have two children.

Jean has been employed at the Centennial Library in Edmonton for the past ten years. She married Eugene Stefiuk in 1981 and they make their home in Edmonton. Terry, the youngest, enjoys travelling and has recently spent a year in Australia. At present she is at home with her mother in Camrose.

Neuman, Leonard and Family

We moved to the Hay Lakes area in the spring of 1965. We have three children.

Carol is married to Bill Park. They live at Jack Fish Lake, two miles south of Lacombe. They have two children, Bradley, thirteen and Shannon, ten. Bill is employed with Ameralda Minerals Corporation of Canada Limited as an electrical inspector of gas plants and construction superintendent.

Allen is married to Eleanor Bealing of Calgary. They live at Squamish, British Columbia. They have two children, Lea-Anne, age twelve, and David Allen, age three. Allen is a first Officer with Canadian Pacific Airlines.

Doug is married to Kim Hucaluk of Camrose. They have one little girl Cori-Anne. Doug operates his own excavating and landscaping business.

We have retired from farming and enjoy living in the Okanagan.

Emil Nickel History

submitted by Mrs. Ella (Bodener) Ritz

Emil Nickel and his wife Bertha lived for sixteen years on their farm two miles north of Hay Lakes. Although farming was a struggle during the depression years, they managed to carry on a progressive and successful farming operation. Before continuing to expand on their life in this area, some past events and background information should be recorded.

Life in the 'old country', namely Russia, was quite happy and progressive for most of the 'transplanted' hardworking German people in Volhynia before the First World War. Emil Nickel was born in



Bertha, Emil Nickel and Julius Bodener and three youngest Bodener children; Dorleen, Clarence and Agnes (1937), during Mrs. Bodener's hospitalization.

Andreof, Volhynia, Russia in 1887. He attended school for four winters and helped his father on the farm. As recorded in his biography (1977), a highlight of his life was his conversion to Christ in 1908, which thereafter dictated his life style according to Christian principles. He conducted many Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings in much of the surrounding area near Andreof at this time. Then in early 1915 he was called into military service in the Russian army. After three years of army camps, much hardship and illness, he returned home safely to a disrupted, war-ravaged home.

In 1918 at the age of thirty he happily married Bertha Bodener. The year before, in 1917, the difficult years had begun. Revolution, communism, starvation and disease were rampant. Many people died of typhus. Emil Nickel's services to the Christian community were many, as he was commissioned during this political upheaval to take the place of a minister in the performance of funerals. However, fearing persecution, even death, for his belief in God, he and his family made preparations to emigrate to Canada.

Emil Nickel arrived in Canada in April, 1925, with his wife, his mother Susanna (nee Diewert) and his two brothers, August and Daniel. On arrival at Strathcona by train from the east, they were happily reunited with relatives who had immigrated many years earlier. His brother Ludwig, who had immigrated in 1910, had settled with his family on a farm a few miles west of Ellerslie. His mother's sister, Mrs. Christian Paul, lived about fifteen miles south of Edmonton and there were other friends and relatives who had settled in this area. He worked on his brother's farm for a year, then rented some land, acquired a few horses and cattle, and purchased some machinery to start a farming operation. He was grateful to friends who gave them a buggy, a cow and a horse, and helped with other necessities. He purchased his first car in 1928 for \$300.00 in time to accommodate his brother-in-law, Julius Bodener and his family who were arriving from Russia in April of that year.

Soon after, he purchased two quarters of land in the Hay Lakes area from Mrs. Floringe Elliott, for \$12,000, with a down payment of \$5,000, and a loan from a friend of \$2,000 for operating costs. Returns for farm produce and grain were very good at this time. Wheat sold for about \$3.00 a bushel. They cleared and seeded some of their land and had a good harvest that fall. Then came the depression! The price of wheat dropped to six cents a bushel, eggs fifty cents for three dozen, and \$2.00 perhaps, for a large can of cream. They were unable to make their payments according to their agreement and thus lost their farm and initial down payment. However, with

the help and encouragement of neighbors, they re-bought the farm — only one quarter, for \$3,100; the other was bought by Paul Huebner.

Hard work, ingenuity and perseverance in these years helped the Nickels build a rewarding life. Slowly prices for produce improved and the economy looked brighter. Emil Nickel was very anxious to improve life on the farm. He soon operated a threshing-machine driven by a John Deere Tractor and tried to purchase the most modern machinery. In 1940 he bought his first new car, a white Ford Coupe. However, the roads were not always conducive to car travel.

When building a new house in 1935, he was the first in that area to install an electric light plant with batteries charged by a windmill. Also a well was dug in the annex of the basement, bringing water into the house. At first a hand pump near the kitchen sink was used and then a water pressure system was installed. This enabled them to have a modern bathtub, flush toilet, and water taps for the kitchen.

Every year Emil would buy bees and extract honey from the cones, a commodity greatly enjoyed by him throughout his long life. He also rigged a telephone line to some of the neighbors. This delighted his wife Bertha and neighbour Mrs. Powloski; they used it every day.

In 1937, when Mrs. Nickel's sister-in-law, Mrs. Bodener, contracted tuberculosis, she opened her home and heart to the three youngest Bodener children and looked after them while their mother was hospitalized for one year and during convalescence. The two older children eventually returned home but Clarence (two and one-half years now) stayed on. His aunt loved him dearly and did not wish to part with him. Therefore, Clarence grew up in the Nickel home.

Clarence attended Hay Lakes school for his first and second grade. His teacher was Mrs. Mittlestead. He remembers walking each morning, lunch pail in hand, the one and a half miles across the field to the village school. It was difficult at first to learn the English language, as only German was spoken at home.

In 1929, the Nickels' joined the Evangelical Church near New Sarepta. Church was very important to them and they attended regularly, even in the cold winter. Emil Nickel held many key positions in the church organization. He was well versed in the Bible and could recite many verses from memory. Many neighbors and friends remember him conducting cottage prayer meetings.

When Clarence was nine years old, the family decided to move to British Columbia. Thus, the farm was sold for about \$7,000 to Albert Lachman. The

sale was conducted by Fred Schlender, auctioneer, in Augst, 1944.

In Chilliwack, B.C. they bought a dairy farm and operated that successfully for 15 years, at which time they built a new house in the city of Chilliwack and retired there. Clarence and his wife, Mary (nee Drews), still live on the same farm, although the dairy business has been sold.

Emil and Bertha Nickel celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1968, and almost reached sixty years of married life. However, Emil contracted cancer of the throat, in 1977 and after a six-month struggle, passed away in April, 1978. His wife continued living in their home till a heart attack took her life the 4th of January, 1981.

P.S. To us five Bodener children, (Alma, Leo, Ella, Agnes and Dorleen), Uncle Emil and Aunt Bertha were like second parents. Having no other close relatives in Canada, we appreciated their loving kindness and fellowship to our family throughout the years. Auntie was known for her good cooking and superb baking, especially her doughnuts. Many happy memories will linger on.

Olson, Thomas

by Loyde Thompson

Thomas Olson (Björnstad) was born in Ystre Toten, Norway in 1850; his wife Andrina was born in Norway in 1852. They had ten children, all born in

Norway. In 1902 they came to Canada with four children and homesteaded on the SW 30-49-21-W4. He registered for the homestead as a blacksmith, and was sponsored by Fred Henkelman and Hans Sandbu. In 1906 he applied for citizenship papers and also received the title to his homestead.

The children of Thomas Olson (Björnstad) are Martin, Brandt, Olina, Carolina, Agnet, Tina, Severina, Johan, Ole and Toale.

Martin married Nina Vigor from North Dakota in 1898. They had ten children.



Andrina Olson.



Thomas Olson (Björnstad)

Toale married Isabella Vigor from North Dakota. They had ten children.

These two sons changed their name to Thompson before leaving Norway.

Brandt died as a young man and is buried near Camrose.

Olina married Jonas Smith, and had four children.

Tina married Emil Lippert, and had three children. Emil died in June 1914. She remarried Fred Hirsch, and had eight children.

Carolina married Hilmer Grahm, and had eight children.

These children remained in Norway:

Agnet married John Arndt Hassle, and had two children.

Severina married Oscar Solbaken, and had eleven children.

Johan died in 1934, had one son. (No information available).

Ole died as a child in Norway.

For reasons unknown, Thomas Olson dropped the name of Björnstad after taking up the homestead. He died May 17, 1919 and his wife Andrina died August 17, 1922. Both are buried in the St. Joseph's cemetery north of Hay Lakes.

Parno, Karl

Karl was born in 1860 in Russia and his wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1877. In 1903 they decided to leave Russia and immigrated to Canada with their young family. They lived in Saskatchewan and British Columbia before coming to Alberta in 1908. They rented NW 30-48-21-W4 for several years.



Henschell Blacksmith and Implement Shop — 1925. In the foreground are the Rosenthal children, Otto, Edmund, Olga and baby Wilfred.

Their oldest son, Emil, remained in Saskatchewan where he farmed. Their three daughters all met and married local young men in the Hay Lakes area.

Anna married William Henschell, and they farmed south of the village. Emilie married Ferdinand Henschell, who was a local blacksmith. Martha married Emil Rosenthal, a farmer west of the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Parno and their other three children, Reinhold, August and Ida returned to Saskatchewan. Later they moved to Portland, Oregon where they retired and Karl passed away in 1946 and Elizabeth in 1957.

John Pawloske Family

John Ludwig Pawloske, better known as Dad, was born in Rovno, Russia in 1886. His father, a miller, died when he was seven years old, so he learned the meaning of hard work at an early age.

The future for the people of the Russian-Poland territory did not look very promising. In addition to poverty, they also lived under the constant threat of war. As an adventurous sixteen-year-old lad, Dad said farewell to his mother, two brothers, Otto and Adam, and his sister, Josephine. He left on a journey that he hoped would take him to America, the land of freedom and opportunity.

He gradually worked his way to Austria, then Germany and finally, boarded ship bound for Canada. He spent some time in Quebec before going to Winnipeg, where he was joined by his brother, Otto. Jobs were scarce, and he felt fortunate to be working as a laborer. The salary for a sixteen-hour day was fifty cents.

Eventually Dad and Otto moved to Edmonton, a growing city of about five thousand people. As a laborer, he helped construct some of today's familiar buildings, such as the Parliament Building, the High Level Bridge and the University of Alberta. The future looked promising and Dad was happy when his mother and sister also arrived in Edmonton.

One night while attending a church function, Dad met Lydia Kiel and as he put it, "It was love at first sight." Lydia was born in Lublin, Poland, in 1891. She, along with her parents, two brothers, Emil and Edward, and sister, Tillie, came to Alberta to join her brother, Gustav Kiel, who had preceeded them. Dad and Mother were married in 1911. They moved into the house Dad had built in South Edmonton.

Jobs became scarce and Dad went to work in a coal mine. An explosion in the mine burned him severely, but he returned to the mine eventually to become foreman.

In 1912, Dad bought a farm two and one-half miles north of Hay Lakes. There he built a cabin, and



The John Pawloske Family 1963. L. to R., Standing: Elsie, Otto, Ida, Hugo and Violet. Seated: Mr. and Mrs. Pawloske.

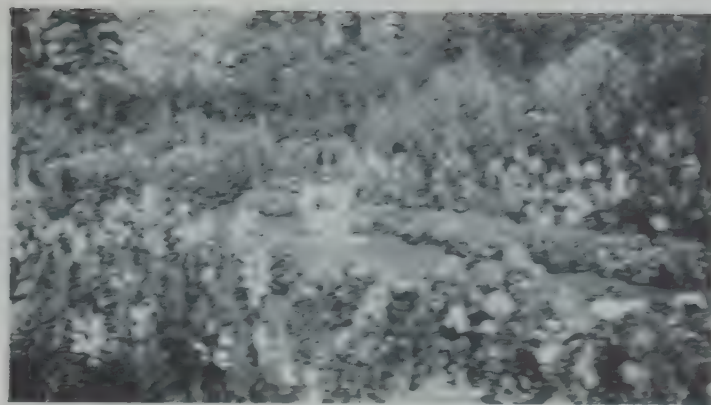
in 1917. Dad, Mother and their young son, Edward, moved to the homestead.

Our house had to be enlarged to accommodate the growing family of six children: Edward, Violet, Otto, Hugo, Ida, and Elsie. In addition, there were frequent visitors in the Pawloske home. A number of families coming from Europe found refuge at our place until they had a home of their own. Two of these families were the August Schachtschneiders and the Gus Lechts. Both of these families had daughters born to them while they stayed at our place.

Money was scarce, and Mother supplemented the family income by selling eggs, poultry, vegetables and butter. Her favourite hobby was gardening, and her garden was one of the focal points in the area. People from miles around would come to admire it. They would often leave with bags of fresh vegetables or slips from her plants. Bouquets of flowers from her garden adorned the churches for many weddings.

All six children attended New Sarepta Rural School. The two and one-half mile walk seemed like a long way, especially when the temperature dipped to thirty degrees below zero. Our hands and feet were kept warm by the mitts and socks that Mother knitted from raw wool which she spun into yarn.

Some pleasant memories are playing in the oversized sandbox filled with white sand from Joseph Lake and making miniature reed boats which we sailed on the crystal clear water of the natural spring on the farm. Sometimes when we had visitors from the city, several of us would join hands putting our guest at the end of the line. The leader would touch the electrified fence giving the visitor quite a shock



Mrs. Pawloske's garden on the farm with granddaughter Joanne Seitz. This flower garden won the \$100.00 prize in Bowden's seed catalogue. They also used it as a cover picture for the next years catalogue.

which he didn't appreciate. However, all was forgiven when Mother served mounds of delicious home-made ice cream.

In 1961, the family and many friends gathered together to celebrate our parent's 50th wedding anniversary. A few years later, after having lived on the farm for forty-five years they retired and returned to South Edmonton, only a few blocks from their original home. In 1971, they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Dad passed away in 1972, and Mother joined him four years later.

Although they are no longer with us, the love and hand of friendship they extended touched many lives. We are proud to say that John and Lydia Pawloske, pioneers of Alberta, were our parents.

Edward Pawloske married Ann Heinz and moved to a farm in McBride, B.C. Ed passed away in 1977. He is survived by his wife, one son, Vernon, and daughter, Joy, and one granddaughter.

Violet Pawloske married Staff Sergeant Lorenzo Kimball in 1945. After a short stay in Edmonton and Salt Lake City, Utah, they moved to Oakland, California, where they presently reside. Their son, Ronald, married Conny Nordin in 1980.

Otto Pawloske had his name changed to Ernest Pawl. He served in the R.C.A.F. during World War II and later in Korea with the Canadian Army. Following a medical discharge, he returned to Edmonton and married Lois Gaetz in 1956. They have four sons: Randy, Darren (married to Karen Day), Brian, Bruce and one daughter Leanne. They all reside in Edmonton.

Hugo Pawloske had his name changed to Hugh Pawl. He left the farm to pursue a career as a welder. In 1955, he married Elma Baker and moved to an acreage in Sherwood Park. They have five children: Darlene (married to Dwane Kunitz) has one son and resides in Ottawa, Wayne works and resides in Edmonton, Sherry Lynn (married to Greg Holban) has

two sons and resides in Edmonton, Valerie (married to Jamie Heatly) has a son and daughter and lives in Edmonton, Aubin attends school in Sherwood Park.

Ida Pawloske married George Seitz in 1946. They lived in New York City for twenty years before moving to Oakland, California. They have two daughters, Georgette (married to David Pratt) has one daughter and resides in Oakland, and Joanne is employed as a program analyst in Oakland. George passed away in 1971 and in 1977, Ida married Robert McEntire.

Elsie Pawloske graduated from Edmonton General Hospital as a Registered Nurse in 1950, and is a post graduate of Ponoka Mental Hospital. She married John Hinkley in 1952. They lived in Ponoka until 1957, when they moved to Castro Valley, California where they presently reside. They have a daughter, Melodie, who lives and works in California, and a son, Kevin (married to Julie Lospino) who has a son and daughter.

Pidkowa, Peter and Agnes

by Agnes Pidkowa

Peter Pidkowa was born on May 24, 1924 in Kamaro, Ukraine, the son of Maria and Hom Pidkowa. In 1948 he came to Edmonton.

I was born in Radom, Poland on October 10, 1926, daughter of Mary and John Takarska and came directly to Edmonton in 1948.

Peter and I were married in Devon. He works for Imperial Oil, and I work in the Bethany Auxiliary Hospital in Camrose as a Nursing Aide.

We came to Hay Lakes in 1976 at which time we purchased a piece of land (five acres) NW 7-49-22-W4 one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes.

At present we are living in Camrose but we hope to make Hay Lakes our home. Upon retirement we have plans to move to our acreage which we have named "Horse Shoe Ranch".

We have five children, Lawrence born on March 11, 1951, Terry on September 15, 1955, Mary-Kay on April 10, 1961, Patricia Ann on April 6, 1963, and James Donald on June 28, 1965. All the children are married except James. We were blessed with one grandchild, Kajsa Nichole, daughter of Patricia and Randy Beck. She was born on July 27, 1981.

Peter and I have found the people of Hay Lakes to be very friendly and always willing to lend a helping hand. We have made many new friends there and are looking forward to the day when we can call Hay Lakes "our home" and donate our time to the community.

Biography of the Pithouse Family

My father, Henry George Pithouse, was born in London, England, in 1873. At the turn of the century he decided to leave his homeland and emigrate to Canada where he would be free of the frustration of living in a large city.



Mr. H. G. Pithouse and Nellie in early 1900's on the south bank of the Saskatchewan River. Near where the Low Level Bridge is now situated.

In 1901, Dad filed on a homestead which at the time was known to be in the North West Territories. In the years to come, this quarter, S.E. 6-49-21-W4th, would become part of the town site of Hay Lakes. Before the railroad was built from Strathcona to Camrose, the Town of Hay Lakes had been known as "Pithouse". At that time, Dad was asked to suggest a name for the town; with the numerous lakes and hay in the surrounding area he thought "Hay Lakes" would be appropriate. In 1915, the town was renamed "Hay Lakes" when the train service commenced. Seems the Canadian National had been satisfied with the name, as that is the name it carries to this day.

In the early years, the roads followed the high land whenever possible, to get away from the low, swampy places. The Old Battleford to Edmonton Trail ran on the west side of the lake and most probably ruts can be found there after all these years. On Simon Grue's land and on Dad's land, S.E. 6-49-21-W4th, these ruts were very visible.

I believe Mr. Chettleborough and my Dad arrived in Edmonton at about the same time and filed on homesteads, the two sets of buildings were quite near to each other. Mr. Chettleborough's buildings were just about where the "Centennial Park" is today.

Dad had to put up a shack when he arrived on the homestead. It had a sod roof, which by all accounts, was wet for much longer than the duration of the

storm. In the next few years he managed to get a mower, rake, wagon and hayrack, some cattle and three horses. When he had any business to transact he had to drive or ride to Strathcona, which was quite a long journey. If you crossed the Saskatchewan River it would have been by ferry. On one occasion, my Dad had been bothered with a toothache so decided he would ride in to Strathcona and have it extracted. Upon arrival, the dentist was not available until the next day. As he had stock in the barn to care for, Dad returned home and did up chores and rode back the following day to have the tooth removed.

Over the many years Dad had livestock; he never neglected them. In the next few years, he put up a log barn for the horses and a couple of other small buildings. Dad had mortgaged the homestead for \$500.00 with ten per cent interest from John Litster. This had helped him purchase the necessities to set up and prove the homestead. The mortgage was paid off in January, 1906; now he was the proud owner of 160 acres of land. Evidently he did not wait too long after he gained title to send for mother, Lillian Ada Charlotte Maton, who was born in 1879 at Cheriton, a small village in Hampshire, England. Upon her arrival, they were married in Leduc, Alberta, on October 13, 1906.



Mrs. H. G. Pithouse.

Dear Mum was very homesick and the nearest neighbors were two miles away, Mrs. Bud Blakely to the south, and Mrs. Elliott to the north. Mom did not have too much time to feel sorry for herself, as the winter of 1906-07 was one of the worst to contend with — very cold with lots of snow. Mum said she put in most of her time cutting wood with a bucksaw, her feet wrapped up in gunny sacks as she only had light shoes, and no money to purchase warm ones. She told me if she could have walked back to her beloved home in England, she would have gone many times. My Mum did not come from ancestors that gave up easily, so she carried on as well as she could. As the weeks and months rolled by she learned to cope — to milk a wild range cow that she was sure had never laid eyes on a woman in its life. By all accounts it was quite an adventure, but in time, Mum won the battle. There was no separator then, so the milk was set in shallow pans and the cream was skimmed off the top the next day. The butter making was easy, you only needed a can with a tight lid and strong arms to shake it, but one must remember to let the air out once in awhile or else look out when the whole issue would blow up! A few years later a churn would replace the can.

During the first winter, Mum found a friend in a very wild cat that was around the buildings, and through time he went most everywhere with her. “Thomas” was with us for eighteen years and we missed him very much when he died.

A great treasure Mum had was her sewing machine, and when it rained she had to sit on it with an umbrella to shed the rain; this does not sound like too great of a pastime to me.

My parents managed for many years with water hauled from the lake with a stoneboat and a barrel, and hauled by a horse. In the winter, a hole was cut in the ice and water pailed out. The lake water was always strained and boiled before use. Often in winter, snow water was used to make tea and cook with, and when available, clean rain water was used for the same purposes during the summer.

Mother was very fond of trees and all plants in general, and had planted maple, lilac and caragana in the very early years on the homestead. The maple especially were large trees, as long as I can remember, and were very attractive in autumn after a frost, with their varied colored leaves.

The neighbors helped Dad put up a new log house around 1908. It had three bedrooms upstairs, with a kitchen and front room on the ground floor. This, to them, was a wonderful change from the old sod roof shack; it was both warm and dry.

I, Gwendolyn Helena Charlotte Muir (Pithouse), was born in this house on March 14, 1909; a midwife,

Mrs. Fred Hirsh took care of Mum. It was a very cold winter, as I heard folks talk about it in later years.

After the house had been built, it was time to get more land cleared for crops. It was all hand work with the help of a team of horses, it took a great deal of work and little was accomplished in a year. With the new land under cultivation, my parents tried growing potatoes, and after all the back-breaking work they did to produce the crop, they had the almost impossible task of transporting them to the market which was in Edmonton. There was one particularly bad creek to cross near Looking Back Lake in the vicinity of Bretona, and the wagon became stuck in the mud. Dad had to carry the potatoes across, bag by bag, until the wagon carried less weight and the horses were able to pull the remainder of the load and wagon out of the mud; then reload. Upon sale they received \$1.00 per bag, far from a paying proposition.

With the great number of lakes and sloughs dotting the countryside, travel in summer was made very uncomfortable due to the hordes of mosquitoes that would rise up from the foliage; the further you travelled, the larger the ravenous cloud of mosquitoes became. Smudge pails were hung on the end of the wagon pole which helped some, to protect the horses. The driver and those travelling with him usually wore a light veil over their hats and this came down to the shoulders to give protection to the face. Most farm yards in the early years had a smudge for the protection of the farm animals which were almost continually disturbed by mosquitoes, especially in the early morning and evening. A smudge was made of wood and whatever burned well, then barnyard manure was added as needed, to keep it smoldering to give off the protective smoke.

The well was dug by hand by the Sikstrom brothers, it was square and large enough for one man to dig while the other hauled up the earth by the pailful, which was quite hard work. It was about twenty-two feet deep, a good well over the years, with an ample supply of water. When the creamery put down their well, our well did not have the previous volume due to the creamery's heavy use of water. Most probably the two wells were on the same water vein.

Dad had a great fondness for horses; they were well fed and cared for. Over the years he raised and sold many fine Percheron horses. In 1912, they had a sale of horses, this brought them in the first money which would provide them with a few of the things most needed; one of which was a DeLaval cream separator. Now Mum could milk more cows to help buy groceries or whatever was needed.

A large flock of chickens also helped to provide necessities, as well as eggs which ranged from five to

ten cents per dozen, and butter in early days was fifteen cents per pound, so grocery orders were very limited. Prairie chicken, partridge and rabbit were very plentiful, seems I always remember rabbits under the kitchen table that Dad had shot while out doing his early morning chores. Although Mum tried various ways of preparation, it still was rabbit, and it became very tiresome to say the least. We had an abundance of fresh vegetables during the summer and into mid-winter.

My parents did not spend too much on luxuries, although an Edison gramophone was purchased in March 1911. It was shipped by rail to Camrose and Mr. Martin Thompson brought it to our home. Dad had a good voice and many times would sing along with a record. One of his favorites was "A Miners Dream of Home".

It was just after the sale of the horses that Dad had the house finished inside and out; a man by the name of Jackson did the work. He lived in Strathcona.

About the same time, well before any bridges were built over the Saskatchewan River, a farmer north-west of the city bought a heifer from Dad. This animal was loaded in a wagon box and went by ferry across the river to her new home, but she must not have appreciated her new surroundings, for about six weeks later she returned home. My parents were amazed to realize she had travelled sixty miles and had to swim the Saskatchewan River, which was a miracle in itself; shows animals are pretty smart! My parents said that if she thought so much of her home, she would not have to return, so the farmer was refunded his money in full.

The first Post Office was run by Poulett Elliott, two miles north of Hay Lakes, but at that time the mailing address was New Sarepta. I believe Martin Westad had the Post Office in his store on what would be known in later years as the Robert McLeod farm. My Mum became Postmistress in her home around 1912. This Post Office was about one-quarter mile east of Hay Lakes. Salary paid was quite low, but as the years went by it improved. In 1914, when the Pithouse and Broen general store was opened, Mum ran the Post Office from there and continued to do so, until Mr. Gammon took over around 1919. He was followed by Jim Carberry, who had a drug store in the front part of the building, and the post office and telephone exchange in the rear. In 1931, Mr. Ogilvie took over as Postmaster and ran it for many years.

The dreadful flu epidemic broke out in the latter part of 1917. Mother took care of the store and post office, as well as caring for my Dad and myself, who were in bed very seriously ill with the flu. I can remember I was out playing with my dog, a little way from the house when I became so weak and ill I could

hardly get home. I was in bed for three weeks, and so was my Dad. Dr. Nordbye, who worked out of Camrose, had practically no sleep as he travelled almost day and night to help those that were ill; he was a most outstanding doctor. Mum gave out prescribed medicine which Dr. Nordbye left with her; as he could not take time to deliver them himself, as he was far too busy caring for those that were so ill. Mum also took care of the farm animals, as well as her flock of hens, so she was very busy and very tired. Her guardian angel must have kept good watch over her, for she never contracted the dreaded flu.

In 1918, after so much hard work and not getting too much in return, my parents and Mr. Broen decided to rent the store and buildings out. I think Mr. Hughes rented the store.

In 1919, my mother thought it would be a good time to return to England and have a holiday and visit loved ones. Dad would take care of the farm and I would accompany my mother. We left in early April and stayed until August; many fond memories come to mind, for a ten year old it is all fun!

Dad had mentioned that he would like to try raising sheep when he went back to the farm. Mum was dead against the whole idea. A neighbour of ours had a fine herd of sheep, so while we were away, Dad purchased a number of ewes — Mum was not impressed when she saw them, but had to go along with it. Of course there were orphan lambs or lambs that an ornery ewe would not take — guess who ended up feeding them. They are no fun to feed, they climb all over you, tramp on your feet, and spill milk on your clothes. Over the years, Mum learned to get along with sheep too.

We had a very splendid little ewe lamb called “Betty”, who would sometimes get in and ride on the front seat of the old ramshackle Ford my parents had purchased from the Drainage District; as they had finished using it. Betty would ride up on the front seat with Mum when she delivered cream to the Creamery, and she was as proud as a peacock. At times she would sneak in the house if the door was open, and sleep on the old chesterfield. I had a beautiful book called “Chatterbox” that one of my aunts had sent me from England as a Christmas gift. I had left it on the chesterfield; when I came in from outside, here was Betty removing pages one by one, guess she liked the sound of the paper ripping. I am surprised she did not end up lamb chops! Betty was with us for many years, but we had to put her with the other sheep so she would get the idea that she was a sheep, and not a person.

Dad was a very well-educated man, and upon his arrival in Strathcona the men he met, like Dr. H. C. Rutherford who later became the first Premier of

Alberta, tried to talk him out of the idea of homesteading; but his mind was made up. He wanted the freedom to design his life to his own liking. Many neighbors came to our home to get business letters written, or possibly a letter recently received to be explained. Dad was always glad to oblige and though many times he was offered remuneration for his kindness in helping out, he always declined with “Thanks”, and said he was pleased to be able to help in some small way.

Dad was a Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He signed birth, marriage and death certificates, and kept vital statistics for the government. Some court hearings were held at our home in the very early years. He was Game Guardian, also Brand Reader. He took care of brands for livestock, and of the brand readings in case of a stray showing up. It would be his duty to decipher the brand and find the right owner. The Pithouse brand for cattle and horses was S. He also took care of The Broadhead Papers for the N.W.M. Police.

In the early years as the N.W.M. Police rode through the country checking on each homestead to see that all was well, they very regularly, stayed at our home overnight. Their horses were beautiful and the uniform the men wore always looked so sharp. I learned to have great respect for them, which I still have to this day.

Dad was Returning Officer at many elections. Some were held in schools away in various parts of the district, but more often in the early years, they were held in our home. If they were at our home, Mum would be poll clerk, but if Dad was away, Mum would have to remain home to take care of the livestock. At one election in our home, a Norwegian gentleman that lived east of Hay Lakes, came in to vote. Dad asked him if he had his naturalization papers, which at that time people needed to vote. “Oh yes,” he said, “I have them right here, I put them in my pocket before I left home.” He handed the paper to Dad and upon unfolding it, Dad found it was for the registration of a Shorthorn bull! They had a good laugh, and I imagine he was allowed to cast his vote.

When the Canadian National Railway decided to build the railway from Camrose to Edmonton, land was purchased from Dad’s homestead. The land was bought for \$20.00 per acre. Dad was asked to accompany the first carload of cattle to leave Hay Lakes by rail, to be sold in Calgary. They were unloaded in Red Deer, where they were fed and watered, and reloaded in the morning and then continued the trip to the Calgary market.

In 1917, the United Farmers of Alberta built a hall on Dad’s land, which he let them use free of charge.

This building was used for U.F.A. meetings for some time. I can remember it being used as a school in about 1920. Our teacher at that time was Mr. O'Conner. He was quite an elderly gentleman. There were no more than a dozen children for the first term. This building was moved shortly after to its present location, and was used as a school under two excellent teachers, Mr. George Davies and Mr. Earl Samis.

In 1915, the Manning Southerland Lumber Co. had the first lumber yard in Hay Lakes; with Mr. Cubbins as the Manager. This was also situated on Dad's land. It was east of the Pithouse and Broen store, almost opposite the U.F.A. Hall. The road ran between.

In the early 1930's, Dad had saved up the wool from his herd of sheep (due to low prices), and had it stored in the building the store had previously occupied. Albert Wensel came to haul it to the Alberta Wool Growers in Edmonton. It was a very high load — when they tried to get it in the United Grain Growers elevator to weigh the wool, the load was too high, they almost took off the top bags! When the load was weighed in Edmonton, they had seven tons. I would say that was the largest load of wool that ever left Hay Lakes.



Cash crop on the Pithouse farm.

Bob and Jim McLeod always did the shearing of Dad's sheep, which was all done with hand clippers. He was always very pleased with their work. The bags the wool were held in were very large. Bob and Jim made a square wood frame, about ten feet high, then hooked the bag to the four corners. As the fleeces were added they were tramped down, that way a bag would hold more fleeces. When Bob and Jim moved to Mirror to live on a quarter purchased there in the early 30's, Dad gave the shearing job to Ralph Hatfield. His wife was post-mistress at Lunemo for many years. They moved to Nova Scotia where Mr. Hatfield passed away a year or so ago (1980); and Mrs. Hatfield now resides in a Senior citizens home.



Mrs. Pithouse and Gwen (Lily) looking after the lambs.

Robert McLeod, Joe Kramer, and my Dad were trustees for the Hay Lakes school board for many years, they must have been satisfactory for they carried out their duties for a number of years. When the Hay Lakes Drainage District was formed in 1922, Charles Holmberg, John Sware, and Dad were Directors for many years; I cannot remember anyone else being on the board then, and Mother was Secretary-Treasurer. It was no small job to get the whole affair rolling. The depth of good soil had to be measured, then analyzed, to see if the amount of money that would be borrowed could be paid back over the coming years, or if the whole thing would go belly up. It was found that the depth of good, usable soil was eight feet (which was duck muck over the centuries). It was not only the lake which was drained, but smaller lakes and sloughs, mostly to the north-east and north-west. Keils, Hinkelmans, Sagarets and Swares, to mention a few, benefited from the drainage. The smaller ditches were done by scraper or fresno, for the large ditch digger was far too cumbersome to use on small ditches. It travelled to its most distant point, then worked its way back. It moved by cable, a hole was dug some distance ahead of the digger, a tie or whatever could take the tremendous pull was placed in the hole; a stationary engine on the ditcher moved it up, little by little, by winching the cable in. It was slow, but did a satisfactory job. The last part was done by horse and scraper. The joining up of the ditch to the water was done by hand; as the water level lowered, more handwork kept it on the move. A man by the name of Jones, and his two sons owned the ditcher; it remained where the job was completed for a number of years. Over the years Dad had the use of the land next to the drained lake land, and he was able to purchase the adjoining land which would give him two full quarters plus his homestead quarter.

The first year it was drained, the land would not carry the weight of a person, as he had hoped it would. That way he could use a cyclone seeder and put it all down to grass; but he had to wait until the following year. He then proceeded to the enormous task of walking up and down. I had to walk up the line of footprints last done, so he could judge distance by my distance from him. It was a horrid job, which I really disliked. It did not turn out as good as Dad expected, a great deal of foxtail had blown in over the past year, and it took over quickly. The wee seedlings did not have a chance to root with so much competition. In about two years when the soil would carry horses, it was plowed up and worked down. This time it was seeded to oats, with a horse drawn drill. The grass seeder was attached to the front of the grain box on the drill. This seeding turned out well, some seeded to timothy, much of which was shipped to Edmonton to feed the delivery horses. At this time practically everything was delivered by horse drawn vehicles. Some brome was seeded, this produced three tons per acre.

With many more tons of hay to put up, the old wagon and hayrack were put aside. Dad purchased a new overshot stacker from Adolph Adams, who was machinery dealer at this time. Two power sweeps were also purchased, one new, and the other was shipped in from Southern Alberta by rail. I presume they were called power sweeps as the operator could lift and lower the sweep teeth as required. This new type of sweep was a great improvement over the older ones previously used with the horses so far apart, that the driver walked more than he rode. It was a dusty, tiresome job, the power sweep was more convenient and the operator rode at all times. A large amount of hay could be moved on a good, dry day. Dad drove the stacker team which took the hay up and dropped it on the stack, there two men spread it around, building the stack. I drove one sweep team, a hired man handled the other.

Some years Dad was able to take a second crop, though not heavy, the quality was exceptionally good. This he would reserve for the ewes at lambing time. The main crop was baled in late fall or winter by Martin Hinkelman, with the help of his hired men. This was a stationary baler which had to be moved from stack to stack. The bales were done up with wire, which came in lengths. One man put the wire around the bale, then twisted it so it would stay tight.

As the orders came in for hay or straw, the bales were hauled by team and sleigh to box cars. Quite usual during these years the men were paid \$10.00 per month with room and board, as most were pleased to be able to have a place to hang their hat and call it home. A sad situation, but true.

During the dry years of 1937 and 1938, this feed was shipped out by rail to many places; some of which were Oyen, Benton, Chinook, Sedalia, Excel, Ester, Sibbald, Pollockville, Naco and Laveania. Some feed was shipped to Saskatchewan.

During this period Dad tried growing Garnet wheat on lake land, but due to the very rich soil it was a problem, even with lifters attached to the cutting bar on the binder. Lodged crops ripen very unevenly, which would cause the grain threshed to be of poor quality, some sold as low as twenty-two cents per bushel. It was in the long run, far better to produce a crop of hay with less trouble and expense. When Dad had grain to be threshed, Robert McLeod and his sons did the job, as he had never invested in any power machinery. He did try a couple of times to drive the old Ford, but gave up in disgust with a few cuss words which would not be acceptable here.

In the early 1920's, an airplane landed in our meadow due to some problem, and caused a little excitement as you did not see many around at that time, nor near enough to examine at close range.

There was a very destructive hail storm in the early 20's, Dad was mowing hay. My dear friend, Ella Nelson and I had the job of taking tea out to Dad about 4:00 p.m. or so, each afternoon. There were dark clouds gathering most of the afternoon, moving in very slowly. While Dad had finished his tea, he told us not to go too far away from home, as he explained to us that storm clouds moving in so slowly could bring a bad storm, which it did hours later, near midnight. The lightning, thunder, wind and hail was terrific and I was afraid. After a few minutes, by a flash of lightning, we could see our potato patch, which was in full growth was pounded to a pulp and looked as if it had been recently disced, leaves were stripped from the trees, many birds and small animals were killed. It was a devastating storm causing loss of grain and hay crops. There have been other hail storms, but I do not believe any as severe as this one.

I had left home in 1930, therefore Dad no longer had my help. He was very particular in how jobs were to be carried out, so I expect he ran into problems in that direction. In 1933 or 1934, Dad rented the land out as he was growing tired of the heavy work and had never had a holiday in all the years he was on the farm.

On March 11, 1938, Dad having previously sold the land, had an Auction Sale to dispose of the machinery, etc. The horses that remained on the farm at the time of the sale were not sold, but came to spend their remaining days at my farm in the Tofield area.

Dad and Mum retired to the city of Edmonton

living on the south side for a year and then bought a house in the “Highlands” area, 10827-75 Street, overlooking the beautiful Saskatchewan river valley. The enjoyment Dad found in gardening and doing odd repair jobs around the house was short as he fell victim to cancer and passed away November 12, 1940, two days past his 67th birthday. Mother stayed in Edmonton until 1948 when she moved to Tofield to live with me and my family on a farm ten miles west of Tofield.

On the farm, Mum’s interest laid mainly towards gardening, flowers and houseplants. When she came, Mum had brought two very lovely peony plants — one of Dad’s, a lovely dark pink, and Mum’s was a white with a red center — both of which are in full bloom to this day. Over the years she found great enjoyment in her grandchildren and great-children. During the years she lived in Hay Lakes, young people had enjoyed her company; some confided in her to the more serious side of life and I think, found her advice to be worth while, as they told her of their appreciation in later years.

My dear Mum passed away June 19, 1965, at the age of 86 years and 8 months. I had remarked to Mum one day as we were talking, “If you had a chance to live life over again would you have lived it differently?” Her answer was “Not really. It was a good life although at times it was hard.” With spirit and determination like that we can realize why each and every one of our pioneers were people to honor and respect.

Lily Pithouse

I, Gwendolyn Helena Charlotte Pithouse, was born on March 14, 1909, at the old farm home. The time of day or night I have no idea, but I arrived safely with the aid of midwife, Mrs. Fred Hirsh. I learned later that Dad had looked forward to a boy, so in the years to come he would have help on the farm. Little did he know at the time that I would be almost as much help as a boy would have been.

Naturally, I do not recall the very early years. There were no children near to play with but I had various pets, cats were favorites of mine, and that still holds to this day. When I was able to walk I went with Mum everywhere, she was such a happy, kind-hearted person and always had time to tell stories and play with me how ever tired she was.

Mother was brought up in a reasonably religious family — her Mum was a Sunday School teacher and her Dad was a part-time Minister at the village chapel in England — so, one of the first things I learned was to say the “Lord’s Prayer”, kneeling beside my dear mother. Each evening, prayers were said before I went to bed. As I look back over the years, I treasure



L. to R.: Lily Pithouse, Elsie Fisher, Eda Fisher in '20's.

the time Mother and I had together, thanking God for our daily blessings.

As I became a few years older, Mum kept a book for children under her pillow. Each night at bedtime she would read a chapter, then a big hug and a kiss and away to my own bed. Some of the books I remember were “Mrs. Wiggs and the Cabbage Patch”, “Freckles”, “Laddie”, “Peter Rabbit”, and “Billy Whiskers”.

A toy I remember from when I was very young was a little wagon Dad made from an apple box, with the wheels cut from a log. Being the first wagon I owned, it was a great treasure — I pulled it around many a mile. It did not take much to bring happiness to children in those days.

I was not very old when I remember people travelling from other parts of the country going further north to homestead, and stopping in our home as they passed by. One man was getting low on cash and as he had an almost new single buggy and robe, he asked Dad if he would purchase it for \$35.00. At the time, Dad only had the wagon so he figured it was a good buy. It was the robe that intrigued me — it was like the coloring of a tiger, reds, yellow and black, made of very lovely material, it was lined in black.

Once in a while, the buggy was used to make a journey to Camrose or Edmonton. Mum took dressed poultry to a Chinese Restaurant in Camrose in the fall. It was a long journey, Mum had to open and shut numerous gates as the road wound across Simon Grue’s and Bud Blakely’s before joining up to a much better travelled road. It took a long time to make the

round trip as Mum was quite nervous when it came to handling horses. Dad would only let her drive the most trustworthy which was Nellie, not noted for her beauty of speed, but always made the trip she was called upon to do faithfully.

In 1913, my parents purchased an Edison phonograph and some records. I was astonished to hear voices and not be able to see who it was. I looked around it and everywhere imaginable to try and locate what it was, to no avail. In time I understood it was recorded on the cylinder record.

In 1914, Pithouse & Broen started a store in Hay Lakes which they had until 1918 when the building was rented to a Mr. Davis. Our living quarters were above the store; a road coming from the northeast ran along at the back of the store. I was upstairs when I heard these loud bangs — it was a “chiveree” for the newlyweds. I am quite sure the bride was a Diewert. Bride, groom plus others were all in a wagon with a double box, driving a team. Most had shot guns they were firing into the air. To me it seems funny after all the fuss that goes on today when young people marry. Maybe they had the right idea after all.

I wonder if anyone has kindly memories of the little house out back, I doubt it, other than after Christmas when you could look fondly on the new arrival of tissue. Apple wrapping, Japanese orange wrapping or wrapping from Christmas gifts, if you were lucky enough to have any of the above, but at that moment it brought sheer joy to look upon and feel the softness of the paper. For the time being, moving down to the shiny pages of Eaton’s catalogue could be put out of mind, all too soon it would be time again to pick the more soft pages as you move toward the shiny pages and another Christmas.

When I was school age, Mum tried to have me board with the Bud Blakelys’ as they had two girls my age, Violet and Rosalee, and attend Swan Hill School. This did not prove to be a good idea as I ran away any chance I could get. I can remember one day Mr. Blakely came to catch me — he was riding horseback, and had a lariat. Lucky for me there was an old wooden bridge about a quarter mile from home that I managed to get under, so I was safe because I could dodge him and run faster. He went and told the folks, but I did not go right home but hid until I was sure he had gone home, then I sneaked in the house ever so quietly. My parents gave up on that.

I told my parents I would willingly walk if I could have old Shep, our dog, for company. Again I was off to Swan Hill School, it was a long walk as the lake was not drained at that time. All went well until some older boys started to wait along the trail and tease me, so I threw a piece of dry clay at the older one which left a dilly of a bleeding mess. It was decided I would not be able to go being harassed as I was.

Next, I went to a Convent in Edmonton. I hated it from the very start as it was run by nuns who found it easy to blame the non-Catholics for anything that went wrong. The Olson girls went at the same time and also found it hard to get along. I am sure I spent more time on my knees in a corner of the classroom than I ever did in class. One thing I did learn to do well was darn my stockings. While I was there, I became very ill and was given hot baths. Mum had a feeling something was wrong and said to Dad “I am going in to see Gwen”. She took the train to Edmonton and came right over to the convent. They said, “No, you cannot see her tonight.” Mum said, “I came to see her and see her I will.” I left with Mum, and we stayed the night in a hotel. Then Mum took me directly to Camrose to see Dr. Nordbye. He said the hot baths would have been my end if given a few more times as it was driving in whatever I had instead of it coming out through the skin. Over the years Mum had these premonitions.

My days at the convent were in the past. I was thankful but my parents were concerned as I had to have schooling. It was decided to wait until Mum and I went to England. There was talk of the United Farmers Hall which was across the road from the lumber yard being used as a school. At long last my parents could look forward to my getting some education.

While I was in England, much to my disgust, I went to school in the Village of Cheriton in Hampshire, where my grandparents lived. I would say I did not learn too much, surely not how to figure in English money. I did learn to write and keep a neat scribbler — it was a start.

While we were on holiday, the school back home was soon to be opened, so I had no choice when we returned — it was good old schools days for me. I could not run away as it was only a short distance from home. If Dad said, “You get to school!” I did not argue the point. My first teacher was Mr. O’Connor, an elderly gentleman. He had a habit of sitting beside a pupil to show them how to form letters and figures. We did not appreciate that as the other pupils would sort of snicker and get a kick out of it. I realize now he was trying his best to teach us the things we needed to get an education. It was about two years later that the school was moved to the present location. The other teachers I had while attending Hay Lakes School were Miss Hall, Mr. Davies, Mr. Gimroy and Mr. Samis. Mr. Davies was my favorite as he was always kind and considerate but firm. I finished Grade 8 but failed by a few marks my entrance exams so that was my schooling.

During the flu epidemic in 1917, Mr. Percy Evans passed away, so Josie Evans had an auction sale (they lived where the Poulett Elliotts’ lived). Mum bought

me a pony, black with a white star, for \$18.00. Danny was unbroken, but Dad had James Grant break him for the sum of \$10.00, and when he returned he was gentle and just right for any kid to ride. I made many miles on him. One year I found 100 birdnests, so I must have covered quite a lot of ground to do that. About two years later, Mother bought a brand new saddle from Eaton's for \$23.00. At one time I drove Dan and his mate Dolly in a cutter — we covered many a mile. Mum and I would go to numerous auction sales driving them, seemed they would always get excited when we would be a mile or so away. Mum would say "They must smell the coffee". I had Danny until 1937, and still have the saddle.

Since I'd had my pony for years and could handle a team of horses (I would say as good as most men), I worked for Dad starting off with three horses on a walking plow. Dad said, "When you handle that well you will get promoted to the riding plow." I did not think that to be fair but \$10.00 per month did look good so I kept plugging away. In a month or so I had made the grade. Those that have tried to plow with a walking plow will understand it was quite a job to keep the plow in the ground plus drive three horses to make a straight line as you turn a first furrow but with practice it can be done. I plowed, disced, helped to hay and mowed with my favorite team Lil and Bess, (a job which I really enjoyed over the years) and also drove a sweep-team. A hired man drove a team on a second sweep, while Dad always moved the stacker and elevated the hay to the stack. Mother very often helped to built the stack, made the meals and milked the cows. Seems she always did the work of two but it was not her nature to complain. I helped cut grain and stooked as little as possible; it was a hard job. If you put up the stooks poorly a good wind would blow them down or partly so which would cause the bundles to hold moisture. I could get out of it that way, as I would tell Dad I did my best but they just won't stay put. I think he knew what was going on, so the men stooked. When we threshed I would drive a team hauling grain to the elevator. One evening I was hurrying back to the machine when the right front hoop flew off the wagon wheel and rolled into the ditch and across to the fence. It had to be put on and wired so it would not happen again.

Winter was a time to enjoy friends; young people often went to the Ed Schlender home where we played cards or sang songs. One song I remember was the "Cowboys Lament". I had my own team of ponies and cutter so was able to ramble about, much to my parents disgust when I would get home late — at times I would be grounded.

Before the school was moved to its new location, I met Ellen Nelson. When she started school we

became great friends. From the beginning we spent many happy hours together, playing cards, riding horseback — we enjoyed just being pals. We still remain very close friends. A few years later I met Dagmar Sikstrom, at the time she was staying at her grandparents home, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sikstrom. We have remained close friends over the years. There are fond memories of other friends — Rosalee and Violet Blakely, Alpha and Helen Welda, Alice, Hattie and Tena Olson.

I worked at home on the farm until 1930 when I married Finlay McLeod. We rented various places until we moved to the Spilstead area, west of Tofield, in 1933 or so, in which area I still reside.

Our oldest child, Lillian Edith, was born September 15, 1930. Then came Kenneth George, born December 23, 1933. Both were born at Hay Lakes with Mrs. Dan Schweitzer as mid-wife. The fee was \$5.00 each time. Charles Robert was born in Tofield on June 7, 1935. John Henry Charles Muir was born on November 15, 1944 in Edmonton.

Robinson, Eric and Family by Sheila Robinson

Eric and Sheila Robinson emigrated to Canada from Northern Ireland in August, 1967. Eric had service with the Royal Ulster Constabulary and upon arrival in Canada joined the Edmonton City Police Force.

The Robinson family resided on a farm (NE 19-48-21-W4) in the Hay Lakes district from 1973 to 1976. The three children in the family are daughter Shonagh, who attended Hay Lakes play school; daughter Charlene, who was christened at Hay Lakes Lutheran Church; son Roy, who was born at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose. The family now reside at Stony Plain, Alberta.

William Rost Family by Patricia (Sware) Rost

William was born in 1936, the third child of Gottlieb (George) and Elsie Rost. He was raised on a farm west of Hay Lakes and attended the Canard school for eight years, completing his Grade twelve in Hay Lakes after the schools were amalgamated.

In the fall of 1954 William enrolled in the Vermilion School of Agriculture and upon graduating in 1956 spent two years helping on the farm. In 1958 he moved to Edmonton where he worked at Swift Canadian Company for seven years.

I, Pat, was born in 1937 and am the eldest child of William and Anna Sware. My first two years were spent on the farm north of Hay Lakes that my Grandpa Sware had homesteaded in 1902. I took all my

schooling in Hay Lakes with the exception of Grade twelve when I attended Camrose Lutheran College.

In 1955 I moved to Edmonton where I worked in the Dental offices of Dr. A. R. Urschel and Dr. K. M. Gordon for several years.

Willie and I were married at the Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes in 1959. We lived in Edmonton for two years before moving back to Hay Lakes. Willie continued to commute to work daily until 1965. In 1964 we moved to the farm NW 29-48-21-W4; this was almost like a homestead and we enjoyed it very much. In 1972 we built a new home and in 1976 we bought another quarter of land, SW 31-48-21-W4, from Willie's family.

We have three children, Rory born in 1960, Brent born in 1962, and Rhonda born in 1963. They all attended the school in Hay Lakes.



William Rost Family: Back, L. to R.: Brent, Willie, Rory. Front: Rhonda, Pat.

Rory then attended University at Camrose Lutheran College for two years. He played hockey for the Vikings and was fortunate to be part of a tour to Sweden, Finland and Russia in 1979. This resulted in a year in Sweden where he worked for the city of Stockholm and also played hockey. He also played hockey on Representative teams in Camrose and now plays fastball for the local men's team. He is now attending the University of Alberta.

Brent is also very interested in sports, having played on several Camrose Representative hockey teams and also as catcher for the local senior men's Fastball team. He is employed as an apprentice welder at Dreco Limited, Edmonton.

Rhonda had a very interesting last year of school when a Swedish girl, Asa Simmonsson, came to live in our home and attend school. This was a most rewarding experience for us all. Rhonda is also interested in sports, catching for the Ladies' Ball team. She is now attending the University of Alberta.

We have enjoyed the farm life and have witnessed many changes in the past short years. We have seen the value of a quarter section of land going from

fifteen thousand dollars to almost two hundred thousand dollars, steers from twenty-five cents a pound to eighty cents a pound, a good milk cow from one hundred and seventy-five dollars to over a thousand dollars, and purple gas from just over twenty cents a gallon to almost a dollar and thirty cents a gallon.

We want to say how proud we are of our forefathers who came to this country with visions of a better life for themselves, but more so for us, their children and grandchildren.

Sagert, Julius and Family

by Lawrence Sagert

Julius Sagert 1887 — 1960

Rosina Busenius Sagert 1889 — 1970

Antonia Sagert Brunken 1913 —

Lawrence Sagert 1914 —

Walter Sagert 1925 —

Julius Sagert (Sager) was born in Shitomir, Province of Volhynia in Russia, in 1887. He emigrated to Germany in 1907 and from there to Canada, in 1911.

Rosina (Busenius) Sagert was born in the town of Kamiunky, Province of Volhynia in Russia, in 1889. Her parents, Ferdinand Busenius and wife Marie



Julius and Rosina Sagert with baby Antonia in 1914.

(nee Paul) and family came to Canada in 1895. The family settled in the Bruderfeld district (South Edmonton). Rosina attended Mill Creek School, and was confirmed by Rev. Clement Hoyler at Bruderfeld Moravian church in 1903. Since she was the oldest in the family of eleven, she was given a six-month seamstress course. Sewing became a lifelong interest for her.

In 1912, Rosina was married to Julius by Rev. Suemper at Bruderfeld and they made their first home in Edmonton. Rosina worked as a seamstress and Julius worked at coal mining, carpentry and farming. Later, they moved to Bruderheim for two years, 1917 — '18 (flu years). They moved to the farm at Hay Lakes NW 7-49-21-W4 in 1919, at which time they joined the New Sarepta Moravian church. Their farm was located one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes, on the old Hay Lakes Trail. Antonia and Lawrence were born in Edmonton and were six and five years old when they came to Hay Lakes. Walter was born on the farm at Hay Lakes in 1925.

Rosina and Julius resided on the farm until 1957 when they moved to a home in Hay Lakes and rented their farm to neighbors.



The Julius Sagert's and Gus Sagert's in front of Julius Sagert's house.

Julius passed away from a severe heart attack at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose on March 15, 1960, at the age of seventy-two years. Rosina continued to live in Hay Lakes until 1962, when failing health made it necessary for her to move to Leduc to live with her daughter, Antonia Brunken. She passed away in Edmonton on September 15, 1970, following a gallbladder operation at the age of eighty-one years. Julius and Rosina are interred in the Moravian cemetery in New Sarepta.

Sagert, Lawrence and Family

by L. Sagert

I was born in Edmonton on September 15, 1914. My parents, Rosina and Julius Sagert, moved to a

Canadian Pacific Railroad quarter NW 7-49-21-W4, north of Hay Lakes in 1919. The old Hay Lakes Trail almost cut our quarter in half. This portion of the trail was later re-routed along the western and southern boundary of the land we occupied. The closing of this trail made it possible to eliminate two half-mile fences and to consolidate grain fields and pasture land. The only portion of the Hay Lakes Trail that remains in its original position is the portion one-half mile north of the village to the first jog due west. The present road across the Leo Kiel quarter, in approximately a northwest direction, follows the old trail. The Hay Lakes Trail was an old Indian trail, later used by the early settlers, leading from Camrose to Edmonton in a northwest direction.

I attended the Hay Lakes school and Mr. Davis was my first teacher in Grade one. He was strict in class, but teachers had to be tough to be respected. He could also kick a football higher than anybody else we knew. We delighted in retrieving the ball for him so that he could kick it again. Mr. Tivey and then Mr. Samis came next. Mr. Samis had lost an arm, but we found that he was quite capable of playing ball with us. He could field a ball, remove his glove and throw it home almost as fast as any fielder. Mr. McKittrick who had been a newspaper man was our next teacher. Radios were scarce, but he had one in his room at the hotel and so he was able to tell us about world events before they appeared in the newspaper. Our chief source for news and reading was the Free Press Prairie Farmer, published weekly. It was largely a farm paper, but it contained a good continued novel, a variety of farm related articles, a few poems and humor. The Hay Lakes Times kept us informed of local happenings.

Mr. Kilpatrick was my teacher in Grade eight. Since this was the last grade in public school, Department of Education exams were written. The subjects were: English Literature and Spelling; Grammar and Composition; History Civics and Geography; Arithmetic and Rapid Calculation; Agriculture, Art, Physiology and Hygiene. These exams were written locally, but were sent to Edmonton for marking. The results were mailed to us near the end of July. No re-writes were allowed.

The old one-room school was getting crowded so a new room was added. Two teachers were now needed and so Miss Anne McCoy (later Mrs. Sware) became the elementary teacher. Some High School grades were now taught. High school was largely a matter of self study since the teacher was busy with lower grades, which were given priority. High School grades were gradually extended so that by 1933 courses in Grade twelve were included.

Courses in Grade twelve had to be written in

Camrose or Edmonton. I remember having to write a Biology and a Mathematics exam in Camrose. I borrowed two dollars from one of the teachers and got Mr. Jim Carberry who was the local druggist and Postmaster to drive me to Camrose in a model A Ford on a very rainy day. I was fortunate in that both exams were scheduled on the same afternoon. By writing six consecutive hours I saved a trip to Camrose. Writing exams away from home proved a real hardship to some students in the Dirty Thirties.

I completed my Grade twelve at Sulitjelma with Mr. L. Grommers as my teacher in 1934.

I took my Normal School training in Camrose in 1935-36, the last year this school remained open. I did my practice teaching in the New Sarepta Rural School under the guidance of Mr. Martin Badner. There was an oversupply of teachers at this time so I was without work when I graduated. Mr. Badner caught scarlet fever with pneumonia complications and passed away in February of 1937. I applied for the position and got it. The salary was \$750 per year. I taught at the New Sarepta Rural School for four years and then took on a High School in Wilton Park, near Calmar where I taught one year.

I enlisted in the Royal Air Force in July of 1942 and served until 1945 as a Link Trainer instructor.

While teaching at the New Sarepta Rural School I met one of the teachers from the New Sarepta Village School, namely Lorena Cammack, originally from Lamont, Alberta. Lorena and I were married in July of 1942. Lorena continued to teach at Nisku while I was stationed at Edmonton. When I was posted to Eastern Canada, she went to Lamont to stay with her mother. When the war was over I returned to the University of Alberta to complete my Bachelor of Education degree.

I accepted a teaching position at Swalwell, Alberta (near Three Hills) as a Vice-Principal in 1947. Lorena and I made Swalwell our home for the next four years. In 1951 I moved to Acme, a consolidated school, as a teacher of Science and Mathematics. I became the Vice-Principal of Acme School in 1952 and the Principal in 1953. Lorena also taught at Acme for several years. I retired from teaching in Acme in June 1974. We moved to Calgary where we now make our home.

Our oldest son, Ronald was born in Lamont in 1944. Ronald took his High school at Acme and his Bachelor of Education at Calgary. He is presently teaching Industrial Arts and Science in West Edmonton. Our daughter, Marilyn, was born at Swalwell. She also took her schooling at Acme. She took her training as a Laboratory Technologist, and she completed four years of training at the Alberta College of Art in Calgary. She is presently working part time at

the Calgary General Hospital as a Laboratory Technologist and part time as an Artist.

Sagert, Walter and Family

by L. Sagert

Walter was born in 1925 on the farm one and a half miles north of Hay Lakes. He was the youngest son of Rosina and Julius Sagert. Walter attended the Hay Lakes school. Teachers at that time were Doris Malmas in the elementary grades and Johnny Lyle in the Junior High and High school. After his schooling Walter worked for Ewald Erickson as a heavy-duty operator of a brush cutter.

He met Lena Kostiuk from Wandering River while doing custom land clearing and married her in 1949. Walter and Lena made their home in Nojack, Alberta, where he worked for an oil company as a bulldozer operator for eight years. The family returned to Hay Lakes in 1962. Walter worked as a heavy-duty mechanic for Union Tractor in Edmon-



Walter Sagert family — 1965. L. to R., Back: Kenneth, Larry and Mervin. Lena and Walter, twins Marlene and Marion. Front: Anita.

ton. Walter's and Lena's children attended Hay Lakes School. The family moved to Edmonton in 1966.

They raised a family of three sons and three daughters. The last two daughters, Marion and Marlene, are twins. Larry, the eldest, has two children from his previous marriage, Tammy and Sheldon. He later married Pat Denis of Leduc, where they now live. Larry is an operator for a sandblasting and painting company.

Kenneth attended Mount Royal College for three years and has travelled in New Zealand. He married Michelle Dryden of Airdrie. They have two children, David and Sharla, and live in Calgary where Ken works as a Mud Engineer for Magabor Dresser.

Mervin worked as a sheet metalist before attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology to become an electrician. He married Darlene Shaw of Leduc. They have two children, Ryan and Jodi, and live in Medicine Hat.

Anita worked as a waitress and cook after leaving school. She married Wayne Reimer of Armstrong, British Columbia. They have two children, Natasha and Marshal, and live in Edmonton where Wayne is a trucker.

Marion, upon graduation from high school, worked for an Insurance Company in Edmonton for three years. She now lives in Abbotsford, British Columbia.

Marlene worked for Safeway's Store, Canada, before marrying Larry Waselenchuk of Edmonton. They have two children, Angie and Amanda, and live in Edmonton where Larry is an Edmonton Transit-Bus driver.

Walter is presently operating his own Mobile Heavy-duty repair unit in Edmonton. Lena and Walter remember their friends and the many happy hours they spent at the curling rink in Hay Lakes.

Brunken, Antonia (Sagert)

by L. Sagert

Antonia was the oldest daughter of Rosina and Julius Sagert. She was born in Edmonton on June 7, 1913. The family moved to the farm north of Hay Lakes in 1919. She attended the Hay Lakes school and remembers the inter-school basketball games, and the friendly rivalry that took place among the Hay Lakes, Canard and Sulitjelma schools.

Antonia married William Brunken of Leduc, in 1936 and they made their home on a dairy farm. In 1961 her husband passed away. She later moved to Leduc and worked as an aide in the nursing home. She has now retired and is still living in Leduc.

Her oldest daughter, Inez, married Fred Russ of Rolley View, where they still reside. They have four children, Wayne, Joyce, Patsy and Shannon.

Her oldest son, John Brunken, married Agnes Stockman. They make their home on a dairy farm at New Sarepta. They have two children, Bruce and Elaine.

The youngest son, Eddie Brunken, married Emily Marinoske and they now live on the homeplace, a dairy farm at Leduc. They have four children, Connie, Murray, Miles and Melody.

Sandbu, Hans

written by Alfred Arnston

Hans Sandbu was born on the 24th of October, 1873, in Gudbrandsdalen (a valley) in Norway, where his parents had a farm. He was the oldest child in a family of eight consisting of two sisters and five brothers.

As a young man in Norway Hans' ambition was to become a veterinarian, but since he could not obtain financial support, he had to give up this plan. Instead he had heard glowing reports about the prospects of "free land" in America, which, at that time, was a term used for Canada as well. In June of 1898 he arrived in Minnesota, where he was employed in lumber camps.

In August of 1901 he came to Canada and took a homestead near Joseph Lake in the Hay Lakes district before the Province of Alberta was incorporated. Here he established a home and acquired livestock and started to break some land, which meant clearing brush and picking rocks. He used horses, while most others at the time had oxen.



Hans Sandbu.

He was very fond of animals and raised horses. One of the colts, on one occasion, kicked him on the eye. It was so painful that he had to have his brother, Ole, take him to Camrose in a lumber wagon. One of his eyes had to be removed and was replaced with an artificial eye by Dr. Nordbye of Camrose.

Hans was a very kind man. He often stopped at our home and brought treats for Florne and me when he came back from a trip to Hay Lakes. He liked to talk, and strong coffee was his favorite drink. He often complained that people made the mistake of putting too much water in the coffee pot and too little coffee. His means of transportation was a lumber wagon and a fine team of horses.

Hans wrote letters regularly to his brothers and sisters and often tried to convince them to come to Canada, where land was available to anyone who could stand the cold weather and hard work. However, only two of his brothers responded to the challenge, Ole and Simon, but Simon returned and settled in Sweden.

To keep in touch with current events, Hans subscribed to a couple of Norwegian publications — “Norrøna” from Winnipeg and “Decorah Posten” from North Dakota, U.S.A. These papers provided food for thought during the long winter months. Being seriously interested in farming he joined the United Farmers of Alberta, since he was convinced that improvements must be made to the farm economy. He was happy to see the United Farmers Party elected and form the Government of Alberta in 1921.

During the summer and winter months he would employ “hired men” who had immigrated from Europe. He had one fellow by the name of Swanson, a Swedish immigrant, who provided stimulating conversations and good companionship. Mr. Swanson stayed about three years, including winters, since in those days it was not easy to find employment during the winter months. The hired men helped clear land during the summer as well as planting and harvesting the crops.

Until 1926 Hans lived in a very modest home. His ambition was to build a modern home facing Joseph Lake. Foundations for the new home were started in July, 1926. He engaged three carpenters, Martin Thompson, a close neighbor, as well as Mr. Oppen from Ohaton and Mr. Bjerkness from Bawlf to carry out the construction job. Notations show that he purchased one thousand red bricks at three cents each and nine hundred and seven feet of lumber for \$32.00.

Hans did not have an opportunity to enjoy his new house. In the fall of 1927 it was discovered that he had cancer. He arranged to go to Rochester, Minnesota, in the U.S.A. for treatment at the Mayo Clinic,

which was an advanced medical centre. He spent four months in Rochester but had to return home in April, 1928 with bad news. They could not find a cure.

Hans passed away in September, 1928 at the age of fifty-five years. He was laid to rest in the St. Joseph Lutheran Cemetery, the church of which he was a member.

Sandbu, Ola and Amalie

Ola Sandbu was born in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, on the sixth of June, 1920, the son of Anders and Ranghild Sandbu. He has four brothers and three sisters, all of whom remained in Norway.

As a youngster he attended the local school and after his formal education he attended trade school and became a carpenter. He trained as a blacksmith as well. He also attended Agriculture School and later became manager of a farm operated by the local County.

Ola had always wanted a farm of his own and decided to try his luck in Canada, hence he contacted his uncle in the Hay Lakes district with the suggestion of working for him on the farm.

In the meantime he had also become very interested in a local girl, who lived in the next neighborhood, and found that since the love bug had intervened, he would not be happy to leave Norway without her. So he proposed to this young lady, Amalie Klefstadberget, and they were married in Vinstra Lutheran Church on the fourth of April, 1950. Since this was shortly after the war, it was not possible to have a large wedding.

Soon after their marriage they left for Canada and arrived on June 26, 1950. They settled at the farm of Ole Sandbu and both of them worked on the farm for the next two years. They did not have a good command of the English language, so they spent some time improving their English, as well as farming.

After farming for two years Ola and Amalie moved to Camrose where he was engaged as a carpenter with a construction company. It was there their first child was born in 1952, a daughter, Randi. The family moved to Kitimat, British Columbia in 1956. Randi attended school in Kitimat, later in New Sarepta, Alberta, and graduated from the University of Alberta in Household Economics. She now works in Ponoka, Alberta, with the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Anne was born in Kitimat, British Columbia in 1958 and graduated from the New Sarepta High School. She spent one year at Camrose Lutheran College and then attended the University of Alberta in Business Administration. She is presently employed in Edmonton.

In 1961 the third daughter was born. Mona also attended school in New Sarepta and Camrose Lutheran College. She then spent a year at Red Deer College and now is completing her courses in Edmonton at the University of Alberta.



Ola Sandbu Family 1962. L. to R.: Randi, Amalie holding Mona, Ola holding Anne.

During the winter of 1964 Ola returned to Hay Lakes to buy the farm operated by his uncle. He built a new house and set up residence on a permanent basis, where he operates the grain farm as well as raising livestock.

Ola and Amalie are members of the St. Joseph Lutheran Church. They both enjoy curling as a pastime. Ola has contributed his time and talents to several community projects, such as assisting in building the Hay Lakes Hall and Curling Rink.

Ola and Amalie are both community-minded and are always willing to lend a helping hand.

Sandbu, Ole as related by Magnus Arntson

At an early age Ole Sandbu decided that he would leave Norway, his native land, where he was born on the 25th of September, 1884, in Otta, Gudbrandsdalen. He did not like mountains, nor did he like goats, which were used for milk and cheese. His brother Hans, had settled in the Hay Lakes District, so in 1903, Ole packed his suitcase and made the trip across the Atlantic and then crossed Canada by train, where he joined his brother, taking a homestead at NE 30-49-21-W4.

At first he worked in a coal mine at Clover Bar and at road construction to get some money for improving his homestead.

As soon as he was able, he purchased a couple oxen for field work and transportation. One hot sum-



Ole Sandbu.

mer day he was hauling grain to Camrose in bags (before elevators were built) and as he passed by a slough, the oxen were thirsty and decided to leave the road for a drink. The wagon became stuck, so Ole had to carry the bags of grain back to the road so that he could get the stubborn oxen back on the road with the wagon.

Ole was happy to replace the oxen with horses and as time went by after clearing brush and picking rocks, he bought horses and increased horse population by natural means, since the neighborhood had a Club to buy a stallion.

Ole did not milk cows for marketing milk, butter or cheese, but had two cows to provide milk for himself, a couple cats and a few calves. He really loved to drink milk and would often bring a jug of sour milk to the field as he claimed this to be the best drink for satisfying thirst.

Ole concentrated on raising wheat when he first started farming. He later bought another quarter section to provide extra land since grain farming was more uncertain and there was no guarantee for a yield

and prices. He used horses for cultivating his land and for transportation, but he decided that together with his brother Hans, they should have a tractor and separator for harvesting the grain crop. In 1919, Ole made a trip to Edmonton to buy a tractor and threshing machine. He bought these machines and then found that it would not be possible to ship the heavy equipment to Hay Lakes, so he ventured out on his own and travelled all the way from Edmonton to his farm with the tractor and separator. When he crossed the High Level bridge he had to have special permission for his wide load. When he arrived at the south side of the bridge three automobiles were waiting to go north, since tractors did not move very fast in those days.

During the first part of his farming career, Ole and Hans farmed together, helping each other as much as possible. Sad news came in the fall of 1928, when Hans died of cancer. So Ole had to go into debt to pay off the estate and he bought the three quarter sections which Hans had acquired over the years. He also bought the equipment. He paid off the debt by selling wheat. He was saddened by the passing of his brother, and decided that he must have a car so that he could travel when the roads permitted this, since several of the neighbors had cars at this time.

In 1929 he purchased a 1928-Chrysler, which was a good car for the times. He liked girls, but found it safer to travel with three or four at a time, so he would pick up several of the girls in the area and take them out for a Sunday afternoon drive, or dances when there was one in Hay Lakes. Shows also attracted him. One Sunday he appeared in church twice. The minister was delighted to see that he was so devoted to church activities. Ole's reply was that he was more interested in the young ladies he had taken there. He had a good sense of humor. One time while dining at a restaurant in Edmonton, the waitress stepped on his foot. She apologized profusely, to which Ole replied, "That's alright, I'm used to horses."

Ole was a serious-minded farmer and since he was single he had to have about three hired men during the summer months, for seeding and harvesting, as well as breaking new land. He was very busy himself during the summer months repairing harness and equipment. He was also a blacksmith. He had approximately twenty-four horses and was very proud of these animals.

During the winter months Ole had an easier time since he was not directly involved with milk cows. He subscribed to the Country Guide, Western Producer and a couple of Norwegian publications to pass the time. Usually one of the hired men would spend the winters with him, hauling grain to the elevators and providing firewood for the stoves. Dick Gellert,

a Polish immigrant, spent four years with him, summer and winter.

When we were youngsters we would often drop in and he would give us oranges and peanuts. He was always happy to talk to someone when he was not busy. Often he would count his blessings, since most of the people in the area had cows, hogs and chickens to look after during the winter, and he was content to carry on only a grain-farming operation.

As time progressed he found that growing wheat constantly did not build up the soil, so he came to the conclusion that he must have a system of crop rotation. Hence in 1940 he decided to change to a combination of cropping and a cow-calf operation. He purchased a carload of cows and started mixed farming so that he could rotate land from grass and seeding oats and barley, instead of wheat. This meant more work, but by this time he used a tractor instead of horses for farming. The war was on and it was difficult to hire people for working on the farm.

Ole was very considerate of other and sent several large parcels to relatives in Norway, who had been deprived of many necessities of life during the Nazi occupation.

During the wartime years, Ole was busier than usual, and he was successful in building up his herd of cattle. As the years advanced he found that he had to do most of the work himself. In 1949 he decided to sponsor one of his nephews, so that the farm work could be reduced. Ola Sandbu, who was single at that time, was to come in 1950. He assumed that he would be single and that they could share the house. When he heard that he was married, he had some doubts about the arrangements, since he was not used to having a lady in charge of the house.

Ola arrived in the spring of 1950 and assumed farming operations with his uncle. His wife, Amalie, worked on the farm and in the house. Since Ola was a good carpenter, he moved to Camrose to work for Albert Hansen Construction in 1952. He continued to live in Camrose until 1956 at which time he moved to Kitimat, British Columbia, returning to the farm in 1964 to help his uncle.



Ole Sandbu and his hired men breaking land.

Ole kept on farming with occasional help until 1964, when his health would not permit him to carry on any longer. He did not want a modern house and continued to do housework without running water or any modern gadgets. This made it difficult for him to carry on. During the last few months he spent his time with his nephew, Ola and family, who had built a new house in the same yard.

During the summer of 1965, Ole passed away at the age of eighty years.

Schaefer, Carl

Carl Schaefer was the son of Gottfried Schaefer and his wife Christine. He was born in Ludufka, Russia, on March 13, 1883, and was baptized on March 30, 1883. After emigrating to Canada he was confirmed on May 5, 1898. In 1905 he married Mathilda Diewert, who was the oldest daughter of Ludwig and Emilie (Herman) Diewert. Mathilda was born in Androva, Russia, on September 1, 1884. She came to Canada with her parents in 1895 and was confirmed by Bishop Hoyler, in the Bruederfeld Moravian Church on March 26, 1899.

The Carl Schaefer family first settled in a place called Hillsdale, Alberta. In 1906, the Schaefer family moved to Strathcona, where they resided for a number of years. In 1910, the family settled on a farm east of Leduc that was known as the Rosenthal district. This district is presently known as Rolly View. The Carl Schaefer family farmed in this district for about eight years. Around 1917, Carl and Mathilda came to the Hay Lakes district, where they bought a farm from the Canadian Pacific Railway. This farm was located on SE 7-49-21-W4.

Carl and Mathilda Schaefer became members of the Strathcona Moravian Church when the congregation was organized in 1906. When the family moved to the Rosenthal district, church services were conducted in their homes by Rev. Herman Schulze. Rev. Schulze travelled by horse and buggy from the Hiemtal Moravian church to conduct the services for a number of families who resided in the area. Due to the travelling inconveniences, these services were dropped for a number of years and the family attended the church service in the Rosenthal Lutheran Church. However, when the family moved to the Hay Lakes district they were re-instated as members of the New Sarepta Moravian church.

The Carl Schaefer family had seven children who were as follows: Emilie was born at Hillsdale, on April 10, 1906, and was baptized in the Strathcona Moravian Church on April 26, 1906. Lydia was born at Strathcona, on February 10, 1908, and was baptized in the same church on February 23, 1908. Theophile was born at Strathcona, on February 17,

1910, and was baptized on March 6, 1910 at Strathcona. Daniel was born near Leduc, on April 11, 1912, and was baptized in the family residence by Rev. H. Schulze on April 21, 1912. Johan was born near Leduc, on May 6, 1915 and was baptized on May 25, at the Rosenthal Lutheran Church. Otto was also born near Leduc, on March 9, 1917, and was baptized in the same church on March 19, 1917. Lawrence was born near Hay Lakes on April 27, 1919, and was baptized at the New Sarepta Moravian church on June 9, 1919.

The four oldest children of the Schaefer family attended their first classes at the Hay Lakes Village school. The Carl Schaefer family sold their farm to Adolph Jeck in the spring of 1920. The family then moved to Portland, Oregon, that same year.

Schaffrick, Henry Family

I, Henry, was born at Usona, Alberta, 1914. I came to Hay Lakes spring of 1927, went to Hay Lakes School for two years, left home and worked at Leduc, Alberta for five years on a farm for Paul Fandrick. Life was hard in those days — long hours and very little money.

I grubbed trees for as little as fifty cents a day, to keep a job for fall work, then I got \$1.25 per day. When I think back, what an easy life we have now.

In 1933, I returned to Hay Lakes, started to work for Adolph Metzker in the shop building windmills, water tanks and cutters and doing all kinds of other wood work. My main job was to set up the windmills. I had to build the tower. They were made of 4x4's and 1x4's to brace the average tower thirty-six feet to forty feet tall, and my pay was \$5.00 within twenty miles of Hay Lakes, and if over twenty miles, I would get \$10.00. Some mills were over one hundred miles from Hay Lakes. So, by the time I'd pay for gas and upkeep on the car, there wasn't much left. So much for the Metzker Mills.

The big day came on October 17, 1938, when I took Olga Schmidt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gotliebe Schmidt, for my wife. Olga was born at Hay Lakes, and to this marriage we have two girls.

Phyllis is married to Alvin Tone and they live in Red Deer, Alberta. They have four children: Teresa, Debra, Marcel and Anthony. They have two grandchildren: Nadine and Tyler.

Joan is married to Alfred Bolster and live at Tofield, Alberta, and they have four children: Dwayne, Lesley, Lori and Darcy.

As I spent most of my life at Hay Lakes, I worked at many different trades, trucking for Lofgren Brothers, also for Gus Hein. Also for Adolph Mittelstadt as a clerk in the general store.

In 1944, I joined the Canadian Army and got my



1963 Henry and Olga Schaffrick and daughters left Phyllis and Joan.

discharge in 1946. In 1947, we went to the farm with two small girls, this farm being NW 29-49-21-W4. The land was all heavy bush, no land, no garden. We built a granary and we lived in it until fall. Then we built a small house and lived there till we sold the farm to Bill Sware and Willy Rost. Life on the farm was not very good, all I can remember is hard work to clear the bush, and work around the clock and no money either. Sometimes when I came home from the field picking roots, I couldn't straighten out. So back to the chiropractor for help.



Henry Schaffricks hobby a replica of St. Lukes Church Hay Lakes and Great Granddaughter Nadine Young.

In 1964, my health wasn't very good, so we sold the farm, and moved to Kelowna, B.C. Life was much better after we started to live like people again. I worked in the orchard for nine years, and had a wonderful man to work for.

Now we are both retired and enjoy life very much in the Okanagan. I play pool and bingo. For a hobby, I build all kinds of replicas of old buildings, like the house I was born in, Hay Lakes Church, grain elevator, barn, windmills. All the things that are old, I try to capture them, then hand them down to the grandchildren.

When the T.V. guys were here to film my buildings, they said that I brought Hay Lakes with me. I wish I could display them in Hay Lakes sometime.

Schneider, Emil

by Elsie (Schneider) Hirsch

Emil Schneider was born in Poland on February 29, 1880. At the age of eighteen, he left Poland and moved to Wisconsin, U.S.A. His parents, August and Emilie Schneider, brought the rest of the family later.



Emil Schneider.

In 1904, Emil came to Alberta. Again the rest of the family followed in 1907, settling in the Wetaskiwin area.

Besides my father, Emil, there were five other children. Pauline (Mrs. Ewald Lentz), Michael, Gus, Matilda (Mrs. Ted Winter), and Tofinna (Mrs. Jack Thomas).

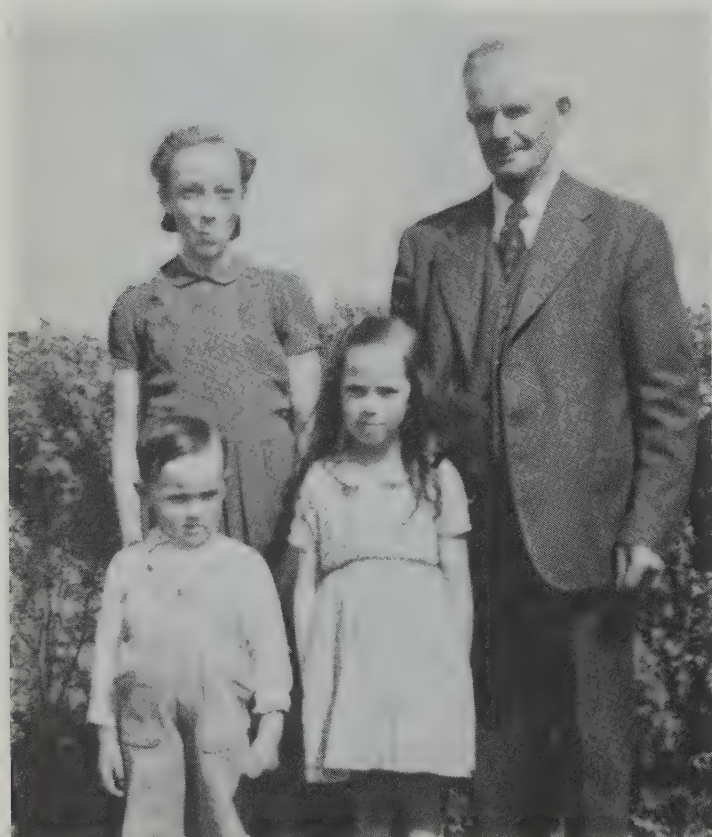
In June 1904 my father married Ida Warnke in Wetaskiwin. Ida Warnke was born in Germany on May 5th, 1883 and came to Alberta about 1902. They homesteaded ten miles west of Wetaskiwin. Their marriage was blessed with four children, Matilda, myself (Elsie), Alma, and Gus.

Mother passed away during childbirth on October 9th, 1917.

Dad was remarried in 1921 to Mrs. Emma Roloff who had a son Clarence by her previous marriage. To this marriage eleven children, five girls and six boys were born. Albert, Margaret and Freida were born on the Wetaskiwin farm. In 1927 the family moved to the Wembley area where Walter, Dorene, Don, Ernie, Douglas, Geraldine, Arlene and Robert were born.

In 1944 Dad and his brother Michael bought a farm close to Hay Lakes, SE 7-49-21-W4 and lived there until 1955. Due to ill health they moved to Albert and Matilda Hirsch's farm.

Dad passed away on September 20th, 1958 in the Camrose Hospital.



Dorene Hirsch, Michael Schneider, Harvey Hirsch and Shirley Hirsch.

Schneider, Michael

by Elsie Hirsch

Born in September of 1884, Michael lived on the homestead eight miles west of Wetaskiwin with his mother until March 1933 when she passed away. Michael never married and in 1944, he and his brother Emil bought a farm north of Hay Lakes, SE 7-49-21-W4. They farmed the land, raised sheep and kept bees for honey. They lived there until 1955 when, due to ill health, they moved into a little house on Albert and Matilda Hirsch's farm. They had their meals with the Hirsch's and Matilda was able to take care of their daily needs.

On September 20th, 1958 after a short illness, Emil passed away.

Shortly after Emil's death, Michael went to live with Martin and Elsie Hirsch in the Coronado district, north of Fort Saskatchewan. He also passed away after a very short illness on May 27th, 1959 in Edmonton, and is buried beside his parents and brother Emil, in the Brightview cemetery at Emmus Lutheran Church at Wetaskiwin.

Schubert Hanns and Lydia

by Lydia

Location of farm — N.E. 24-49-22-W4

Hanns Peter Schubert was born to Herman and Maria Schubert on February 10, 1906 in Dortmund, Germany. Here he attended public school, agriculture school and took English grammar at a night school. Although his parents owned and operated a dry goods store, Hanns was not interested in taking over the family business since his ambition was to be a farmer. Upon completion of his formal education Hanns worked for a farmer in Germany but realized that it would be many years before he would be able to own his own farm. Years before, friends of the family, Mr. and Mrs. Rhine had emigrated to Canada and were at this time farming in the Evansburg district. Through corresponding with the Rhine's, Hanns learned that Canada was a land of opportunity and was told that they would gladly sponsor him if he too wished to emigrate to this country. Arrangements were made and in February 1927 Hanns boarded the ship, Bremen, arriving in Canada seventeen days later — incidently Hanns celebrated his twenty-first birthday on the ship!

Hanns was greeted by a howling blizzard in Edmonton where previous arrangements had been made for Mr. Rhine to meet him. After a good warm meal Mr. Rhine told Hanns it was time for them to start for their farm in Evansburg — the trip would be made in a horse-drawn bob-sleigh. To keep warm Hanns would get off the sleigh occasionally and run behind. Finally at 3 a.m. they arrived at the Rhine

home. At this point Hanns wondered if his decision to come to this forsaken country was a foolish mistake! However, after a few days of good country cooking and sleep under the thick feather ticks, this great land of Canada looked challenging to this young immigrant.

Hanns wanted to begin working as soon as possible so Mr. Rhine took him to a nearby lumber camp. Here he was employed for \$3.00 per ten-hour day — six days a week — a bunk house with straw mattresses was provided. When the boss informed Hanns that he would have to stack slabs, weighing anywhere between one hundred fifty to two hundred pounds, the lumber jacks made a bet with him that he wouldn't last on that job more than a day or two. The men lost the bet as Hanns stayed on that job until the mill closed that spring as it was in operation only during the winter months. A farmer seven miles from the Rhine's needed help with the spring work so Hanns was hired. The wages were \$40.00 per month and the use of a saddle horse on Sundays. However, at the end of the first month he received twelve dollars less than promised and so decided to find a better paying job.

Through the Unemployment Agency in Edmonton, Hanns was hired by a farmer in the Ellerslie district. Upon his arrival at this farm that first dark rainy evening, he was told his bed would be the Winnipeg couch which was in the same room where the family ate their meals and visited with their friends. Around midnight he awakened to find the rain making him and his couch quite wet — he just moved the couch over to a spot where the roof wasn't leaking! In a few days he was turning over the soil, walking behind the plough in the freshly turned ground. It felt good to the feet and since his one shoe was giving him a problem, he decided to go barefooted — a decision which resulted in being off his feet for four days due to the reaction of a bee sting in his heel. By this time his sleeping quarters had been shifted to the barn hay loft and as he lay there recuperating he experienced homesickness for his private bedroom in Germany and for his mother who would have nursed his sore foot! After that experience, Hanns invested in a good pair of work boots and never tried to save shoe leather again. May 10, 1927 was a day he never forgot as that was the day he began seeding wheat — what a thrill to be in Canada! Since after the seeding was completed the farmer did not need him again until harvest time, Hanns moved on to a farmer in the Rolly View district, where he was able to help during the haying season. He really enjoyed the country side in the Rolly View area but often wondered if he would have to go back to the lumber mill for the winter since farmers didn't seem to need a hired hand during the winter months.

About this time Mr. Gottfried Drebert was involved in an accident with his horses and buggy and since the farmer for whom Hanns now worked was a brother to Mrs. Drebert, arrangements were made for Hanns to work for the Dreberts. Hanns was impressed with countryside in the New Sarepta area, pleased with his promised salary of \$50.00 per month and enjoyed the tasty meals and Christian fellowship afforded to him in the Drebert home.

Since my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Hirsch also resided in the New Sarepta community, my father visited Mr. Drebert one day to see how he was faring after the accident. Upon his return I heard him tell my mother that he had met the Drebert's hired man and that he would become their future son-in-law. I was horrified to hear my father say this and assured him that I was capable of finding my own husband. With a twinkle in his eye my father just said "just wait and see," and the subject was closed.

That fall when the threshing crew arrived at our farm, I was told to send the lunch with the first bundle team that passed the house. It just so happened that the Drebert's hired man, Hanns, was driving that first team and as our eyes met I agreed with my Father that this man should be his future son-in-law!

Since the Dreberts decided to sell their farm and move to B.C. Hanns wrote to his father in Germany encouraging him to come to Canada so that they could purchase this farm. His father agreed, arriving in Canada early in 1928. On February 28, 1928, only one year after arriving in Canada, Hanns was the proud owner of a farm! Hanns worked the land while his father did the cooking, gardening and helping with the chores. In July of that year Hanns' mother, Emma Maria, and sister, Margaret, arrived in Canada, but were not too impressed with the little hamlet of New Sarepta and less impressed with the little unpainted building, 14 x 24 that Hanns proudly called the 'house'! But the family was together once again and the ladies soon adjusted and enjoyed being in Canada.

Although Hanns, Margaret and their mother attended the Moravian Church, which was the church I attended as well, Hanns' father, Herman, would put on his best suit and cap (he never wore a hat), brushed his long beard until it shone, and walked the three and a half miles to the Lutheran Church in the village of New Sarepta. In his later years he would carry a cane on these pilgrimages to the village and was known in the community for never accepting a ride from a passing motorist.

Hanns and I were married on a beautiful day — Nov. 12, 1929, with approximately one hundred guests coming to my parents home for the meal which was prepared with the help of friends and



Wedding of Hanns Schubert to Lydia Hirsch 1929. Bestman Adolph Hirsch and Bridesmaid Margaret Schubert.

neighbours. Although the crop in 1929 had been good, wheat was selling for only \$1.00 a bushel so Hanns only sold what he needed to pay the taxes and groceries in the hopes of getting a better price in the spring so that we could build a house. By spring, however, the prices had dropped even more to a mere seventy cents a bushel and down to forty-four cents in 1931. Hogs sold for \$2.95 each; fattened cows brought \$27.00 and a can of cream testing 38-40 brought \$3.00. Our dream of building a house was shattered — we simply lived together with Hanns' parents and sister, using the attic as our bedroom. In March 1930 when my brother Adolph married Hanns' sister, Margaret, there was a bit more room in the house for awhile. However, in September 1930 our first child, a daughter, Mary, (Mrs. Ed Reinke) was born. Although Herman Schubert was disappointed that his first grandchild was not a boy to carry on the family name, he loved her and called her by his pet name, Komandoese. Although I did not go to a doctor during this pregnancy, the village mid-wife, Elizabeth Brosius, assisted the birth which took place in my parents' home.

Now with five people once again sharing this small house, it was decided that a lean-to would be built on so that each of our families would have a bit of privacy. We didn't have any money to furnish our

two rooms so one day my father told us we could have the money from the eight pigs he had been feeding. Mr. Bill Jersch, who did custom hauling was hired to take the pigs in to Gainers. With the \$29.00 we received from these pigs we were able to pay the trucker, buy a second-hand stove that doubled as a heater, two chairs, some dishes, pots and a tea kettle . . . and we even had enough to pay for dinner for ourselves and Mr. Jersch! Our table and a wash stand had been built with left over boards. Be it ever so humble, it was home and we enjoyed being on our own.

During these years of the Depression, although work was plentiful we were young, healthy and enjoyed living on a farm. We always had enough to eat.

In June 1934 Grandfather Schubert had his wish as a son, Irven, was born to us, in our home with my mother and a neighbor lady assisting with the birth. 'Major' was the pet name Grandfather Schubert chose for this newest member of the family. Grandfather Schubert was a great help on the farm — feeding the pigs, caring for the chickens and herding the cows along the road side. While herding the cows he would entertain his grandchildren as well as the neighbor's children by telling them stories. Grandmother Schubert assisted the Moravian pastors by helping in the confirmation classes as well as conducting some German classes. In 1936 Grandmother Schubert fractured her hip and because of complications it was necessary for her to use crutches for the rest of her lifetime.

In June 1938 our third child, Marjorie, was born in the private nursing home in Edmonton. The pet name of Mosel, a river in Germany, was given to this child by her grandfather.

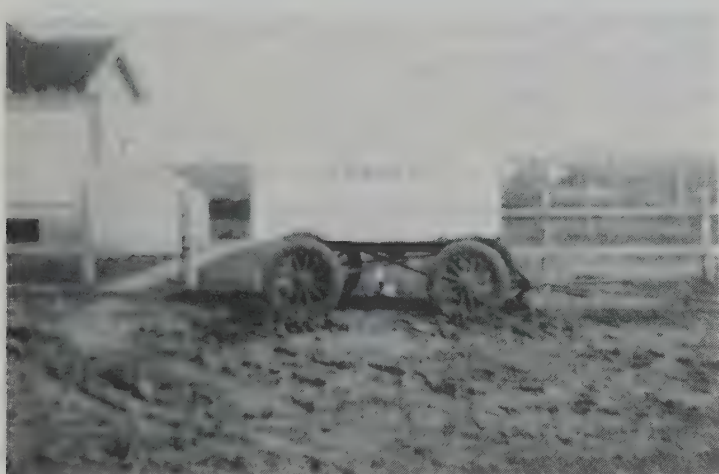
During the year of 1939 we were finally able to build a small two-roomed house for Hanns' parents since with a growing family it was necessary for us to have the use of the entire old house.

In February 1943 our fourth child, a son named Thomas, was born in the same nursing home in Edmonton, however, he passed away six days later. However, on March 27, 1943 a little girl weighing three pounds fourteen ounces was born and she became our chosen daughter thirteen days later. We named her Margaret Elizabeth. We thanked the Lord for giving us this infant and even though she was so tiny, with the help of my mother who was living with us at that time, Margaret soon became a healthy youngster. The old house was getting colder and draughtier each winter and although tentative plans for building a new house were in the making, hail or frost seemed to lessen the profit of the crops and the house-building project was delayed once more.

Finally in 1944 with Albert Hansen as carpenter

and help from friends and neighbors a five bedroom two-storey house was constructed. Although it wasn't completed when we moved in, it was a real luxury to have a coal furnace in the basement. No more pails of frozen water on the wash stand in the mornings!

During these early years of mixed farming we gradually started building up a herd of purebred Holstein cows with the ultimate goal of shipping fluid milk into Edmonton. The first member of this herd was a cow purchased from a neighbor, Robert Schmidt. Through selective breeding and purchasing registered heifer calves, by 1947 we had a herd of approximately fifteen registered milking cows. Also, during this time we joined the Holstein-Friesen Association and registered our farm using the name 'White Arch Dairy.'



Milk Wagon that replaced sleigh for milk delivery.

During the year of 1947 we became aware of the fact that the village of Hay Lakes was having difficulty in supplying its residents with fresh milk. A house to house canvas was conducted to determine the people's interest and approximate daily requirement. The result was that all but one family was agreeable that we begin delivering raw whole milk on a daily basis — the major question being "how soon can you start?" Application was made to the Provincial Health Department for a license — an inspection of the cows for T.B. was made; some changes in the barn had to be made to meet health requirements; a milk house with a cooling tank had to be built. Due to the fact that it was the fall of the year, the milk house was not built until the spring of 1948 so a temporary milk cooling and bottling room was set up in the basement of our house. Finally all requirements were met and a license issued permitting delivery to begin as of December 1, 1947. At this point there were still many preparations to be made such as purchasing half-pint, pint and quart bottles, printing bottle caps

with the White Arch Dairy inscription, printing tickets which would eliminate the use of daily cash in the bottles, purchasing bottle carrying baskets and securing a covered, coal-heated sleigh in which to transport the milk to keep it from freezing on the road. Just prior to the first day of delivery each customer was contacted and encouraged to purchase milk tickets which would be slightly less expensive than the fourteen cents per quart cash price — tickets were also more convenient for the customer as well as for us. A total of \$191.10 worth of milk tickets were sold that day! Another reason for the pre-delivery visit was to determine the number of quarts of milk required per day, as well as to lay out a delivery route. Finally the big day arrived, but alas, there was no snow — so our heated covered sleigh was useless! The only alternative was to load the cases of milk bottles onto the buggy, cover them with blankets and off we were — the first of many nine-mile trips made daily for the next several years. During the three and one half years that we delivered milk to the village the service was only interrupted once — and that was due to a very severe snow storm that hit on April 4th, 1950. Drifts were piled up to four feet high across parts of the road. Although we attempted to make the trip, the horses broke through the snow and we actually had to shovel them free! It took three days before the road was cleared and we were able to resume services.



Stove heated covered sleigh used to deliver milk to Hay Lake residents winter of 1947-48. (Marjorie Schubert and Rodney Kittlitz).

Hanns and I did not always do the delivering ourselves — our oldest daughter, Mary, helped until she married and left home in June, 1949. Then our oldest son, Irven took his turn. Of course the younger children, Marjorie and Margaret, would often go along on Saturdays during the summer holidays and 'help' whenever they could. One comical incident that Irven relates is coming home one spring day, the warm sun shining through the window of the horse-

drawn caboose, caused him to become drowsy and soon he fell asleep. This really was no problem since the horses knew the way well. Suddenly Irven became aware that he wasn't moving. Opening his eyes, to his embarrassment, the horses, Babe and Hazel, had their noses right against the radiator of a half-ton truck. It seemed that the horses didn't want to move off the track because the spring sun had caused the side of the roads to be a muddy mess! Lucky for Irven the stranger in the truck had a good sense of humor. In time the horse-drawn vehicles were replaced with a panel truck and other motor vehicles — this proved to an advantage when the road conditions were good as less time was spent travelling. One of the disadvantages were that once on our route, we continually had to go back to move the truck, whereas the horses would slowly proceed along the street from house to house and we needed to return to the rig only to replace the empty bottles with full ones.

We tried to be at our first customer's house, the Charlie McLeans' at 8 a.m. and would finish the route shortly after eleven arriving back home shortly after noon. Sometimes this was not the case — since the roads were not gravelled in those days we had many an interesting trip, especially during spring break up! One particular day the trip to the village was uneventful as the frost was still in the ground. However, on our return trip the wheels of the panel truck blocked with mud and became stuck right on the middle of the road. The phone had not yet been installed in our area so the only alternative was to walk home, get the horses and drag the panel truck home. Needless to say the day was almost over by the time we got all the wheels unplugged and got the panel back home. This kind of incident happened several times over the years.

As well as milk, we sold cream for thirty cents a pint; fresh vegetables and potatoes from our garden, eggs and fryers. In fact we butchered our year-old hens, canned them and sold the quarts of canned chicken for \$1.50. The demand was always greater than the supply!

In 1951 when the Edmonton Milk Shed expanded to take in the area where we lived, we began shipping milk in cans to the Edmonton City Dairy necessitating discontinuation of supplying bottled milk to the residents of Hay Lakes. Although this was a hard decision to make it was another step in progress for we would be able to increase our herd and utilize all our milk. These expansion plans, however, were never fully realized due to Hanns' premature illness in 1952 and subsequent death in 1954.

During these years three more sons were born into our family — Stanley Robert in 1947; John

David in 1951 and Stephen Stewart in 1952. Following the death of Hanns in 1954, I sold the dairy herd to my brother Albert Hirsch. Albert rented our farm for the next three years after which I sold it to Christian Olefsen. My mother, Emily Hirsch, who had been living with us all these years, passed away April 1954, just six weeks before my husband's death. Hanns' parents, who were still living in the little two-roomed house on the farm yard, decided to move into the Good Samaritan Hospital in Edmonton. Grandfather Schubert passed away the following year, in June 1955; Grandmother Schubert passed away in November 1964. In August 1954 I moved into Edmonton with the four younger children — Irven and Marjorie were already working there. Since 1975 all of the children are on their own — I live by myself and keep busy with my twenty grandchildren and other various duties which I enjoy.

Schulze, Herman **by Eric J. Schulze**

The Rev. Herman Schulze emigrated to Canada from Germany in 1910 to become the pastor of the Moravian Church in the Heimtal community, just south of Edmonton. He was followed by Emily Guenther in 1911, who became his bride on June sixth of that year. Their five children were Theodore, Rudolph, Samuel, Waldemar and Eric.

Theodore (Ted) attended the Olds School of Agriculture before settling on a farm NE 7-49-21-W4, two miles north of Hay Lakes in 1933, living in a two-room shack on the property which he purchased from the C.P.R. He began a mixed farming operation, with a concentration on hay because a good percentage of his farm maintained a fairly high water level until late spring. The hay was stacked in the summer months, and baled with a stationary baler in winter in preparation for shipment.

Both the harvesting of the grain and the baling of the hay were community projects, centering around the equipment which was owned by other farmers. Ted worked together with the Martin Henkelman family in both the harvesting and baling, and later on with Emil Nickel in harvesting.

During the summer months Ted always had company. One or two of his four younger brothers came to help with the hay crop and early harvesting each year during their school vacation months.

The Schulze family was a musical family. Ted participated in the choir, band and orchestra of the New Sarepta Moravian Church, and whoever of his brothers was visiting for the summer joined Ted in these activities. Their transportation was by bicycle and they would often return home from rehearsals after dark. It was a weird adventure because the roads



The Herman Schulze Family in about 1936. Standing, L. to R.: Rudi, Waldemar, Eric, Sam and Ted. Seated Emily and Herman.

were poor and ruts were deep. Adding to the hazards of night travel were the skunks which sometimes frequented the public roadways.

The church band occasionally had its rehearsals at the homes of band members, and the echoes of the music could be heard for many miles from Ted's farm as the band practised into the late evenings of the summer months in the cool out-of-doors.

Rudolph graduated from Moravian College and Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in 1939 and served as Moravian pastor in Edmonton and Didsbury in Alberta, and in congregations in Minnesota, North Dakota, Michigan, and Wisconsin in the United States. He had spent the summer of 1935, 1936, and 1938 with Ted in Hay Lakes, helping with the farming operations, and also participating in the musical church life at New Sarepta, at times in leadership capacity.

Rudi was married to Mildred Stoltz in 1943. Their three daughters are spread around the world, with Kathryn in Capetown, South Africa, where she is employed by Scripture Union, working in the book store as well as promoting the use of its literature and books for churches and other organizations. Joanne, Mrs. Dennis Fahringer, is in the Netherlands, where she and Dennis work with Youth with a Mission, headquartered in the Heidebeek community, where they live with their daughter, Jessica. Marilyn lives and works in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. Rudi and Mildred are now retired in Wisconsin Rapids, after nearly forty-two years in the Moravian ministry.

Samuel, after spending the summers of 1933 and 1934 helping on the farm, moved in with Ted and attended the Hay Lakes Village school from September 1934 to June 1936, taking subjects in Grade X and XI. During those years he also joined Ted in the band and orchestra of the New Sarepta Moravian Church. He continued to spend subsequent summers on the hay meadows while attending Strathcona High School and Moravian College. After graduating in 1942, he spent two years on the farm in Hay Lakes before his service in the Canadian Armed Forces from 1944 to 1946. While stationed in Kingston, Ontario, he met Dorothy Milton of Toronto. They were married when Sam returned from overseas in 1946 and lived in Toronto for several years before moving to Pickering, Ontario, where their son, David, was born in 1952, Dorothy died of cancer in 1962.

Sam married Enid Wallace in 1976. They live in Toronto from where Sam commutes to work as Music Librarian in the Oshawa Public library. David continues to live in Pickering, works in a machine shop, while continuing interest in, and maintaining connections with radio stations where he had previously worked. Enid is retired from Librarianship at the C.N.I.B. and now does volunteer work at the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre. She and Sam are both active on committees at Metropolitan United Church, where Sam has sung in the choir for thirty-three years.

About 1940 Ted acquired the farm vacated by Martin A. Henkelman, SW 9-49-21-W4, two miles northeast of Hay Lakes, and then the farm from Arthur F. Henkelman, SW 8-49-21-W4. The first of these two became the residence of his parents and two youngest brothers, Waldemar and Eric, upon his father's retirement in 1941.

Waldemar worked with Ted on the farms for nine years. During this time the farm operation grew and Waldemar provided valuable assistance with the daily chores, year round. Meanwhile Eric continued his education, taking eighth through tenth grades at the Hay Lakes Village School and completing his High School at Camrose Lutheran College before going on to Moravian College and Theological Seminary, from where he graduated in 1953.

Ted moved onto the former Arthur F. Henkelman farm in 1946, where he lived until he died in 1950. He had been active in various community activities, besides his activity in the New Sarepta Moravian Church, serving on the board of the United Grain Growers as well as the local Wheat Board, the Drainage Board, and the School Board.

Upon Ted's death, Rev. and Mrs. Schulze, Waldemar and Eric moved to Edmonton and the farms

were sold. Herman Schulze died in 1958, Mrs. Schulze in 1961, and Waldemar in 1978.

Eric served as pastor of Moravian Churches in Alberta, the West Indies, and Vancouver, and then in the Reformed Church in Calgary before taking his present position as pastor of the Lincoln Avenue Reformed Church in Pomona, California. He married Constance Fenske of Edmonton in 1954, a nurse by profession, who now works as staff development director at Horizons Hospital, a local psychiatric facility in Pomona. Their son, Dan, was married to Colleen Slatter in 1978. They live in Calgary, where Dan is service representative for Xerox and Colleen works for Can Del Oil. Edith, Dianne, and Tim live at home in California and attend local colleges in preparation for their careers.

Schuurmans, Rudy

Rudy Schuurmans was born in Friesland, Holland. He emigrated to Canada in 1965. Rudy became a resident of Hay Lakes in 1975. Rudy married Ann Beaton of Mabou, Nova Scotia on August 22, 1976.

Rudy and Anne became the proud parents of a lovely baby, born March 22, 1978, whom they named Anke Marie. On July 8, 1980, they were spreading the good news of the birth of their second baby, — a boy, named Angus Rudmer.

The Schuurmans resided in Hay Lakes until September 6, 1980, at which time they moved to Nova Scotia. They are presently residing in Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia.

Walfred Sikstrom Family

Walfred and his wife came from Lycksele Sweden about 1902. It is believed that he came about the same time as his brother Karl Peter and his sisters Vendla (Mrs. John Grahn) and Hilda (Mrs. John Carlson). He took up a homestead on NW 30-48-22-W4. They had two children, Alice and Wilfred. Upon leaving the farm they moved to Hammond, B.C.

Soch, Arthur and Florence and Family

Art was born at Ellerslie on May 15, 1920 to Mr. and Mrs. G. Soch. He was raised and took his schooling at Hay Lakes. He spent five years in the Army during World War II. In 1947, he married Elsie Berkholtz and to this marriage one son was born. Larry was born March 15, 1951. Elsie died in 1951.

Art loved to play baseball, and was known for his home runs. There was a lot of rivalry between Hay Lakes and Central Community.

In 1953, Art married Florence Rasmuson on November 25, Florence is the second daughter of Olaf and Frida Rasmuson, and was born December 8, 1927. Florence took her schooling at Offerdale.

She attended the Olds School of Agriculture, graduating in 1947. In 1951, Florence attended the Banff School of Fine Arts.

Art and Florence resided at Hay Lakes from 1953 to 1960 when they bought the Lawrence Maygard farm at Gwynne.

Art and Florence have three children, Bruce, Dennis and Arlene. Bruce was born Aug. 31, 1954. Dennis was born Dec. 29, 1955 and Arlene was born March 31, 1958. The children took their schooling at Gwynne and at Wetaskiwin Composite High School.

Larry married JoAnn Radowitz of Hay Lakes. Larry resides at Millwoods in Edmonton. To this marriage two children were born, namely: Kimberly and Wade. Larry works for Scott Testing.

Bruce married Sherry Cooper of Wetaskiwin. Bruce is a trucker. They have two children, Mauren and Susan.

Arlene married Wayne Stevenson of Camrose, Dec. 10, 1976. Arlene is employed at Woolworths, Camrose, and Wayne is employed at Macleods, Camrose.

Dennis married Karen Law of Wetaskiwin, July 8, 1978. Dennis is employed in Construction and Karen is employed at A.G.T.

Art and Florence are looking forward to being grandparents twice this year.

Florence spent a few years coaching the girls' ball team. We admit to more losses than wins, but the good time had by the girls was real rewarding. Florence was also secretary-treasurer of Central Community Hall for a number of years.

Art spent a number of years on the Hall Board. Art's special talent is Bar-Be-Cueing; he is assisted by his wife.

Florence and Art celebrated their Silver Wedding on Nov. 25, 1978, with a program and dance at Central Community Hall.

Soch Ernest

by Olga Hickey

Ernest was the first son born to Gottlieb and Emelie Soch. He was born on April 6, 1910 in Ellerslie, Alberta.

He was baptized in the Ellerslie Lutheran Church. He attended the Sandy Lake School.

In 1921, the parents and brothers and sisters moved to the Hay Lakes district. Here he finished his education in the Hay Lakes Public School. He was confirmed in St. Stephens Lutheran Church, which was located three miles west of the town.

When he was through school he helped with the farm work. He also worked for his Uncle Charlie in Millet for some time. As time went on, and the other



Ernest Soch on the farm.

brothers went out working, Ernest stayed at home and eventually took over the home place. With the old log barns caving in, he finally had to build a new barn, which was badly needed. But by climbing up and down he fell and broke his leg. He had trouble with this leg for many years.

In 1975, he sold the farm and moved into the town of Hay Lakes. He had bought a house and lot from Edd Wendt which belongs to Jack Roper at present.

Ernest enjoyed living in town for about four years, when illness struck him. He was soon hospitalized and after the amputation of one leg he did not get any better.

Ernest passed away on Jan. 13, 1978 at the age of 68 years.

Soch, Erven and Adeline by Deborah and Dean Frey

Erven Soch was born on May 4, 1928 in Ellerslie, Alberta, the second child of Samuel and Alvina (nee Henschel) Soch. He went to school in Canard until Grade III, when his family moved to the present family farm at NW 12-49-22-W4. He attended school in Hay Lakes until Grade VIII, when the war-time labour shortage caused him to drop out to help on the farm.

Then he met Adeline Miller who was living on the neighbouring farm. Adeline was born in Marganovka, Ukraine, May 21, 1936, the second child of Otto and Freida (nee Hess) Miller. During the war, her family fled to Poland, and then to Germany, where they made their home in Tappenbeck, West Germany. In November 1, 1948, the family emigrated to Canada and settled near Hay Lakes. Adeline went to school for two years in New Sarepta rural school, and finished her education (to grade V) in Hay Lakes.

Adeline and Erven were married July 4, 1953 in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in rural Hay Lakes. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Kurt Keitel. The couple honeymooned in Waterton Park, Banff and Jasper.



L. to R.: Adeline, Darrel, Gordon and Erven Soch in 1972.

They went in half-partnership with Erven's father Samuel, until 1960, when they took over the operation of the farm when Samuel passed away.

Adeline and Erven have two children: Darrell born in 1954, and Gordon born in 1958. Both went to school in Hay Lakes, Darrell to Grade XII, Gordon to Grade XI, and are presently in partnership with their parents in the operation of the family farm.

Soch, Gottlieb and Emelie by Olga Hickey

Gottlieb Soch was born in Wolhynia, Russia on January 10, 1882. He was the second son born to John Soch and his wife Juliana (nee Janz). Gottlieb emigrated to Canada in 1901 at the age of nineteen years, together with his brother, Gottfried. Gottlieb worked on the railroad and in whatever work was to be had. He also worked on the farm for William Henschell.

Gottlieb met and courted Emelie Knopp. Emelie was the oldest child born to William Ludwig and Juliana Knopp (nee Ertman). Emelie was a farmer's daughter. She emigrated to Canada with her parents from Russia in 1898 as a young girl. Gottlieb and Emelie both received the blessing of a Christian education and were received by confirmation into the full communion with the church.

They were married in the Ellerslie Lutheran Church on Dec. 26, 1907. To this marriage ten children were born.



Grandpa and Grandma John and Juliana Soch.

Helena, born Nov. 5, 1908. She married Leo Berkholtz, they have three sons, Lawrence, Irvin and Ronald.

Ernest, born April 6, 1910.

August, born Dec. 20, 1911. He married Freida Tober. They have five children, Eileen, Gordon, Sylvia, Edith, and Valarie.

Alfred, born June 4, 1914. Alfred married Martha Tober. They had four children, Richard, Jeannie, Anna and Reinhardt. When Martha passed away he married Lottie O'Neill. She had one daughter, Frances and they have three girls, Carmen, Terry, and Patricia.

Olga, born Nov. 30, 1915. She married Ralph Hickey and they have four children, Lorraine, Linda, Audrey, and Rueben.

Martha, born Sept. 22, 1918. Martha married Ewald Tober and they have six children, Marlene, Deanne, Kenneth, Wilfred, Marjorie, Gerald and Terrance.

Arthur, born May 15, 1920. He married Elsie Berkholtz and they had one son Larry. Elsie passed away and Art married Florence Rasmussen. They have three children, Bruce, Dennis, and Arlene.

Mary, born March 9, 1924. She married Joe Blas. They had no family.

Sophie, born Feb. 25, 1928. Sophie married Albert Tober and they have three children, Bonnie, Barry, and Grant.

Ewald, born March 21, 1930. He married Irene Posein and they have six children, Rosemary, Barbara, Brian, Clarence, Jimmy, and Jerry.

They farmed in the Ellerslie district till 1921, when they sold the farm and moved to Hay Lakes. They bought the farm from Emelie's father, William Knopp, which is located about one mile west of Hay Lakes town.



Gottlieb and Emelie Soch.

There was a lot of bush on this farm at the time, so there was a lot of work to be done, such as brushing and breaking the land.

By this time some of the children were old enough to help along with the work. Times were hard through the depression, but they always saw to it that the family was dressed and never went hungry. Eggs sold for five cents a dozen and a big beef sold for \$8.00, but they managed.

After many years of hard work, Gottlieb began ailing and later developed dropsy. After being sick for a few years, Gottlieb passed away on Sept. 13, 1942, at the age of sixty years.

Emelie stayed on the farm with some of the children still at home. Soon the children were all married and gone their own way, except Ernest, who stayed on the farm with Emelie.

Emelie was a widow for twenty-one years. She

spent her last few months at the Bethany Home and Hospital.

Emelie passed away on Oct. 21, 1963 at the age of seventy-three years.

Mary was the fourth daughter born to Gottlieb and Emelie Soch. Mary was born March 9, 1924 in Hay Lakes. She was baptized in St. Stephens Lutheran Church. She was also confirmed in St. Stephens Lutheran Church. Mary attended the Hay Lakes School.

Later on she went to Edmonton to work. After spending some time there she met Joe Blazs. Joe was working in the city as a truck driver. They were married in St. Stephens Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

After working for a few years in Edmonton, they moved to Vancouver. Here Mary was stricken with Multiple Sclerosis and after some time was bedridden from the crippling disease. Mary passed away in Vancouver. She was brought to Hay Lakes to be laid to rest in the Church Cemetery.

Soch, Samuel and Alvina and Family by Deborah and Dean Frey

Samuel Soch was born in 1896 in Volinya, Russia. At the age of three years, he emigrated with his parents, Gottlieb and Carolina (nee Jantz) Soch, to Canada, settling in Ellerslie, Alberta. At the age of nineteen, he bought a farm in the Hay Lakes area from the Hudson's Bay Company, SE 8-49-22-W4. The first years, Samuel slept under his wagon, and began clearing the land. He put in a well, and built a log house in 1920. In 1920 he married Emma Tober from Hay Lakes, who passed away in 1922.



Samuel Soch Family 1949. L. to R., Standing: Flora, Margaret, Wilfred. Seated: Sam, Erven and Alvina.

The same year he married Alvina Henschel on October 26. Alvina was born in Ellerslie in 1903, the oldest daughter of Gus and Louisa (nee Lemke)

Henschel. She went to Mill Creek School for two years, and then helped her parents with the farm. Samuel and Alvina were brought together through the services of a "Werbstmann", a matchmaker, that Samuel had hired to see if Alvina was available.

Right after the wedding, with no time for a honeymoon, the couple moved to their farm, where they started with eight cows, two sheep and a few pigs. They lived there until December 23, 1937, when they moved to the farm of NW 12-49-22-W4, where Alvina still lives. Grandma Soch is famous for her good cooking and baking, as quoted by threshing crews.

Grandma Soch recalled an incident in 1924 when Sam was called upon to be a "Brauts Deiner" — bride's servant — for his sister Martha's wedding. Before the time of wedding invitations, a bride's servant went around to neighbouring farms delivering verbal invitations to the wedding.



Sam 1924 as "Brauts Deiner".

Samuel and Alvina had four children: Flora, born in 1925, Erven (1928), Wilfred (1930) and Margaret (1935). Flora married Eddie Knoske of Edmonton in 1950; they presently live in Ermineskin, Edmonton.

Ervin married Adeline Miller in 1953; they and their two sons, Darrell and Gordon, live on the family farm with Alvina.

Wilfred who married Rita Radke in 1953, lives on a farm one mile north of the family farm. They have three children, Deborah, Calvin and Terry. Margaret married Yorry Sibulak of Drumheller in 1956; they live in Beverley, Edmonton, and have four children, Karen, Wade, Randal and Jamie, and one grandchild, Lindsay. Altogether, Alvina has nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Samuel passed away in 1960, at the age of sixty-four.

Soch, Wilfred and Rita **by Dean and Deborah Frey**

Wilfred Soch was born on February 19th, 1930, in Ellerslie Alberta, the third child of Samuel and Alvina (nee Henschel) Soch. He started school in September of 1937 at Canard. Four months later, his parents moved to the present farm-site northwest of Hay Lakes, and he attended Hay Lakes school until the ninth grade. After one day in Grade IX, he

thought that threshing would be more fun, so he quit, and worked on the family farm for the next few years.

Then he met Rita Radtke, who is from Hay Lakes. After a three-year courtship, they were married on July 17, 1952, at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in rural Hay Lakes. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Kurt Keitel.

Rita was the sixth child of John and Anna (nee Mogdans) Radtke, and was born on November 27th, 1934 in a log house on a farm near Hay Lakes. She went to Ellswick School, at Bittern Lake, for six years. Then, when her family moved to a farm in the Canard district, she went until Grade IX at Canard School.

After a two-week honeymoon in Yellowstone Park, Wilfred and Rita settled on the farm where they presently live, which was previously owned by Karl Klammer. The farm, located on NW 13-49-22-W4, is crossed by the historic Hay Lakes Trail, which was used by the early settlers to travel from Camrose to Edmonton.

Wilfred has driven school bus for the County of Camrose for twenty-one years, and is still back in his old stomping grounds, driving the Canard route. Wilfred and Rita are great sports enthusiasts, both enjoying curling and golfing. Wilfred, a fan of the Calgary Stampeders since 1948, has played baseball and fastball in Hay Lakes. He enjoys working with the youth, and has coached minor baseball. Rita is an active gardener, having won the County of Camrose Beautification Award in 1974. Both take part in community and church projects.

Wilf and Rita have three children, a daughter Deborah born in 1953, and two sons: Calvin born in



Rita and Wilfred Soch 1952.



L. to R.: Calvin, Deborah and her husband Dean and Terrence.

1957, and Terrence born in 1967. Deborah married Dean Frey of Edmonton in 1975; she presently works at the Provincial Museum and Archives as a library technician. Dean works as a wine consultant for Schenley Wines and Spirits. Calvin works as a carpenter for Dar-West Oil of Edmonton. Terry is presently going to Hay Lakes School in Grade VIII. Deborah and Calvin both went to Hay Lakes School and finished Grade XII.

Stavne Raymond and Bertha

Bertha Grue, oldest daughter of Simon and Berthea Grue was born Sept. 14, 1912 at Hay Lakes and attended school in Hay Lakes. She was a Luther League member of St. Joseph Lutheran Church and sang in the St. Joseph Choir and also in the parish choir. She taught Sunday School for several years and sang in the Grue quartet along with Olga, Lars, and Simon Grue. The choir put on an Easter Cantata under the direction of Lars C. Grue in 1932. Bertha was later a member of the parish choir led by Nels Grue.

On August 4, 1938, Bertha married Raymond Stavne. Raymond, son of Anton and Anna Stavne, was born at Lake Demay six miles north of Ohaton on April 7, 1905. He with his parents and brothers Art, Vernon, and sister Clara moved to the Armena district in 1917. Bertha and Raymond made their home one mile south-east of Hay Lakes, N.W. 32-48-21-W4, neighboring Bertha's homeplace where they still reside. To their union was born one daughter Sharon.



Raymond and Bertha Stavne with daughter Sharon 1964.

Sharon was born March 10, 1948. She took all of her schooling in Hay Lakes. After attending the Camrose Lutheran College and the University of Alberta in Edmonton, she taught school at Round Hill. It was there that she met her future husband. On August 8, 1970, she married Donald Anderson who had grown up and taken his education in Edberg, Alberta, later attending Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary. They settled in Camrose where Don continued his occupation as electrician and Sharon commuted to her teaching job in Round Hill. Their first son, Kelly, was born on Feb. 8, 1972. Darcy was born on Sept. 16, 1974. Don and Sharon purchased a farm and moved to SE 3-45-20-W4, north-west of Edberg in May of 1975. They also have one daughter Twyla born Aug. 26, 1977. Don is engaged in cattle and grain farming. They are members of Edberg Lutheran Church and are active in community affairs.

Stelmaker, Gotlib

Gotlib Stelmaker was born in Volhynia, Russia in 1864 where he married Julia Zucht who was born in 1868. In 1904, Gotlib decided that he would venture into a new land and came to Canada leaving his wife and their three small children behind. He took a homestead on NW 12-49-22-W4 and began to clear some land. As soon as the children were a little older, Julia joined him. There were five more children born while they lived on this homestead.

Later they moved to SE 3-49-22-W4. This land was adjacent to the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church of which they were members. The Luther League ball diamond was on their land and several picnics were held there also. It was while they were living here that Julia passed away in 1937. This was also the year the bell was installed in the church and Gotlib used to ring the bell and beckon the people to come to church.

Gotlib remarried and his new wife had a grandson, Arthur Peters, who lived with them for awhile. Gotlib passed away in 1950 at which time they were living in a house near the village and Arthur was going to school in Hay Lakes.

The children of the Gotlib Stelmakers are:

Emil, who married Alvina Tobert, had one daughter born to them. Emil lives in the Wetaskiwin area.

Emma married Gottlib Schmidt in 1909. They had eleven children and farmed in the Big Hay Lake district for several years. Gottlib passed away in 1970, and Emma passed away in Kelowna.

Carl married Helen Berkholtz, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Berkholtz. They have two sons

and two daughters and lived in this area for many years.

Carl bought the poolroom in the village which he ran for a few years.

They celebrated their fiftieth Wedding Anniversary a few years ago at their home in Winfield, British Columbia.

Olga, their second daughter, never married. She passed away in 1918.

Bill and his wife, Rola, had three children. Bill died in an accident in 1932 and is buried in the New Sarepta cemetery.

Rudolph married Bertha (Berkholtz) Gerring daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Berkholtz, who had five children. They lived in the Canard school district and the children Alma, Lawrence, Alex, Allan and Eddie attended school there for awhile. Rudolph later bought the "Charlie's" café in town which he ran for a short while.

John married Elsie Schultz, daughter of Julius Schultz. They moved to Port Alberni on Vancouver Island where he worked in a logging camp on the Franklin River. They had five children.

Reinhold married Alice Mine. To this union one daughter was born. Reinhold ran a poolroom in Hobema and is now living in Vancouver.

The Sam Sych Family

My father and mother, George and Mary Sych, arrived from the Ukraine in 1902 with two children, (Harry and Rosie) and took a homestead three miles south of Hay Lakes, NW 20-48-21-W4. Here on this homestead were the first roots of the Sych Family. The first house was built of logs with a grass and earth roof. There was no floor, but only earth. More children were born to the family — Bill, Annie, and John. I remember vividly how the first house looked. The second house was also built of logs, but already had windows, floor and shingled roof. In this house I (Sam) was born April 16, 1911. In 1908 Church services were held at the house by Father Hura and Father Ladyka because there was no church.

I grew up like the other children. At the age of seven I started walking to school in Hay Lakes. As I was growing up it was my duty to milk four to six cows before going to school. On my way to school with a "jam-pail of Rogers corn syrup sandwiches", I chased the cows one half mile to the other farm to pasture. In the evening I brought them back home to be milked before dark. The cows were milked in an outside corral, under a lantern hanging from a nearby tree branch. If it rained I was soaked. At the age of fifteen I finished Grade eight and was expected to work on the farm.

Years went by; my brothers and sisters got married and were farming on their own. I was the youngest in the family, father and mother said, "the home place is yours." There was no decent barn on the place. I said, "We should build a barn." Father said, "Do what you want," so I had the barn built.

My father and mother were getting old, father was seventy-seven years old and mother was seventy-five years old. So I decided to get married. I became engaged and later married my lovely wife, Aleksandra (Elsie) Necyk, from Tofield, Alberta. She was born on May 20, 1922 in Lvov, Ukraine. In 1939 she came with her mother and step-father Panasuik, to Canada. On May 25, 1941 we were married in the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Tofield, Alberta by Father Dzegolek. The Wedding Celebrations took place in Tofield and in Hay Lakes, on the home place. Our marriage was very happy and my parents liked my wife very much.



Aleksandra (Elsie) Necyk and Sam Sych in 1941.

In August 1942, we filled the hay loft full and went to the house for lunch. The sky was clear, just a little cloud was coming from the east. All at once "lighting" struck, so hard that the house shook. I looked through the window, the ventilator was smashed, the lightning had struck the barn. In a few minutes the whole barn was on fire.

My wife was pregnant. After hard work and the lightning, our first baby was born prematurely at eight months at the Edmonton General Hospital. He lived sixteen hours and was baptized Vladmir B. Sych. It was God's will. He was buried in the graveyard by the Ukrainian Catholic Church at Hay Lakes.

In the fall of 1943, it never before came to my mind that we would have to leave my old parents we loved so much, and Hay Lakes. I had lived here until now and I was thirty-two years old. We left for Tofield, Alberta and spent the winter with my wife's mother and step-father Panasiuk. I left full line of power machinery, horses, cattle, and a new car. We took only our clothes. My wife was eight months pregnant; we left because of outside interference.

In Tofield, Alberta in the morning of December 19, 1943 my wife was getting pains so I called the ambulance and nurse. On the way to Camrose, Alberta, our eldest daughter, Sylvia Anne, was born. My wife and baby spent two weeks in the hospital.

In the spring of 1944 we said, "we are going back to Hay Lakes." My wife's parents said, "Buy land in Tofield and live here." My wife said, "No, I like Hay Lakes and the people in Hay Lakes, we are going back." We had land in Hay Lakes, NE 19-48-21 W4. It was not all paid for and there was not much broken land.



L. to R.: Sam, Donna, Sylvia and Elsie Sych in 1968.

In Hay Lakes town, Otto Grahn had a house for sale and I bought that house. It had two rooms — a kitchen and a bedroom. I moved the house to my farm. My wife's parents bought us an older car. Then I took my wife and baby daughter, Sylvia, and came to our house at Hay Lakes. There was no milk for the baby, no water. For a while I was hauling water from the neighbor.

I bought a tractor and borrowed other machinery from neighbors before buying my own machinery. We built a barn from straw. In 1945 we bought a threshing machine on sale. Later on we started building from lumber — a barn, a garage, a chicken house, hog barn, a shelter for cattle and a machine shed. In 1951 I traded the thresh-machine on a new self-propelled combine.

March 2, 1947 daughter, Luba Donna was born in the Camrose hospital.

In 1948 we built a new home and it was blessed in 1949 by Father Soroka, Father Kurelo and Father Bylik. We lived very happy in this house; God was with us.

The first Ukrainian Catholic Women's League was started in November 1949 by Father Kurelo. My wife Aleksandra (Elsie) joined this league. She was controller, secretary and vice president. Elsie was elected delegate three times to attend the "Ukrainian Catholic Congress of Canada", in Edmonton. She was always active in Church affairs, and sang in the choir. Later, she received a diploma for Twenty Years of Service in the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League. At Christmas we went carolling from house to house and I drove the car.

In 1955 I was elected president of the Ukrainian Catholic Holy Cross Parish in Hay Lakes. Father Hrynshyn was parish priest. I called a meeting and it was decided to level the graveyard.

In 1956, Most Reverend Bishop Neil Savaryn came for a visit to the Holy Cross parish. He had a church service. After service, dinner for two hundred people was served in the Hay Lakes Hall by the Women's League. Our daughter, Luba Donna, presented the Bishop with a bouquet of flowers. Also, my wife gave a speech.

We invited Most Reverend Bishop Neil Savaryn, Father Hrynshyn and Father Kupranich for supper to our home.

In 1957 the Bishop gave the church board permission to do something with the church and badly cracked foundation. I, as president, called a parish meeting and all agreed to make a full church basement, turn the church with the front entrance facing the road, widen it at the front entrance, new shingles, new paint outside and inside. For this project Harry Marusak donated \$1000.00 and the rest was paid by

the church members and Women's League. Every Sunday there was Mass in this church. I was president for seventeen years. In 1972 at the Church meeting I resigned as president and the board was left without a president.

In the spring of 1973 we sold our farm, had a sale and sold everything. We moved to Edmonton and bought a house at Northgate. We became members at St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral. My wife joined the U.C.W.L. and was elected delegate XVII Ukrainian Catholic Congress of Canada, at the MacDonald Hotel in Edmonton. She received first prize for a Special Bread Paska and was presented with a plaque.

March 18, 1974 I started working for Stedelbauer Chevrolet-Oldsmobile Garage. In 1975 I started driving the "Red Carpet Service Shuttle Bus" and I still enjoy working there.

We are proud of our two daughters, Sylvia Anne and Luba Donna. They enjoyed a very happy and well-rounded life at home and in the community. They both attended Hay Lakes School. Our eldest daughter, Sylvia Anne, did very well in her studies. She was president of the Student's Union. Teachers Mr. Ken Dahl and Mr. Dennis Murphy had a great influence on her life and the other students in the school. In 1962 she entered three years of Nursing training at the Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta. Upon graduation as a Registered Nurse she attended the University of Alberta and graduated in 1966 with a diploma in "Teaching and Supervision in Nursing". She was a Nursing Instructor at the Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta and the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, British Columbia. She worked on Medical Teaching Units at the Misericordia Hospital and University Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta. Sylvia had the opportunity to travel a great deal in North America and Europe. She helped campaign for the Conservative Party in the early 1970's. June 23, 1979 she married Donald Glenn Bohonos of Edmonton. They have a son, David Andrew Donald, who was born November 18, 1980.

Luba Donna, our second daughter, completed Grade eleven at Hay Lakes School and graduated from Grade twelve from St. Patrick's School Camrose, Alberta. In 1965 she entered a three-year Nursing Program at the Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta. She was Vice President and the President of the Student Nurses Association. In 1968 she graduated as a Registered Nurse and received the "Student's Proficiency Award", she began working at the University Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta. Later, she became the evening charge nurse. April 27, 1969 Luba Donna married Stan Svidar of Edmonton, Alberta. They have four children, Maria,

Christopher, John-Paul and Nicholas, and make their home in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

These, Bruno

Bruno, one of five children in the Helmut and Matilda (Rost) These family, was born on December 16, 1921, in Germany and came to the Hay Lakes area in 1925.

Bruno along with his brothers and sisters, Olga (who married Fred Bokenfoher), Otto, Carl (died) and Lydia (who married Gerald Schmidt) attended school in the Canard district. Remembering the old school days still brings back to mind the three miles they walked to school each day.

His love for horses triumphed one day in 1939 when he won first prize for his colt. Sixty-five other colts were entered.

In 1942, Bruno entered the Army and spent the next four years there. In 1946 he received his honorable discharge. He always liked the farm life so upon his homecoming he bought his first farm from Paul Mallas. Deciding this would not require all his time he also began working for Leduc Construction and later for Walter Seipert, also in the Construction business. In October, 1951, he married Doris Ertman, youngest daughter of William and Julia (Knopp) Ertman. Doris came from a large family having six sisters and two brothers; she was born on July 14, 1927 in New Sarepta and attended the village school. Our farm being along the railroad track was subject to a lot of unexpected visitors. During the hungry thirties, many men who were out of work would walk along the railroad tracks, from town to town looking for work. They would often stop at our



Bruno These Family. L. to R., Standing Back Row: Gary, Debbie and her husband Darrell Rousell. L. to R., Front: Bruno, Michael, Bill and Doris.

place looking for food. Even though times were hard, Mom always had a sandwich and milk or coffee for them. Many times that was all they had to eat all day. I guess you could say it was the Ronald MacDonald's of the thirties.

In 1952 we sold our farm to the Lede brothers and bought a half section of land from Dan Erickson (NE 24-48-22-W4). This is where we lived for twenty-seven years. There was no electricity or running water so after a few years of hard work we were able to afford Calgary Power and running water. This made things much easier for us.

In 1966 we bought the Jim McLeod farm. On this farm is where in 1903, Martin Westad opened the first store for the Hay Lakes area. In 1969 we bought a section of land from Eddie Kreamer (Sec. 3-50-21-W4) which is now used for pasture.

Bruno and Doris were blessed with four children. The oldest, Gary Collin, married Jean Gannon and is farming the homeplace. Debra Ann married Darrell Roussell and live in Hay Lakes. They also have two children, Kara Dawn and Justin Eric. William Mark is at home and operates his own bobcat business. Michael James is at home, still attending school.

On November 4, 1979 we started building our new house and after many hours of hard work we moved in on November 20, 1980. We rented our land to Gary and Jean and plan to enjoy our new home and do many things we did not have time to do before.

These, Gary and Jean

by Jean These

The first day they met him, June 17, 1952 they thought he was beautiful . . . bold, toothless and addicted to the bottle! Blind they were not, but new parents they were. Bruno and Doris named their first born child, Gary Collin These. He was to add much joy to their lives but naturally there were "**those days**". Like the one, four-year-old Gary used up a 15-gallon drum of motor oil to oil his trike! Then there was that day, Dad and Uncle Otto worked fixing the Carlson drive on the binder . . . all that was left was a quick trip to town for parts and the long hours of work would be completed. Who would have guessed a child so young could dismantle in an hour what had taken two men a whole morning to put together? Even at such a tender age, Gary had great foresight which on this particular morning helped to keep his Dad's hand from warming his "hind" sight. Gary had carefully stashed all the removed parts and only tender loving care could coax from him the whereabouts of the parts.

Gary attended Hay Lakes School for all twelve years, graduating with his Diploma in 1970. He took one year of Heavy Duty Technology at NAIT, then

due to his father becoming ill, he gave up NAIT to become a full-time farmer.

On July 21, 1979 Gary increased his "spread" by adding to it, two beautiful Samoyed dogs, two **house** (?) cats and a school teacher, his wife, Jean. The above are not necessarily listed in order of importance.



Gary and Jean These.

Jean Kathleen Gannon was born in Westlock but at the age of two moved north to High Prairie. The youngest child of Matt and Emily Gannon, Jean was always described as being "such an active child" . . . thankfully "hyper" hadn't come along yet.

Attempts were made to channel Jean's energy . . . into skating, swimming, baton twirling and some times even school work. Her schooling started in High Prairie, Grades one to ten, Grades eleven and twelve were completed at Paul Kane, in St. Albert, first year of college at CLC, Camrose, second year at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Sask., then a year's break from school as she escaped to Europe for a work holiday. Europe was great except in Sweden where she worked for a family whose last name fully described her feelings for them. On returning to Canada, Jean went north to work in the Rainbow Lake oil patch, then a slight move south, to teach on Big Prairie Meths Colony. Jean went to the University of Alberta and picked up three years in the field of Education. On completion she taught two years at E. W. Pratt in High Prairie, then a move to the land of the midnight sun . . . Faro, Yukon. After two wonderful years in the north, Jean went back to the University of Alberta and finished her Bachelor of Education. In February of 1977, she started teaching at Hay Lakes School.

While participating in her favorite sport . . . curling . . . Jean finally noticed the tall, dark, handsome stranger she kept accidentally tripping over and who she finally caught and married July 21, 1979. A Christmas Caribbean cruise was a nice honeymoon for the couple.

Gary and Jean lived in a teacherage in Hay Lakes for the first year and a half of wedded bliss, moving to the farm (NE 24-48-22-W4), Nov. 29, 1980.

Gary is the oldest in a family of four and Jean is the youngest in a family of four children . . . so four and four does equal eight and it is a big farm . . . however Gary says a flat “no” . . . two dogs is more than enough.

Conrad Tomaszewski

Conrad, son of John and Dorothy Tomaszewski, was born and raised in the Round Hill area.

In April 1969, Conrad married Carol Hansen, daughter of Ted and Betty Hansen. For three years they lived and worked in Edmonton. Then in 1972, they built a new home on the southwest corner of the Ted Hansen farm. They commuted together to their jobs in Edmonton until December 1973 when Dale arrived and Carol decided to become a “Domestic Engineer”. In August 1975, a little girl stepped into the household. Her name is Gina.

Conrad continued working in Edmonton until 1979 at which time he started a mechanical repair shop at home — that being Maintenance Overload. They later incorporated the company under the name of Tomaszewski Holdings Limited.

Wahl, Ernest and Marlene by Marlene Wahl

Ernest Wahl is the eldest and only son of Gus and Hilda Wahl. He was born in December, 1931. Ernie received all his education in Hay Lakes. After quitting school, he helped his folks on the family farm for a number of years.

When Ernie reached an age when he felt he wanted to work somewhere else beside the farm he worked at a number of different jobs. One was helping to set up the poles for the rural Calgary Power line. Another was helping to dig the sewer at Hay Lakes. He also worked as a battery operator and on a service rig.

In 1952, Ernest went to work for an oil rig at Provost. His rig moved to Saskatchewan and Manitoba, so for the next two winters, from freeze-up in the fall till spring break-up he would work on the rig. During the spring and summer he would come back to the farm and help his folks with the farming.

In 1958, he rented a half section of land about six

miles south of Hay Lakes. He farmed there until March of 1966, when he bought his parents’ farm. (They retired and moved to Kelowna, British Columbia.)

On April 7, 1961, Ernie married Marlene Rost of Hay Lakes. Marlene was born to George and Elsie Rost on May 30, 1939. She attended the Canard School until Grade five, and then in 1952 when the rural school amalgamated with Hay Lakes she completed her grade ten. In July of 1959, she completed a Nursing Aide course and in March of the following year she was employed at St. Mary’s Hospital as an Alberta Certified Nursing Aide, until she married Ernie.

At the stag party which some of Ernie’s friends staged for him before the wedding, he was given a present — a goat. So Ernie brought him home. This was no stupid goat. He knew his place when Ernie was around, and he knew he was boss when he was left alone on the place with Marlene. This didn’t sit well with Marlene, who informed her husband that either the goat went or she did. (Ernie sometimes thinks he got rid of the wrong one.) So on a Saturday morning, Ernie took the goat into Camrose to sell it. But he had a better idea, he thought that if he left the goat in Grant and Doris Skippen’s house, it would be a real good joke. Well, the joke was on Ernie when he found out that Skippens were gone all weekend and he had left the goat locked in the basement of the house, tied to a support pipe. So the goat spent a luxurious weekend without food or water in the base-



L. to R.: Marlene, Ernie, Brenda, Leif, Faye and Kevin Klonteig.

ment of the house in Camrose. Needless to say the ring around the support pipe was telltale evidence for years to come.

Ernie and Marlene had three children, Faye, born on October 5, 1961, Leif, born on October 30, 1962, and Brenda, born on October 29, 1963. In 1966, Ernie and his family moved to his folk's farm, two and a half miles south of Hay Lakes.

Besides just farming and milking cows, Ernie thought he would supplement his income, so he sold chemical weed spray and a few years later he sold fertilizer for four years for a company called Simplot. Two years later he sold fertilizer for a company called Cominco.

Ernie enjoyed sports. He played baseball and hockey. He was an enthusiastic competitor and fan. In 1971 to 1974, Ernie was President of the Curling Club as well as being caretaker of the curling rink for a few years.

Marlene was also an active member of the community, belonging to the Curling Club and the Ladies Circle S Club. Marlene also supplemented Ernie's income by working in Camrose at the Bethany Nursing Home from August, 1977 to January, 1981.

In June of 1979, Faye graduated from the Hay Lakes High School and in July of the same year, she married Kevin Klonteig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Klonteig of Kelowna, British Columbia. (Kevin's mother Gladys, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Olson of Hay Lakes) Kevin is presently working for Main Plumbing and Heating Supplies in Edmonton and Faye is working for Alberta Government Telephones in Edmonton. At present they are residing in Hay Lakes.

Leif received his High School Diploma in June of 1980 and is presently working for Stelco in Camrose. He is living in the Hay Lakes area.

Brenda, completed her High School and graduated in June of 1981, and is employed at Alberta Government Telephones in Edmonton. At present she is living in Edmonton.

Wahl, Gus and Hilda

by Hilda Wahl

Gus Wahl, son of Jacob and Caroline Wahl (nee Fernsel), was born in Sternenfels, Germany, February 15, 1907. As a young man of twenty years, Gus left his homeland and emigrated to Canada in May, 1927. He first stayed in Manitoba with an uncle, who had emigrated two years earlier. Gus was there only a short period of time before coming to Alberta and settling in Hay Lakes. Work was not easy to find and Gus started out as a laborer, working on neighbour's farms in the district. He was kept busy clearing land in the summer and in the fall he was stooking and

driving a team of horses and a wagon with a rack hauling bundles to the threshing machine.

In 1929, Ed Bittner, his future-in-law, sold him a quarter section of land (SE 29-48-21-W4), three miles south-east of Hay Lakes. So Gus tried to make a start for himself, but this took a lot of hard work and determination; the land had no buildings on it and not a furrow of cultivated land. So first he built a shack and then he started to clear the land.

On February 19, 1931, Gus married Hilda Bittner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bittner of Hay Lakes. They built themselves a log cabin and a barn and with the help of Carl Feurnkranz Senior, they dug a water well.



L. to R., Back: Gus and Hilda. Front: Ernie, Ruth and Gertie Wahl.

Gus and Hilda acquired a few head of cattle to try to earn a few dollars. Gus also did some boxing to help make ends meet. He kept boxing for several years and he fought for the Western Canada Middle-Weight Championship in the early thirties.

All of this hard work was done in the beginning of the "hungry thirties". It was a very hard time be-

cause money was scarce and whatever they sold was sold very cheaply.

At one point during this time they could not make their land payments, and had to give up their land. They were given the first option to buy within one year, if they could meet the payments. With much hard work, Gus and Hilda managed to get their farm back.

To their union, three children were born, Ernest in December, 1931, Ruth in March, 1934 and Gertie in August, 1938. They attended school at Hay Lakes. As they grew older, things got considerably easier for Gus and Hilda.

Ernie married Marlene Rost, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Rost, on April 7, 1961. They have three children, Faye, Leif, and Brenda. They are presently living on the family farm. Ruth married Lyman Walker in May, 1953. They have two boys, Kim and Guy. They were later divorced. Gertie married Ed Eliason on October 22, 1965. They are presently living on the Eliason farm.

In 1939, Gus was forced to leave the farm and take an extended holiday. Hilda worked very hard while Gus was away to keep the farm operation going, besides looking after three young children. In the spring of 1943, Gus returned home to resume farming.

In his later years of farming, he started a Boxing Club in Hay Lakes for a number of years. When he quit boxing, he started working for the County of Camrose as a Weed Inspector.

In 1966, Gus and Hilda retired from farming and sold the farm to their son, Ernie. They moved to Kelowna, British Columbia and built a house. Gus worked for a Construction Company for a few years and in his spare time coached a Youth Club in soccer. Gus took them to the Championships more than once.

And so once again, Gus and Hilda made for themselves a new life and a new home.

Harry Willisko Family **by Leonard Willisko**

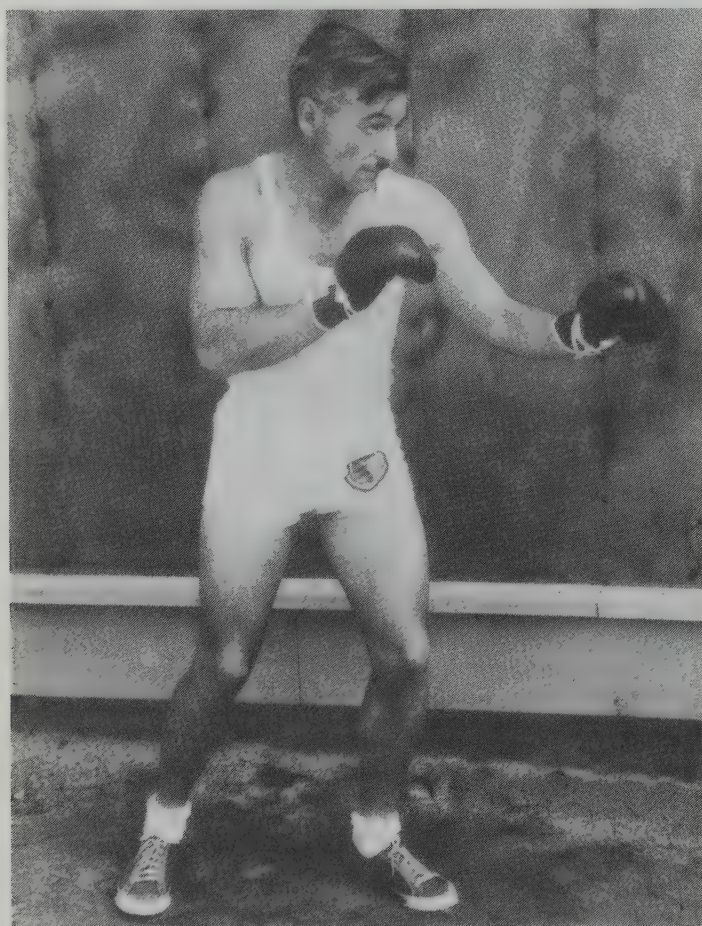
In the year 1900, my parents, Harry and Rosa Willisko came from a farm near Crakow in Austria (now Poland). With their baby daughter Mary, and Dad's brother Alex and his wife, they travelled by train to Calgary. Calgary was then in the Northwest Territories. Pioneer life was very difficult and challenging. It took a great deal of resourcefulness and hard work for our parents to survive and prosper.

They bought C.P.R. land near Leduc and Dad worked part-time for the C.P.R. as well as working his land. In those days land was often purchased without being seen and frequently was found to have been misrepresented. At any rate Dad and Mother abandoned that land and took a homestead (NE 30-48-21 W4) one and one-half miles south of where Hay Lakes is today. They built a one room house of logs and sod, dug a well, and started to clear and break the land. The nearest store was in Wetaskiwin, thirty miles away over a rough wagon trail.

At least meat was plentiful, there were many rabbits, bush chicken, and ducks. A simple snare would quickly yield a meal of rabbit stew. When we were boys, we were not expected to bring home just one duck for each bullet. We were taught to line up two or three ducks and get them all with one shot.

During the first two years, Dad travelled to Calgary in the winter to work for the C.P.R. building a bridge. While he was away Mother was left alone on the homestead. In the snow and the cold, she had to do chores, bring in firewood and water, as well as care for three small children.

In the summer, Dad used oxen to break the land. Oxen were strong but hard to handle. When the flies got too bad they would simply walk into the nearest slough, taking whatever implement or load they were pulling with them. Neither threats nor persuasions would influence them. Dad just had to wait until they decided to come out. Not surprisingly he decided to





Harry and Rose Willisko.

change to horses and he farmed with horses for many years.

The homestead Mother and Dad took was covered with bush. The trees had to be cut with an axe, the brush cleared, and the stumps removed before the land could be broken. We all remember the old stump-puller that was turned by horses.

Before they got their fences up, their cattle could wander off into the bush and Dad and Mother had to look for them on foot with only cowbells to guide them. Sleigh-bells served a similar purpose. They made it easier to find a sleigh and its occupants if they became lost in a blizzard.

European immigrants were unfamiliar with Canadian wildlife, and Dad told a story about a neighbour's wife who saw what she took to be a beautiful cat, and threw her fur coat over it, in order to capture it. All went well while the coat kept the animal's tail down, but when she gently lifted the coat and tried to pick up the cat, she found out all about skunks.

Roads were built near the farm in 1915, and in 1916 Dad bought his first car, a Model T Ford.

Dad told a story of how he came to purchase his second quarter section of land. In 1920 a heavily wooded quarter section was put up for sale a mile south of Hay Lakes. Since no one could tell just what

the soil might be like under the extremely dense underbrush, it didn't sell. Dad was interested in the land, but he wondered how he would clear all that underbrush. So one day he just dropped a match. When all the underbrush had burned away and the smoke had cleared, Dad went to town and bought their second farm. My brother, Nick Willisko has farmed that quarter section since 1946 and still lives there.

Later Dad and Mother bought two more quarter-sections, one three miles south and another six miles south of Hay Lakes.

In 1924, they bought their first tractor, and their first thrashing machine. Dad finished breaking the land on his four quarter sections with the tractor and broke land for some of his neighbours as well. He also thrashed for some of his neighbors, but as his own crops became larger he spent all his time on his own land.

Mother and Dad had sixteen children. One child died in infancy, fourteen still survive, the eldest is 81 years old and the youngest is 58.

The children are:

Mary was born in Austria a few months before her parents brought her to Canada. She married Stanley Starcheski in 1917. They farmed south of Hay Lakes for a few years, their first two sons, Louie and Rudy were born there. Stanley worked on the section crew. They then moved to a farm near Kingman where they stayed until 1970. Mary and Stanley retired in Camrose where Stanley died in 1973. Mary still lives in Camrose. She grows a garden and freezes her produce as well as baking and sewing. Mary and Stanley had a daughter who died in infancy and four sons. Their eldest son served in the medical corp. in the second World War. He was killed in action in France shortly after D Day. Their three surviving sons all live in Alberta.

Mike was born in 1901 and attended school in Swan Hill. He left school early to help farm and later worked as a miner in Crow's Nest Pass. Mike married Sophie Zoroslak in 1927. Mike and Sophie farmed near Daysland until 1960, when they moved to Strome. They continued farming and cattle-ranching until they retired in Smoky Lake. Mike and Sophie had four sons who all live in Alberta. Mike passed away in Smoky Lake in 1975 at 72 years of age.

Katie was born in 1903 and attended Swan Hill School. She married Steve Peterson in 1922. They farmed near Kingman for two years, near Ohaton for three years, near Linaria for three and one-half years, and near Shoal Creek for two years. Katie and Steve then moved to Clyde where they farmed until Steve died in 1966. Katie still lives on the farm and grows a big garden. She drives to town and to visit her chil-

dren. Katie and Steve had three daughters and one son who all live in Alberta.

Joe was born in 1905 and attended school in Swan Hill for a time. When the Hay Lakes School was opened he was among the first pupils. Joe worked as a coal miner in Crow's Nest Pass and Round Hill. He later opened a barber shop in Round Hill. He married Pearl Bresden in 1937. Joe and Pearl then added a beauty-parlour to the barber shop. They later had a barber shop-beauty parlour in Olds and later still they owned a barber shop and hair dressing school in Edmonton. Joe and Pearl retired in Sanichton on Vancouver Island where they are active members of the Golden Age Club. Joe and Pearl have a son who lives in Montreal and a daughter who lives in Nanaimo.

Pete was born in 1907 and attended Swan Hill and Hay Lakes Schools. He worked as a coal miner in Round Hill and Battle River. In 1935, Pete married Alberta Shepherd. They farmed near Galahad for a few years, then Pete bought the Wheatland Service Station in Galahad in 1941. Pete and Alta still live in retirement in Galahad where they are active in their church and the Golden Age Club. Pete and Alta had a daughter who died in infancy and son who died tragically at Champion Lake, B.C.

Francis was born in 1909 and attended Swan Hill and Hay Lakes Schools. She worked in Edmonton for four years and came to Vancouver in 1935. Franny married John Skelton in 1939 and they lived in Windsor, Ontario for two years, then returned to Vancouver. Franny worked in the Vancouver General Hospital for twenty years. John died in 1975, Franny lives in retirement in Vancouver, keeping busy with the trips and activities of her Golden Age Club. Franny and Johnny had two daughters, both of whom live in B.C.

Andy was born in 1911 and attended Swan Hill and Hay Lakes Schools. He worked on farms in Alberta, then drove caterpillar tractor building roads in northern Saskatchewan for two years. Andy came to Vancouver in 1934. He married Audrey Lewis in 1937. Andy worked as a logger and as a sheet metal worker. In 1948 Andy started a sheet metal and oil burner service business. In later years he confined his business to oil burner service. Andy retired in 1980 after 32 years in business. He is an ardent sport fisherman, taking his boat out into Burrard Inlet after salmon. Andy and Audrey had one son who lives in Vancouver and operates the oil burner service business.

Ann was born in 1912 and attended Hay Lakes School. She worked in Edmonton for a time and came to Vancouver in 1935. Ann moved to California in 1937 where she married Floyd Cate in 1940. They

lived in the vicinity of Los Angeles except for a two year period in Chicago. Ann and Floyd now live in retirement in San Clemente, California. Their daughter lives in Washington State.

Nick was born in 1913 and attended Hay Lakes School. He married Anne Winczura in 1944. They have two children, a son and a daughter both living in Alberta. (A more complete history of Nick and Anne Willisko will appear in another section).

Nell was born in 1915 and attended Hay Lakes school. She worked in Alberta for a time and came to Vancouver in 1943. Nell did war work for a year and then worked for Barber Ellis Paper Company for 26 years. Nell married George Kutchen in 1957. George passed away in 1973. Nell lives in Vancouver in retirement, keeping busy with her gardening and friends.

David was born in 1916 and attended Hay Lakes school. He worked as a miner in Round Hill. David served in the army for a year and a half during the second World War and later returned to the mines. David married Alice Meketsell in 1943. They bought a farm near Armena in 1946 and lived there until 1967 when they moved to Camrose. David works as a mechanic in Camrose. Alice and David have three daughters. One daughter lives in B.C., the other two live in Alberta.

Bertha was born in 1918 and attended Hay Lakes School. She worked in Edmonton for a time. She married Mike Sich from Round Hill in 1940 and they lived there for three years. While there their first daughter Marion was born in 1941. Bertha lived in Vancouver while Mike served in the Air Force. After the war, Mike and Bertha opened a butcher shop in Hay Lakes in 1946. A second daughter Janice was born in 1950.

They moved to Camrose in 1951 where they owned the Camrose Colour Centre and a drapery and upholstery business. In 1968 they moved to Penticton, B.C. Bertha, like so many of her sisters grows a fine garden. Bertha and Mike have two daughters who both live in Alberta.

Marion taught school in Hay Lakes where she met and later married Dennis Saffran. They have three children, Karen, Holly and Jeff and live at Ardrossen.

Janice married Brian Thompson and they live in Calgary.

Eleanor was born in 1919 and attended Hay Lakes School. She worked in Edmonton and Camrose, then came to Vancouver in 1943. Eleanor did war work for three years and then went to California in 1945. She married Hubert McAfee in 1947. Eleanor and Mac had cafes in Los Angeles, Carona Del Mar, and Dana Point in California. In 1973 they retired to Sudden



The Willisko Reunion 1978. L. to R.: Mary, Kate, Joe, Francis, Andy, Anne, Nick, Nell, Dave, Bertha, Eleanor, Leonard and Stan.

Valley in Washington State. Eleanor keeps busy with entertaining and crafts.

Leonard was born in 1921 and attended Hay Lakes School, Mountain View Bible College and Calgary Tech. He did war work in Regina and Vancouver. In 1942 he joined the sixth Anti-tank 2 CARU and served in Europe until V.E. Day. He re-enlisted in the Pacific Theatre Army. He was discharged in 1946 after V. J. Day. Len married Pearl Oliver in 1946. He worked as a sheet metal worker while taking courses in oil burner, gas fitting and sheet metal at night. Len earned certificates in all three trades. After an industrial accident and surgery he became a partial paraplegic and has been unable to work. Len keeps busy with metal sculpture, painting and photography. Len and Pearl have two daughters and two sons, all living in B.C.

Stanley was born in 1923 and attended Hay Lakes School. In 1941 he joined the third Army Division, thirteenth Field R.C.A. he went overseas in 1941. He participated in the invasion of France on D Day and served in Europe until V.E. Day. Stan re-enlisted in the Pacific Theatre Army and returned to Canada. After V.J. Day, Stan re-enlisted once again, this time in the peace-time army. He served in The Musk Ox expeditionary force in the Northwest Territories. Stan took his discharge in 1946 and worked in Mike Sich's Butcher Shop in Hay Lakes for one year. He

came to Vancouver in 1948 and has worked as a meat cutter for Canada Safeway Stores for thirty-four years. Stan married Doris Jones in 1949. Stan and Doris had four daughters. One daughter died in infancy, the remaining three all live in B.C.

Willisko, Nick and Family

Nick, son of Harry and Rosie Willisko, was born and raised in the Hay Lakes district and attended school at Hay Lakes. In 1938, Nick rented SW 20-49-21-W4 and farmed the land for seven years. In 1944, Nick married Anne Winczura of Round Hill. They moved onto the present quarter of land in 1946, SW 32-40-21-W4, one mile south of Hay Lakes.

Their first son, Ken, was born, Dec. 9, 1947. Ken took all his schooling at Hay Lakes. He also took a



Carol, Nick, Anne and Ken Willisko 1974.

course at NAIT in carpenter work. Ken married Karen Berkholtz of Hay Lakes. They have two children, Chad and Robyn, and live in Leduc. Ken works as a carpenter.

Carol was born on Dec. 26, 1950. She took all her

schooling at Hay Lakes. She worked as a dental assistant for nine years. Carol married Donald Simms of Newfoundland. They have a son, Ryan. Don works as an iron worker at the Forestburg plant. They live in Camrose.

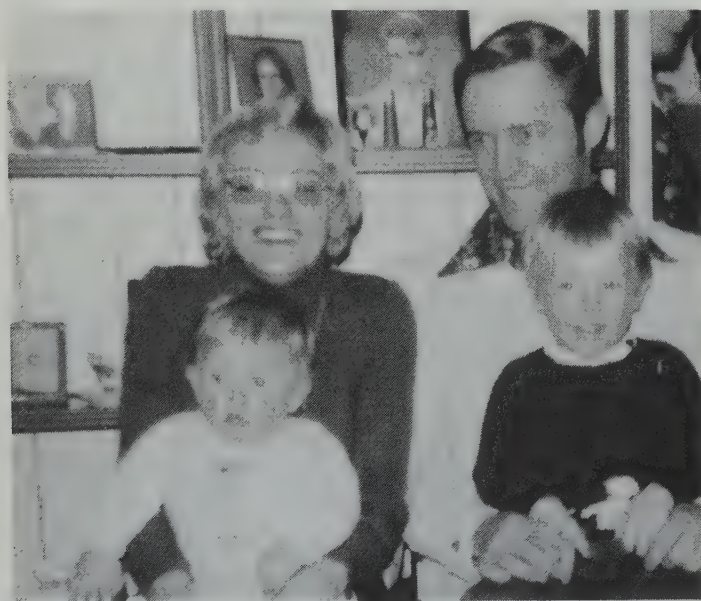


Main Street, Hay Lakes, 1921.

Hay Lakes Village

Anderson, John and Ruth

John was born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the only child of Harvey and Nora Anderson.



Ruth and John Anderson holding sons, Geoff and Thomas. December, 1975.

Ruth was one of nine children born to Abe and Susan Esau of Neepawa, Manitoba. Her family moved to MacGregor, Manitoba in 1959 where Ruth obtained her schooling.

John and Ruth were married in Edmonton in 1971. John was employed with the Edmonton Telephones and has continued to work there as to date. John enjoys hunting, fishing and outdoor sports in his spare time.

Ruth was employed at Safeways in Camrose for two and a half years. She is presently one of the bus drivers for the Hay Lakes school.

They have two sons, Thomas born in April, 1973 and Geoffrey, born in February, 1975. Both boys enjoy playing hockey and swimming.

Arnston, Alfred Family History

I, Alfred, was born on the 15th of May, 1919, in the Sulitjelma District, five miles north of Hay Lakes. My parents were Norwegian immigrants, Hans and Hilda Arnston. This was the year when Mackenzie King was elected leader of the Liberal

party of Canada and also the year when Pierre Trudeau was born.

Together with three brothers and a sister, I lived on the farm and attended school at Sulitjelma, a distance of three miles. We walked during the summer months, and for winter travel we had a team of horses and a sleigh, which at times were shared with two neighbors, the William Berkholtz family and the Eskel Paulson boys. The school had two rooms, and when I started there were about seventy pupils, Grades one to six in the Junior room and seven to ten in the Senior room. My Junior room teachers were Miss Ollana Hendrickson, Beatrice Rusley, Margaret Hanson, and in the Senior room, Louis Grommers and Raymond Skaret. We received the basic education and had an active time during recess, since Mr. Grommers was very interested in soccer and baseball. Fastball at that time was considered a ladies' game.

While attending school we also had to help with the farm work at home, since we had milk cows, chickens and hogs, which involved plenty of work for youngsters. In addition, we were expected to carry in the wood and water required for heating the house and for cooking. During the summer months we helped with stacking hay and clearing land, as well as plowing the land after harvest.

After completing Grade VIII, I enrolled in a correspondence course so that I could help more on the farm. This was difficult, but during the next few years I managed to complete Grades nine, ten and eleven in this manner.

The year 1935 was an eventful one in the history of Alberta. In August of 1935 the Social Credit party was elected to form the Government of Alberta. During the 1930's the whole world was in the midst of a deep depression, which meant that farm prices were low, and wages and salaries were also depressed. The United Farmers of Alberta had formed the government of Alberta since 1921. People were looking for a change and Mr. Aberhart promised monetary reforms to bring back better times. I used to listen to his broadcasts, and on one occasion Mr. Aberhart appeared in Hay Lakes for a meeting. The hall was packed. These events were later to shape my political thoughts and involvements.

In 1938 I moved to Edmonton to attend Alberta College, a residential school, for a business and High school program. Dr. McColl was principal of the College and had strict rules regarding the behavior of the pupils. During the time I was at Alberta College, we could see that it would only be a matter of time before war broke out, since Hitler at that time was marching through Europe. In September, 1939, we were standing in front of the Memorial Hall in Ed-

monton when war was declared on Germany, for its army had marched into Poland. Recruiting was underway in Canada, hence early in 1940 I joined the reserve army in Edmonton — The Edmonton Regiment — and attended training classes twice weekly. Ernest Manning, Provincial Secretary, was also in the same regiment. Mr. Manning later became the Premier of Alberta following the death of Aberhart.

In September 1940, I began working for the Provincial Government in the Department of Public Works. Mr. W. A. Fallow was the minister in charge. I recall at that time, the Minister of Agriculture, who represented Camrose in the Legislature, died. This led to a by-election in Camrose and provided Mr. Chester Sayers with a seat in the Legislature.

In July, 1941, I resigned from the Provincial Government service to join the Royal Canadian Air Force. I was stationed in various parts of Canada from Sidney, Nova Scotia to Prince Rupert, British Columbia, before going overseas in January, 1945.

During my stay in the Air Force we had a chance to see various parts of Canada. The most interesting trips were made when we had "leaves" from active service, as service men had special rates for train travel. I made several trips to Ottawa which included visits with members of Parliament. I met T. C. Douglas, M. J. Coldwell and many others, and this made it possible to attend the sessions of Parliament and the Senate. Senators probably are the most privileged group in Canada and must be the nearest thing to Heaven on Earth! My trips to the House of Commons were the most rewarding time I ever spent in my off-duty hours when travelling in Canada. While on leave in London, England, I also visited the House of Commons there and heard statements made by Winston Churchill and Clement Atlee.

In October of 1945 I returned from England to resume life in Alberta. I returned to the class room for a time, taking courses to finish Grade XII and also some courses in English, Economics and Politics. For a few years I also carried on farming with Magnus and the folks. When my dad turned seventy, I asked him if he planned to retire. His answer was that he was not old enough to quit and pointed out that it would probably be easier for me to retire than him.

In 1948 I was Co-operative Commonwealth Federation candidate in Clover Bar. Social Credit won the seat, I was second and the Liberal candidate was third. At that time the Conservatives did not have a candidate. Since then I tried to win a seat in the House of Commons, but without success.

Political work has provided more challenges to me than any other type of work, but it was not possible to make a living at it, so in October, 1950, I purchased a business in the Village of Hay Lakes

from Magnus Sware. It was an Insurance Agency, but it also had a Treasury Branch Agency and Propane Service operation. Since Magnus was Secretary-Treasurer of the Village, I also undertook this work.

Life in the business world was very difficult at first. Insurance sales were not easy since most people at that time did not have any car insurance and values of property insurance coverage was very low. The Treasury Branch agency was a disaster as far as income was concerned, as commission was based on deposits, twenty-five cents per every hundred dollar deposit. The Village paid \$20.00 per month, which was based on part-time work, and this meant donating most of the time to the Village. Propane sales, including appliances, accounted for most of the income during the first years of operation. In addition, I was the secretary-treasurer of the Hay Lakes Drainage District. During the years I was a member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Canadian Legion and have held various positions on the executive.

Business improved over the years and I eventually could afford to get married! One evening in October, 1958, I was introduced to Margaret Hubschmid, formerly of Spruce Grove, who was employed with Nix's Ltd. as a bookkeeper. We were married in the spring of 1960 and took up residence in the back of the office building which was designed as living quarters.



L. to R.: Joyce, Glen, Donald and wife, Viva. Seated: Alf and Margaret — 1980.

Margaret managed to keep very busy working in the office. She joined the Circle "S" Club and also helped in the Hay Lakes Municipal Library which was located in the school at that time. She has been a member of the Library Board since 1963 and has spent thousands of hours on a volunteer basis for the library. Later she became local correspondent for the Camrose Canadian, which involves plenty of work but not much reward, and has been active with the Recreation Association as well.

We were very fortunate to have three healthy children and this made life pleasant for us all. Donald arrived on October 28, 1960. He graduated from Hay Lakes School and continued his education at Camrose Lutheran College, the University of Alberta and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. He has been employed with Proctor and Gamble at Grande Prairie, and Walker and Newby, Engineers in Edmonton. In July, 1980 Don married Viva Hudson, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hudson of High River, Alberta. Don and Viva presently live in Edmonton.

Glen was born on May 9th, 1962. He completed his Grade XII at Hay Lakes School. He worked on the farm with his uncle Magnus and is presently attending the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton where he is taking a course in Business Administration.

Donald and Glen served as Edmonton Journal carriers for many years. Both played fastball in Hay Lakes and participated in Rep hockey in Camrose.

Joyce is the youngest of the family and arrived on September 26, 1965. She is presently attending Hay Lakes School and is in Grade XI.

Aspell, Mauritz and Annie

I, Mauritz Aspell, was born on March 5th, 1909 in Pajala, Sweden and was the sixth child of Agnes and Oscar Aspell. There were fourteen of us altogether.

I emigrated to Canada in March, 1930. I sailed from Sweden to Halifax which took twelve days by boat. Then I boarded the train to Edmonton which took a total of nine days. The trip lasted twenty-one days in all.

I stayed in Edmonton for two weeks and then went to work on a farm for Mr. Hamilton at Colinton, Alberta. My first job was picking stones for two months at \$30.00 per month. Then I returned to Edmonton and got a job as a bricklayer until it got too cold to lay bricks. I received \$1.09 an hour for this job. I came to Hay Lakes and made my home with the Oscar Selin family for a couple of years. I helped Oscar Selin build on his house and also brushed some

land and picked roots. I also worked for other farmers.

Then I went to the Frank Vickner home and helped Frank with building his house. I also did other carpenter work and even made coffins.



Eric Nielson and Mauritz Aspell at Pearson's logging camp — 1934.

In the fall of 1934 I worked at Pearson's Lumber Camp at Breton, Alberta. I met Oscar Nielson and we became good friends. Oscar was best man at my wedding.

In the spring of 1935 I started to work at the Creamery for P. Burns and Company. Then the creamery was sold to the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool. I stayed at the Creamery until September, 1948. Then William Sware and I started to build the Hay Lakes Meats and Locker Plant. Under the management of William and myself we opened on February 9th, 1949. The village had just installed Calgary Power at that time. Mr. Ralph Hickey was our first customer. We sold the Locker plant on September 15th, 1953 to Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dellman. When I worked in the locker I smoked fish every year just before Christmas. I still do this every year to keep in practice.

I went into carpentry work after the locker was sold in 1956 but took over the locker plant again when Mr. Herman Dellman passed away. I then re-sold the Locker Plant to Mr. Floyd Baier in 1957. After the sale of the Locker Plant my work again was carpentry until my retirement in 1976.



Mauritz, Bernard and Anne Aspell — 1944.

In 1937 on November 17th, I married Annie Kosovich in Camrose. And on March 7th, 1940 our only child, Bernard Allen, was born.

In 1974 my brother, Rudolph, his wife, Nora, and their daughter, Disa, came to Canada for a visit. This was the first of my family that I had seen after some forty-four years. In 1975 three brothers, Robert, Gustav, and Knut, and two nephews, Ake and Kurt, came for a three-week visit.

After forty-six years away my wife, Annie, and I went for a seven-week visit to Sweden in 1976. I went again to Sweden in 1979 and took my two grandsons, Darrell and Timothy, along and spent five weeks there.

I was Mayor of Hay Lakes from 1946 to 1948 and also served as Councillor for some years. I built many houses and barns in this community, including the construction of Our Savior Lutheran Church. I

was a Curling Club member for many years. I enjoyed Big Game hunting and now am an avid fisherman.

Annie (Kosovich) Aspell was born December 10th, 1916 eldest daughter of Rose and Dmytro Mike Kosovich. I received my schooling at the Big Hay Lake School. I could only speak Ukrainian but soon learned English. When my cousin Mike Sych started school two years later I sat in the same desk with him till he learned to speak English.

I worked at the egg grading station for three years for Alberta Poultry Marketers at Hay Lakes from 1953 to 1956.

In 1958 I started working for Northern Alberta Dairy Pool Creamery in the office. I worked there till it closed June 1, 1969.

I am a member of the Circle 'S' Club since 1947 and was a curling Club member from 1938 to 1959.

Made several quilt Tops for Circle 'S' Club and one for Senior Citizens.

Now that we are both retired I go fishing with my husband.

Aspell, Bernard and Emily

Bernie Aspell (son of Mauritz and Anne Aspell) was born on March 7, 1940 and took his schooling in Hay Lakes, Alberta until 1957.

In 1959 he went to work in Bonnyville, Alberta for the Department of Highways. There he met Emily Repchuk, born on September 20, 1943 (daughter of Metro and Mary Repchuk). They were married on February 9, 1961 in Bonnyville, Alberta.



Bernard Aspell Family. L. to R.: Darrell, Emily, Bernie, Timothy.

On November 29, 1961 a son, Darrell Ward, came to join the family.

For a brief time they lived in Fort Saskatchewan and from there they moved to Bruderheim where they lived until the spring of 1965 when they moved to Camrose.

On April 30, 1965 Timothy Allen, a brother for Darrell, was born in St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose.

In 1966 they then moved to Hay Lakes where they still reside.

Bachor, Gus by Mary Bachor

Gus Bachor was born in March 1893 in Rotthausen, Rhienland, Germany, son of Adam Bachor (1842-1930) of Wurtenburg, Germany and Louise Geotza (1849-1930). Adam and Louise were married in 1871.

Mary Bachor was born in May 1903 in Sudbury, Ontario, daughter of Thomas Stafford (1864-1909) of London, England and Delphine (1867-1949) of Portage la Prairie.

Gus and Mary were married in 1922 and they had six children. Rose, born in 1923 married Lonnie Ray Wooten; Albert born in 1924 married Jean Walker; Henry born in 1925 married Betty; Carl born in 1927; Floyd in 1930 married Jean Lobas; and Daniel born in 1945.

There are twelve grandchildren and eighteen great grandchildren.

In 1940 Gus and Mary moved to Hay Lakes where they bought the butcher shop from John Leicht. They ran the shop as a family business during the war years. Their home was always open to service men on leave with good home cooked meals. In 1946 they sold the shop to Mike Sich and moved away from Hay Lakes.

Gus passed away in April 1975 and Mary lives in Red Deer where she enjoys fairly good health and visits with her family.

The Floyd Baier Family

I, Floyd Baier, son of Christina and Peter Baier, was born in Cosine, Saskatchewan. I worked in the General Store there while going to school.

On May 7, 1951, I married Madeline Risling, daughter of Eva and Martin Risling of Revenue, Saskatchewan.

Madeline and I moved to Viking, Alberta, where we worked in the Co-op Store. On August 20, 1951, I was transferred to Vegreville Co-op where I became Grocery Manager.

May 7, 1952 was both an exciting and event filled day. Not only did we celebrate our first wedding anniversary, but we became proud parents, when our first daughter, Donna, was born.

August 20, 1953 terminated my employment with the Co-op. We then took up residence in Camrose, Alberta where I worked for Howard Delquist. He had a corner grocer's where the present Eaton's store now stands.

February 15, 1954, was the date on which our family doubled. Our second daughter, Delores, was born. Another increase arrived in December of 1955. This time we had a son, whom we named Keith.

On April 16th, 1956, our family moved to Hay Lakes. We purchased the butcher shop from Mr. and Mrs. Morris Aspell and Mr. and Mrs. William Sware. There was lots of excitement opening our very own first business which we called "Hay Lakes Meats & Lockers".

In July of 1958, Ralph Risling (Madeline's youngest brother) arrived from Unity, Saskatchewan, to stay with us. He was a great help to us, as he was a good worker. In 1963, he moved to Edmonton. Then on June 6, 1964, he married Dorothy Wentland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wentland, from New Sarepta. They now have two boys, Rodney and Dale. Today Ralph is Meat Manager at Safeway in Sherwood Park.

After Ralph left us, Harold Leight joined us.

As we became more established, I began attending Locker Association Conventions. The competitors for the various categories which included Cured Bacon and Hams, and Sausage Making, came from all over the Western Provinces. But in spite of the stiff competition, I emerged a winner in the years 1966-68, winning both individual awards, as well as the Grande Aggregate.

On January 21, 1958, another mouth to feed came, with the arrival of our second son, Ronald. He took up residence in the clothes basket on the side counter. Customers didn't even realize he was there. Even today, he's a shy, quiet fellow.

After Harold Leight moved on to another job, Clifford Rost stepped in to take his place, he was no stranger to our many customers.

Last but not least, in July of 1962, our family was completed, with the arrival of our third daughter, Dianne. Needless to say, Madeline was a busy woman, working downstairs during the day in the shop, and caring for our children upstairs where we resided. Our eldest, Donna, was a big help to Madeline in caring for the children.

Getting back to the business, I mustn't forget the men behind the scenes. The first men on the abattoir floor were Walter Busenius and Art Sock. Then came Anton Pelz and Gregory Pelz, who worked part time while furthering their education. Next came the faithful Thor Johnson, along with Zenon Goclon. After Zenan left to tend to other commitments, Carl

Nasland came to fill his shoes. When Carl departed, Manfred Moran came to give Thor a helping hand.

As the children got older, every Thursday evening was spent in Camrose, where they took music lessons from George's School of Music. Each child played at least two different instruments. Soon, they were competing in various Search for Talent Contests. They placed first in the Junior Division in both 1964 and 1965. The Baier's Band soon became well known, playing for family gatherings such as Weddings and Wedding Anniversaries, and other special occasions. Donna and Delores also played saxophones in the Camrose County Band.



Baier Orchestra 1966. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Baier who at a very early age showed great talent in the field of music. L. to R.: Ronald, Donna, Keith, Delores.

Every year at the July 1st picnic, without fail, we always entered a float in the parade. I must say, some of them were quite original.

Then came the time Hay Lakes bid farewell to our family. On August 30, 1968, a surprise gathering was held for us. Many friends honored us with a Pot Luck Supper and entertainment. It was a sad time for both Madeline and myself, not to mention our children. I'm sure we'll never forget the good times we all had together with our friends in Hay Lakes.

On September 1, 1968, we took up residence in Ponoka, Alberta, where we opened a New Meat Processing Plant, "Baier's Home Freezer's Provisioning Ltd." Clifford Rost also moved to Ponoka to work for us. Our Grande Opening was an exciting event. We will never forget all the well wishes from our friends from Hay Lakes and district.

The family has all grown up now, and entered the working world. Donna is a Nurse at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton. She married Wayne

Heartwell on October 13, 1973. Wayne is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Heartwell formerly of Ponoka. Delores is employed as a Secretary with AGT in Edmonton.

Keith lives in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. He married Shelley Riske. Keith and Shelley were the first to produce a grandchild (Colleen) for Madeline and Floyd, September 29, 1980. Keith was also the only son to follow in my footsteps as he opened his own meat shop in Rocky on May 1, 1979. On February seventh and eighth, 1981 Keith entered the Alberta Meat Processing Associations Curing Competition which included entries from the Western Provinces. He won individual awards plus the Grand Aggregate for his shop "Baier's Quality Meats Ltd."

Today, we are living in Camrose, where I am still working with meats. Ronald lives with us. He is now a teacher. Dianne who also lives with us, is employed with the Hudson's Bay in Camrose.



Floyd Baier Family. L. to R.: Ron, Dianne, Donna, Floyd, Madeline, Delores, Keith.

Hay Lakes Meat and Lockers

Meat Prices — 1958

Ground Beef	48¢ lb.
Round Streak	79¢ lb.
T-Bone Steak	99¢ lb.
Sirloin Steak	89¢ lb.
Stewing Meat	57¢ lb.
Minute Steak	89¢ lb.
Home-cured Bacon	79¢ lb.
Home-cured Ham	59¢ lb.
Pork Chops	49¢ lb.
Sides of Beef	45¢ lb.
Fronts of Beef	59¢ lb.
Hinds of Beef	55¢ lb.
Sides of Pork	39¢ lb.

These prices included cutting, wrapping and sharp freezing

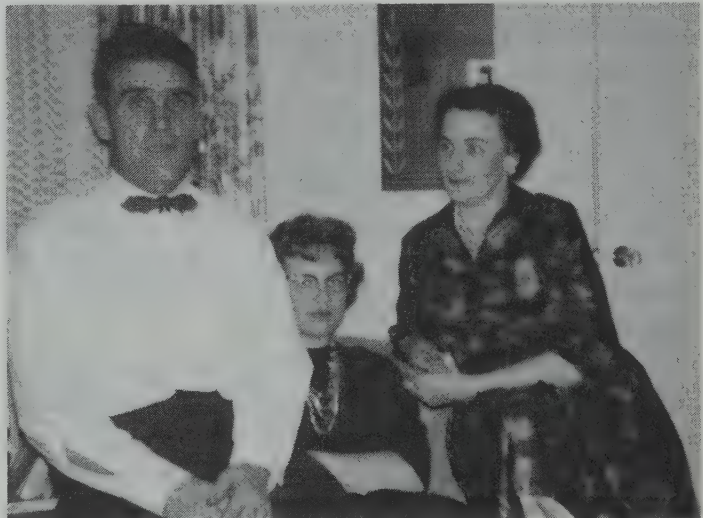
Fruits and Vegetables — 1962

Fresh peaches	2 lbs for 45¢
Fresh plums	2 lbs for 37¢
Apples	3 lbs for 39¢
Grapefruit	5 for 59¢
Oranges	12 for 79¢
Celery	19¢ lb
Tomatoes	19¢ lb
Lettuce	20¢ lb
Turnips	5¢ lb
Cucumbers	2 for 35¢
Onions	25¢ lb
Corn on the Cob	3 for 19¢

Baker, Harry

Harry was born and raised at Sedgewick, Alberta. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942 and served overseas for a period of time. Following his discharge from the forces he began employment with the Alberta Wheat Pool, with Daysland as his starting point. From there he went on to serve at several grain centers in Alberta.

While a grain buyer at Leo, Alberta, he met Helen McBride whom he married in 1946. Helen was raised in the Endiag-Byemoor district. Their only child, Margaret, was born in 1947 during their stay at Leo.



Harry and Helen Baker. Margaret in center.

In 1964 they moved to Hay Lakes and Harry continued to be a grain buyer for the Alberta Wheat Pool. Margaret completed her final year of high school at Hay Lakes, with Mr. Kenneth Dahl as school principal at that time. Margaret later married a local boy, Eldon Nordin.

Both Harry and Helen enjoy sports and were active in the Hay Lakes Curling Club. Harry coached the Hay Lakes men's fastball team, and in 1966 they

won the Battle River League championship. He also coached the Hay Lakes team that won the County of Camrose championship in 1965. Harry was often called upon to umpire local ball games, which he did willingly. He was also a member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Helen was a member of the Circle "S" Club and livened up many a meeting with her cheerfulness.

They remained in Hay Lakes until Harry's retirement in 1974, at which time they moved to Camrose. Both Harry and Helen have been employed at Rosehaven in Camrose for the past few years.

Harry and Helen regard Hay Lakes as the most community-minded center they have ever lived in. They fondly recall their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary celebrations which were held at the Hay Lakes Community Hall in 1971, when residents of the community had pitched in and assisted their daughter, Margaret, in making the occasion such a memorable one.

Jensen, Shirley

by Shirley (Jensen) Bawden

Shirley, daughter of Herman and Hilda Jensen of Ryley was born in Edmonton in March, 1953. She received her education in Edmonton, Ryley and Holden and her degree in Education at the University of Alberta. Hay Lakes was her first teaching position.

Shirley Jensen was a resident of Hay Lakes while she taught French and English in the 1974-75 school years. Enjoying the enthusiastic Community spirit she found there, Shirley joined the "Circle S" group and the Curling Club, and started a 4-H Sewing Club for teenagers.

When the Armena School closed, Miss Jensen moved to Edberg where she taught for four years. On August 11, 1979 Shirley married Dana Bawden of Camrose. They now have one daughter, Kristina Ann.

Berg, Carl and Clara

by Clara Berg

Carl Berg came from Sweden at the age of nineteen, and married Clara Sjerven in 1923. Clara came from South Dakota with her family in 1910 and lived in Camrose until her marriage. A daughter, Alice, was born in 1924, now living in Edmonton. A son, Glen, born in 1928, lives in Winterburn, and another son, Emil, born in 1935, lives in Saskatchewan.

In 1926 Carl and Clara moved to Hay Lakes, where Carl managed the Manning-Sutherland lumber yard. They first lived in a house across from Larsen's store. Florence Hein, who was a clerk at Larsen's, roomed with them. Later they moved to a

house across from the lumber yard, next door to Otto Grahn, who was a policeman at that time. Their good friends, Fred and Alice Hustad, lived across the back lane. (Fred died in 1980 and Alice lives in a senior citizens' apartment in Edmonton. She and Clara still visit on the phone.)



L. to R.: Mrs. Gus Hein (Florie), Mrs. Carl Berg (Clara). Taken in front of L. Larsen store in 1928.

In these early days before the depression, money was plentiful. Most of the people in Hay Lakes drove cars and could afford to live well.

The centre of entertainment was the old community hall, and a new hall was built around 1928, with the residents each buying a share. There were dances and parties, and box socials and basket socials which were popular at that time. Clara recalls helping Florence Hein make a heart-shaped basket which took first prize at one of the socials. Once a week, in the afternoons, a few ladies gathered at one of their homes for tea. In the winter there was skiing, even right down the main street. Carl sometimes skied behind a horse.

There was no doctor in Hay Lakes at that time, and the nearest hospital was in Camrose. The nearest church was a Lutheran church in the country.

Their daughter, Alice, started school in Hay Lakes. It was a one-room school and the teacher at that time was Miss Anne McCoy, who later married Jim Carbury, the druggist in Hay Lakes.



Alice's 6th Birthday. L. to R., Back: Mrs. Hein and Eileen. 2nd Row: Margaret Hein, Martha Kiel, Esther Hein, Pat McTaggart. 3rd Row: Ella Lechelt, Frieda Schlender, Gladys Sjerven, Juanita Ogilvie, unknown. Front: Nelvin Schmidt, Alice Berg, Martha Schmidt, Marjorie Lechelt, Glen Ogilvie.

In 1929 the stock market crash marked the end of this prosperous era. The big depression began and the Berg family left in 1930 to go farming near Viking. They later moved to the Edson area where Carl worked for Swanson Lumber. He died in 1957. Clara is living in her own home in Winterburn, a few miles west of Edmonton.

Earle and Wendy Berry

I was born in Edmonton, December 24, 1948 to parents Reg and Gola Berry. I lived and received my schooling, through Grade eleven, at Hay Lakes. I was active in High School and Community Sports, playing with the County of Camrose in minor programs of baseball, hockey, track and field, hockey with the Hay Lakes Seniors and the Camrose Maroons. I attended the Oil Kings Junior Camp and the U. of A. Golden Bears Spring Camp in 1967.

I took Grade twelve at Camrose Composite, graduating in 1967. I worked for a year at Thompson, Manitoba and for the City of Camrose before returning to studies at Mount Royal College, Calgary, on a hockey scholarship in 1968-1970. I continued my studies at Camrose Lutheran College and the University in Edmonton, receiving my Bachelor of Education degree with a major in Phys. Ed. in May 1973.

In August, 1971, I was married to Wendy Umbach. We lived in Edmonton for two years before coming to Hay Lakes where I started my teaching career, and taught for three years. I met Wendy while we were both attending Mount Royal College. Wendy who graduated with a diploma in Recreation and Outdoor Education, is a Red Cross swim instructor and life-guard and is involved with many water safety and swim programs.

I also played fastball with the Camrose Mer-

chants for three years. Wendy and I now live in Camrose and have three children — Kimberly, Jeffrey and Scott. I am presently teaching and coaching at Camrose Composite School.

(Frank) Reginald and Gola Berry

Reg Berry was born at MacGregor, Manitoba, August 12, 1898 to Frank and Jane Berry and received all his education there. He joined the Armed Forces during the first World War and went overseas with the Winnipeg 61st. Battalion in 1915. He spent three years in France.

After his return, he worked in MacGregor as hardware man and tinsmith for one of the local stores. Hockey, skating and baseball were his main pastimes.

In 1925, he came to Alberta and worked in hardware and general store businesses at Coronation and Altario.

In July of 1935 he came to Hay Lakes to work for Mr. Cohen in charge of the hardware part of his General Store. Always active in sports, he played hockey for the local team for a number of years, then assisted with coaching the junior boys both in hockey and baseball for the County of Camrose. He received recognition from the County Midget baseball club in 1964 and 1965 for two Provincial Championships. Curling and target shooting were other interests.

When Mr. Cohen sold the hardware part of his store and the Beaver Lumber Co. opened up their lumber and hardware business on Main Street in 1940, Reg went to work for them, starting in November of that year. The following year, on June 4th., he was married to Gola Kreamer. Reg continued to work for the Beaver for the next twenty-nine years, first in hardware then with the lumber and pre-fab end of it. When the company moved to Winterburn, Reg worked there for two years before retiring in October of 1969.

I was born in Strathcona (South Edmonton) June 10, 1914 and came with my parents to their homestead a half-mile west of the town of Hay Lakes in 1915. I received all my education at the Hay Lakes School. My brother, Edward and I, walked to school, except in the winter time when we were fortunate most days to catch a ride with the Sochs' or Marusaks' who took their children by horse and sleigh. On very cold days we often had to keep our coats on to do lessons until the school warmed up. Students also took turns with janitor work, the girls swept floors and the boys brought in wood and coal and carried the drinking water.

Growing up on the farm was a happy experience. There was always something to do to keep us busy — feeding the many pets we had, some with the bottle,



L. to R.: Elizabeth Kreamer, Gola Kreamer, Mary Kreamer. Horse Dick.

keeping the wood box full and carrying the lantern for evening chores in the wintertime, were some of our tasks. Living so close to town, there were always school friends around to play with. One attraction was a horse, very good with children, which we rode or hitched up to an old stone boat for rides around the pasture and meadow in summertime and to sleighs in the wintertime. Haying and threshing times were other attractions for the children in town.

I attended Sunday School through the years, first in the school house until the Church was built in 19 . I had a class for several years and was secretary-treasurer for a time.

One of my ambitions was realized in 1928 when a piano was bought and music lessons started, first in Camrose with Madame Hoyme and later with Anna McCoy (Mrs. Sware) and Mrs. D. C. Braun, who came out from Edmonton every weekend. The other, to take a business course was not, I was needed at home to help.

I met Reg when skating and hockey games were held at the rink at our place. After our marriage on June 4th., 1941, I came to live in the Village where Reg and I took part in many of its activities — Reg with curling, sports and Boy Scouts and I with Red Cross, curling, Circle "S" and Boy Scouts. I was secretary-treasurer of the Red Cross Club, School District, Boy Scouts Group Committee and secretary of the Ladies' Auxiliary for a number of years. I also helped many students get started with piano lessons.

We had three children, Sandra, Douglas and Earle.

After completing her Grade twelve at Hay Lakes, Sandra went on to become a nurse, training at the Royal Alexandra in Edmonton. She nursed for nine years at Stettler, Timmins, Ontario and Bashaw. In September, 1972, she married Wally Cameron, son of Mrs. Cameron and the late Mr. Cameron of Elk Point, Alberta. They have three daughters, Shannon, Karyn and Kelly and live at Alix, Alberta.



L. to R., Back Row: Douglas, Sandra, Earle. Seated: Mary Kreamer, Gola and Reg Berry.

Douglas finished his schooling at Camrose Composite and took one year of electronics there. He is a partner with Glad Electronics Distributors, Edmonton. In May 1971, he was married to Lucille Moisan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lucian Moisan of Edmonton. They have two boys, Michael and David and live in Leduc, Alberta.

Earle, also took his Grade twelve at Camrose Composite and went on to become a teacher. He was married to Wendy Umbach in August 1971, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norm Umbach of Camrose and is presently teaching at Camrose Composite. They have three children, Kimberly, Jeffrey and Scott, and live in Camrose.

After Reg's retirement in October 1969, we bought the Beaver house and continued to live in Hay Lakes. Reg suffered a stroke on June 15, 1971 and another in October 1973 from which he did not recover. He passed away October 29, 1973.

I still live in our home in the Village and keep busy with various crafts and music lessons.

Bieganek, Herman

Herman was raised in the Heisler district, one of thirteen children born to Mike and Bertha Bieganek. He joined the Army in January, 1941 and was first stationed in Edmonton and then in Victoria, British Columbia. While in British Columbia he met Helen Hillaby of Heatherbrae, Alberta. They were married in Camrose on September 7, 1944. To this union two children were born, Bonnie and Darrel. Bonnie married Rudy Fuernkranz of Hay Lakes. They have four children, Elaine, Kay, Adele and Sheldon.

Darrel lives in the Valleyview area where he is farming. He married Rhonda High and they have three children, Kathy, Michael and Cindy.

Herman and Helen lived in Meeting Creek where Herman was employed at Clarence Wahlstrom's Garage for a number of years. He then was foreman on the Road Construction crew of Jim Boden's district. They then moved to Mayerthorpe where Herman was employed in logging and sawing for a few years. In 1952, they bought Holt Motors of Edberg and operated this as Herman's Service for ten years. After selling to Boden Brothers they lived west of Wetaskiwin where Herman cleared a lot of land with a D-8, and also farmed and raised cattle. He later purchased the old creamery property in Hay Lakes and moved a house there in 1972.

Herman worked for Poole Construction in Edmonton for a number of years as a carpenter and later as one of their head sawyers. He helped build the James McDonald and Beverly bridges, also a large number of overpasses, including the one at the intersection of Highways #14 and #21.

Herman and Helen both enjoy fishing in the summer months.

Bloom, Joseph William and Maryasa

Joseph William Bloom and his family in partnership with a Mr. Greisdorf started a general store in Hay Lakes in the early 1920's. It was situated just east of the hotel. The business had competition from the other stores in town, plus the fact that the sons were so interested in sports they found little time to help Joseph and Maryasa in the store. In fact when they purchased a new Model A Ford the boys literally drove the wheels off it following various sporting events all over the country, especially baseball.

The Blooms sold the store to Chris Hein in the early 'thirties and Joseph and Maryasa returned to Edmonton. Marcus had gone to Regina where he operated the Gateway Theatre in partnership with his brother-in-law, Harry Berkovitch. He married Elaine Donnanson and they had three children: Jerry, a Ph.D. in Bacteriology, living in Toronto (thirty-one years old), David, at twenty-nine a Medical Doctor living in Montreal, and Moira a twenty-six year-old student in Regina. Marcus passed away in March 1959 at forty-nine years of age. His wife pre-deceased him in 1958. None of their children are married.

Ed Bloom returned to Edmonton with the family, setting up a dry-goods store. Later he opened a Pauline Johnson's Candies store and operated that until his retirement. During this time he had married Garnut Hales but they had no children.



Marcus Bloom Family: Jerry, Marcus holding Moira, Elaine and David.

Ever a sports buff, Ed had many friends in all sporting fields, from his baseball playing days in Hay Lakes (Marcus played too) to being a member of the



Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bloom

Horse Racing Commission in the city. Art Evans who nick-named Ed "Senator" knew him well.

The "Senator" passed away on May 24, 1979. His wife had pre-deceased him in 1977. All the family of Joseph and Maryasa Bloom are now deceased.

Bonkowski, Harry

Harry came to Hay Lakes in 1964 and lived in the "corner house", south-east of the skating rink. He was known to have previously lived at Ponoka and High River and was at one time employed on a fox farm.

Harry had an old-style non-functioning automobile which was parked in front of his home. He didn't have a driver's license but would sit for hours behind the wheel, particularly if it was a nice day. A favorite winter pastime was watching the curling at the local rink.

He had a old wood-and-coal cook stove for heating his home. On one occasion after painting his stove pipes with silver aluminum paint he also painted his cowboy boots with the same paint. Thus he earned the nickname of "Silver Boots".

One winter night early in 1974, Harry lost his life when fire destroyed his home.

Bowie, John and Mona by Mona (Bowie) Gordon

My brother, John Bowie, settled in Hay Lakes buying the Martin Kaulitzke place.

As children we had lived on a farm in the New Sarepta area, homesteaded by Harry Hulbert, a native of England. The Martin Kaulitzke family was one of our many good neighbors.

It was the hardest, coldest three years of our lives. Years that prepared us for the hardships we had to face.

John served with the Calgary Tank Corps. He is a veteran of Dieppe. Before moving to Hay Lakes John worked on the Alaska Highway as a mechanic. He later farmed at Genesee, Alberta.

I was abroad for many years, returning to Canada in 1964. Canada was home.

In 1978 I purchased the home of the late Grandma Rost. I am busy extending the dwelling, enjoying my life here in this pleasant village and its contact with the past.

Bradbury, Harry and Merle

Harry and Merle Bradbury came to Hay Lakes in the spring of 1926, from Bashaw. Harry was agent for the Massey Harris machine company for several years, as well a clerk in Larson's General store.



Harry Bradbury in his Model T Ford.

They had two children, Alice and LeRoy. They retired to Nanaimo, B.C., where both their children live.

Harry passed away on October 16, 1979. Merle passed away April 2, 1981.

Brandt, Sister Anna

Hay Lakes is where I lived and worked for approximately six years. That is almost fifty years ago. Having enjoyed this time in your midst, I decided to add some of the things I remember.

As a clerk in Hughes General Store in Hay Lakes, I heard many stories, gossip, ideas, and sometimes devious plans.

For me, in your midst, church and all connected with it, such as the Ladies' Aid with its celebrations and bazaars, Sunday School, Luther League, and the playing of the organ for the services, came first in my life.

When Pastor Fred Lenz first came to Hay Lakes, before he was married, this created quite an excite-



Anna Brandt's farewell, 1938. L. to R., Back: Hatty Fisher, Martha Schmidt, Alma Lechelt, Ella Lechelt. Center: Marjy Lechelt, ?, Lizzy McLeod, Anna Brandt, Eda Schmidt, Viola Fisher, Esther Sjolie, Gola Kreamer, Louise Roper. Front: Eileen Hein, Doreen Lechelt and Rita Schmidt.

ment. He walked into the store just as I was weighing up navy beans and raisins. I put them together in one bag. How is that for being excited. He soon returned from Saskatoon with his pretty blonde bride.

One wintry Sunday afternoon and evening I spent in the store basement picking over apples and potatoes for no over time nor double pay.

In small towns all people are acquainted more or less and many unexpected occasions arise. One year after threshing was over, mostly women, received letters from the Ku Klux Klan. After these were digested and anger overcome, a notice appeared in public places announcing a cross burning would take place in a field north of town. Quite a sizeable crowd gathered in town and then walked to the field where a high wooden cross was set in the ground. Several men were already in the field dressed in white sheets with cutouts for eyes, nose and mouth, piling kindling at the foot of the cross which they lit. The entire cross was soon in flames. We remained until it collapsed on the ground. We were quite sure that it was a local prank.

One rainy day several men carried a victim of an accident into Grahn's garage. The man in the accident was one of our customers. His wild horse turned vicious, kicking the vehicle to bits and pieces, and the man into unconsciousness. As soon as a willing man with vehicle and horses could be located the victim was taken to Camrose Hospital where he died not long afterwards. This was a tremendous shock to the entire community.

On a summer day after school a little girl came to the store telling me that her mother had sent her for me as she needed help. Her baby was not due for at least six or eight weeks, nevertheless she began to hemorrhage. I ran to the house as fast as I could. "What can I do?" I asked. After raising the foot end of the bed, I ran out to a pasture and picked an armful of vermouth; washed it and boiled from it a strong tea, placed it in a pitcher and glass on a table beside her bed. This tea stopped the hemorrhage. I am amazed at the self help of many of these young pioneers.

My day of departure from Hay Lakes arrived. I left for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A on Sept. 1, 1938 to enter the Lutheran Deaconess Community training centre which afforded me an unexpected opportunity for Christian Service.

I retired to my homeland, Canada, in 1969. In 1980 I celebrated my 75th birthday and now reside in the Lutheran Home in Regina, Sask. I play the organ here in the chapel and take a small part in some activities. I live close to sisters and a brother and many cousins.

Hay Lakes and district contributed much to my life while living in her midst.

Britton, Wally

Wally and Sarah Britton came to Hay Lakes from Vera, Saskatchewan in 1945 with their son, Donald. Wally was the section foreman here from 1945 to 1954. They then moved to Bretona and later to Edmonton where Wally passed away in 1968. Sarah now lives on Vancouver Island.

Their son, Doug, came here after the war bringing an English war bride with him. They operated a café in town for a while with the help of Doug's sister, Grace. Doug also worked in the Creamery for a short time. They moved to Ontario where he passed away in 1977.

Carberry, James Emmett

Jim was a druggist who came to the village in 1923 to operate the drugstore that had been set up in conjunction with the Post Office.

When this small building burned in 1925 the business was carried on from the hotel until a new building was completed in 1926.

Jim also acted as secretary for the Village School from 1927 to 1930 and also was secretary for the village in 1928 and 1929.

Two of his brothers joined him later and worked in the village. Vince was employed as a clerk in the Larsen store and Al worked in the hotel.

In the "dirty thirties" Jim had three large tanks behind the drugstore in which he raised muskrats and also chickens. He also did some dray work for Gus Hein.



Anna McCoy and James Carberry — 1928.

In September, 1934 he married Anna McCoy, a local school teacher. Jim died of peritonitis shortly after the marriage. He passed away on October 29, 1934 at the age of thirty-one years.

Carlson, Knut **by Clara Berg**

Knut Carlson came from Sweden in 1924, and married Florence Sjerven, Clara Berg's sister. While they were living in Hay Lakes a son, Kenneth, and a daughter, Doris were born.

Knut and Herman Selin operated a garage in Hay Lakes during the early 30's.

Knut joined the Army in 1941 and moved his family to Calgary. Florence was killed in a car accident in Calgary in 1962. Knut died in January 1981.

Chrbet, Joseph and Family **interviewed by Alf Arnston**

Joseph Chrbet was born in 1903 in Austria, which at that time ruled a large section of Europe. A portion of the Empire is now known as Czechoslovakia. As a child he attended school where it was required to learn Hungarian and German in addition to Slovak.

Following the defeat of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire during World War I, Czechoslovakian Independence was declared, which changed the life for most of the residents. Postwar years were difficult for most young men and, since Joseph had a brother in Canada, he decided to make the trip to join him, which he did in 1925 and started work at a flour mill in Leduc. However, the mill was sold a year later, so Joe went to work in various areas, including an attempt to file on a homestead near Peace River. After the trip north, he decided not to file and walked back from Peace River to Edmonton, where work was difficult to find. After working at various jobs, he purchased a farm at Strome with his brother in 1930. The first crop was hailed out, so farming was no longer viable, hence he started work with the maintenance department of the Canadian National Railway.

In the meantime, he met Marie Gross, whose parents had come from Austria in 1929, and settled on a farm between New Sarepta and Rolly View. George and Mary Gross had arrived in Canada and commenced farming together with Marie and other children (including Paul) during the most difficult period in the history of Canada. Marie said her father had made a trip to Argentina but he could not convince his family to join him there, so he returned to Europe and came to Canada with his family.

After working for the Canadian National Railroad for a period of time, he remembered Marie Gross lived in the New Sarepta district and he kept in

contact with her. After a three-year period Joe decided to make another attempt to convince Marie she should join him in Heisler, where he was stationed with the Canadian National Railroad. They decided to get married in 1934 and this started the young couple on a happy road of romance. The nature of the work made frequent moves necessary, so after a short stay at Heisler they moved to the following places: Rosalind, Bashaw, Jasper, New Norway, and finally Hay Lakes in 1960, where they lived until Joe retired in 1968.

Three children were born, two daughters and one son. The oldest, Alithia (Mrs. Wilke), lives in Calgary, Dorothy (Mrs. Botham) lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, and Dwight lives in Edmonton and has a position as a teacher in St. Albert. (Dwight is single and he said he is interested in girls.)



Joseph Chrbet Family. L. to R.: Dorothy, Dwight, Alithia. Joseph and Marie seated.

As residents of Hay Lakes Joe and Marie were interested in gardening. They produced a good crop every year and Marie always found time to prepare the most tasty and interesting dishes. She was always looking for new ways to prepare food.

The girls had left home before the parents moved to Hay Lakes, but Dwight was always around, having enrolled in the Scout Movement. He was a serious student and did well in his class. He graduated from the University of Alberta in the Department of Education, and spent a couple years teaching at Lamond before going to St. Albert.

Marie and Joe are very proud of their family and all three of the children have been successful in their respective endeavors. They are presently living in Edmonton, where their home is always open to their friends and former neighbors.

Cox, P. L. (Bud)

Mrs. Ida Cox was born July 14, 1866 in Dewitt County, Ill. She married P. L. (Bud) Cox at the age of sixteen years and moved to Coldwell, Kansas. In 1906 they came to Viking, Alberta. In 1917 they moved to Hay Lakes and resided here till 1920. They then moved to Daysland.

While living in Hay Lakes Mrs. Cox operated a rooming and boarding house and Mr. Cox looked after the livery barn.



L. to R.: Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. Ida Cox, Mrs. Mamie Pointer. Mrs. Pointer was Mrs. Cox's daughter-in-law by first marriage. She had been married to Wilsie Cox. Picture taken at Daysland in 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox had two sons, Wilsie and Elza. Elza passed away in Hay Lakes in 1919. Wilsie passed away in Strome in 1924. Mr. Cox passed away in Daysland in 1927.

Mrs. Cox operated a rooming and boarding house in Daysland for many years. She passed away on June 27, 1938.

Dahl, Kenneth

My association with the Hay Lakes community goes back many years to the days while as a student at Brandland School I would periodically be allowed to

accompany my parents, Martin and Kristine Dahl, to Hay Lakes where they did most of their trading. Hay Lakes at that time boasted many stores, always a butcher shop, a creamery, the Grahn Garage, Lofgren Implements, hotel, and a cafe, sometimes two.



Kenneth Dahl — age nine months.

After completing my first year in Education at the University of Alberta in the spring of 1949, the few of us from the Camrose School Division were assigned to various schools where we would Intern or "Student Teach" in earnest during May and June. As it turned out, I was most fortunate to be posted to Ellswick, southwest of Hay Lakes. Mrs. Mary Pelz had decided to return for a while to her domestic duties at home. I remember well how helpful she was by acquainting me with the various textbooks we would be using. The Grades ranged from one to eight, with an enrolment of just over thirty. I remember that I was truly correct when I made the statement to Flavian Pasula, that he was my best Grade one student. He was the only Grade one pupil I had!

It was in the Ellswick district that I established my good impressions about teaching because I was fortunate to enter a community that was most tolerant, supportive, and genuinely concerned about the children I was charged to teach. What I remember most vividly about my days in Ellswick was the afternoon we had a fire on the school grounds. I found out that on a nice day, (and all the days seemed to be fine while I was there) the senior students had a habit of eating their lunches in the bush, and enjoyed roasting apples over a bon-fire. I never fully succeeded in detecting the culprits, but I had a good idea.

I am sure that in the history of Ellswick, they had never before, nor after, had any cleaner grounds. Before that happened, the grass on the ball diamond

was so high that I could only see the heads of the little fellows running from third base to home-plate.

It was not until the fall of 1959, that I was posted to the Principalship at the nice new school at Hay Lakes. Here, I remained for seven years.

During those seven years I encountered many changes, both in the physical plant and in the enrolment. After my first year, Grade twelve was reinstated. The western wing, plus a beautiful gymnasium were added. It was the year I left that the science labs and the showers were added.

My years at Hay Lakes were very rewarding years, eventful yes, and also exciting, never dull, because one never knew what new experiences were in store for us as we entered the school in the morning. My chief adversary seemed to be the local pool hall where it became necessary periodically for me to make a raid and "clean house." I remember well, one day when I entered the pool hall and found six lunch buckets lined up neatly in a row on the shelf. The culprits were nowhere to be seen as they had fled, cue sticks and all, through the back door into a convenient shelter, the outhouse at the back. Granted it was a bit crowded for them; two had managed to reach Bill Sware's trailer, but I could still spot their legs. Eventually all returned safely to the school. Another problem I encountered, especially after the May long weekend, was the occasional impromptu excursion to Miquelon Lake Park for an all-day unauthorized field trip, but really, who could blame them?

I was most fortunate to be able to work with such a dedicated group of teachers that we had on staff during those years. Perhaps it was fortunate that we had an enrolment, high by the standards during those years, but not so many that our teachers could not get to know them personally, and therefore, were able to keep a close watch over their progress.

One of the greatest strengths of our school was the fact that we had a library which everyone knows is the focal point of any learning institution. With the support of the community, and the fact that the Community Library which was moved into the school library so that the students could freely use them, the Hay Lakes High School was recognized as the first school library in the County with a half-time librarian, Mrs. A. Louise Nordin, to whom this credit must go, even if the librarian time was short-lived. However, even so, the library continued to function because of the support received from many mothers in the community, Arnston, Nordins, Lofgren and Harke to mention a few, plus the teachers on staff.

There was a very fair balance between the academics and the sport activities in the school. I can especially remember the badminton matches played

by students and parents alike, as well as the curling 'spiels.

The Armena High School was closed also during my sojourn at Hay Lakes. Their pupils were a definite asset to our school and did ensure better instruction for the High School teachers through the allocation of more teachers and better equipment for instruction. Tension at times was felt, just like it is today, but that was due to stress and the teachers' desire to do a good job, the best they were able to do. The main difference was that we all enjoyed the support of our community.

The lights shone late in the school, because of community or teacher use, resembling very much the Roman Church where the light is never out, and in most cases, Mrs. Louise Nordin was the last one to leave. I am sure that all of us who taught at Hay Lakes High School during those years will look back upon those years with fond memories and will consider them as our most rewarding years in Education, chiefly because our students prospered.

The Hay Lakes community had always had the reputation for its hospitality, and everyone, including the teachers, was made to feel that one was an integral part of the community. I have many fond memories of my years at Hay Lakes. It was while there, that I could experience two Christmases, I was able to participate in not only my own, but also that of those who followed the Gregorian calendar. I remember well, the many times when the weather was particularly cold, I would find a pot of homemade soup brought over by my kind neighbor who lived across the alley to the west, and also that one box of Christmas baking I found in a box on the doorstep, which I was never able to trace, and the many times my colleagues and I enjoyed fellowship with our students and parents in their homes. I remember well, those special evenings when Vern and Doris Nordin had enjoyed a meal of "pult" (Swedish), or Klubb (Norwegian, which was what I was used to). It always meant an invitation to breakfast, because their potato dumplings cut into pieces were heated in milk and served with bacon which made a tremendously delicious dish, far superior to just bacon and eggs. There was also the yearly invitation to the Ogilvies, the postmaster, for the roast beef and Yorkshire pudding.

I was always glad when the school custodian, Bill Tober, asked me to set aside a Saturday for fishing. Whether it was to Hastings Lake for perch, or Dodds Mine for rainbow trout, we always came home with fish.

I was always most grateful to my neighbors in the East Hay Lakes (Wilhelmina-Brandland) district where I grew up, for their support and co-operation, because if anyone should know my particular weak-

nesses and shortcomings they should, and I am sure they did, but they were most tolerant.

The church at Hay Lakes, "Our Saviors Lutheran Church" (and their pastors), also played a most important role because of the tolerance which it extended to all people in the community. Everyone was always welcome there.

I have always considered my seven years at Hay Lakes as a rare experience, and I am proud of my association with the community because one always feels welcome there.



Ken Dahl at Butimba Teacher Training College in Tanzania, Africa, instructing on how to use a hammer.

Prior to coming to Hay Lakes School as principal, I taught at Kingman and Dinant. Also I taught a year at Camrose Composite, then was principal at David Thompson High School in the Rocky Mountain School Division. I served as a Biology Instructor and Department Head at a Government College in Nigeria, West Africa, with the Department of External Aid. I taught two summer session courses to teachers in Tanzania, lectured one summer at Haile Selassie I University in Ethiopia, and took a team of administrators to Ghana in 1977 to hold seminars for principals. I was vice-principal at the Rimbey High School for three years. Presently I am the principal of F. R. Haythorne School in the County of Strathcona and I live in Edmonton.

Danielson, Edward

Ed Danielson's parents emigrated from Dalarna, Sweden in the 1880's. He was born on July 19, 1891 in Oxford, Minnesota. The family came to Canada in 1910 when his father took a homestead at Czar. Ed was eighteen years old at the time. No land was broken and they had no house until their Uncle Shogren, who homesteaded at Galahad, built the house. They had six horses which provided power to run their machinery. They had chickens, pigs, and a few milk cows.

Mrs. Edith McLeod (later Danielson) worked at

the Czar Hotel, so Ed probably met her there. The Danielsons lived close to Czar, so Ed walked into town frequently.

In the 1940's, Ed left Czar. He moved to Edmonton, then Wetaskiwin and later to the village of Hay Lakes. After the passing of his wife, Edith, Edward moved to the Stoney Creek Lodge in Camrose, on December 1, 1970. On May 29, 1979, he moved to the Bethany Nursing Home, then the Bethany Auxiliary Hospital at Camrose. He passed away on February 16, 1981 at the age of ninety. He is survived by nieces and nephews in Edmonton, British Columbia, Estevan and Regina.

Dixon, Arden and Gladys by Gladys (Schlender) Dixon

I was born in 1929, the youngest of Edward and Olga Schlender's children. My early years were spent in Hay Lakes where I started school. As my parents owned farms on which we lived at various times I also attended school at Branland and Salt Lake, near Ryley.

Although I have many fond memories of my childhood in Hay Lakes one especially returns to me whenever I am reminiscing about the many fine people I was associated with while growing up. I lost one of my dolls; although it was rather worn out it was very dear to me. When I asked my brother Lawrence to help me find it he said he had seen it running out of town and although he tried, he was unable to catch it. For several months after that each person in the district that I questioned about my doll would report having seen it someplace or other but they were also unable to catch it for me. Imagine my surprise as the charade ended abruptly on Christmas morning when I found my doll, completely restored, and with a new wardrobe under our tree.

In 1947 I went to Edmonton and after graduating from the Capital Hairdressing School worked there until 1951. I returned to Hay Lakes in the fall of 1951 in order to spend a few months with my Dad prior to my marriage the following spring. During this time I worked for Alf Arntson at the Treasury Branch.

On February 6, 1952 I was married to Arden Dixon who was born in Lougheed, Alberta and had lived at Bawlf and Leduc where his Dad was the CPR agent. Arden was working in Edmonton as a Train Dispatcher for the CNR when we became engaged. However he was transferred to Saskatoon shortly before our wedding. We lived in Saskatoon, Kamloops, Winnipeg and Edmonton before moving to Montreal where Arden is now Manager, Operations and Motive Power Central for CN rail.

We have three sons, Richard, who is married to Ruth Selvig of Shaunavan, Saskatchewan, and is the

Pastor of the Tri-Parish Lutheran churches of Asker, Calvary and Saren Clive south of Wetaskiwin. Greg, is married to Deborah Dingman of Magog, Quebec, and is attending University in Saskatoon. Jamie is attending the University of McGill and living at home.

Although we have lived in many places during our years of marriage we still own my parents house in Hay Lakes where we have always managed to spend some happy times each year renewing old and valued friendships. Our sons have each lived in the house during the summers when they have been working on the railroad and we expect some of them will continue to do so. Over the years Hay Lakes has also become a very important second home for my husband and our sons as they have also accumulated many fond memories and friends there.

Drynan, Lorne and Family

by Gerry Drynan

Lorne Alexander was born on November 1, 1930 in Mirror, Alberta, the second eldest son of Gordon and Minnie Drynan. Lorne lived in Mirror and took all his schooling there, until he left to start his career with Calgary Power Limited in November, 1949.

I, Geraldine Dorothy Turney, was born in Wildwood, Alberta on April 13, 1934, the second eldest child and only daughter of Gerald and Dorothy Turney. I was educated in Edson and Eckville, Alberta, until I went out to work in 1950. I met Lorne and we were married on November 22, 1951 at Mirror, Alberta.

We started our happy wedded life in Rocky Mountain House, where Lorne was assistant District Manager with Calgary Power Limited. We lived in "Rocky" for five years, where two of our children were born. Teresa Joyce was born in Eckville on November 13, 1953, and Lorna Dee in Rocky Mountain House on January 6, 1956. We were then transferred to Wetaskiwin, Alberta, with Calgary Power Limited in 1956. Gregory Allen, our first son, was born in Wetaskiwin on April 1, 1958. We transferred to Hay Lakes in June of 1958 to begin eight years of life which will never be forgotten. Lorne was promoted to District Manager with Calgary Power Limited to take over from George Greive. We bought the Bertha Mallas home, next door to Mr. and Mrs. Maraschuk and Mr. and Mrs. Norm Ogilvie.

We got to Hay Lakes just in time for Mrs. Maruschak to insist that I learn how to garden (bless her soul). She would work in her garden all morning and in my garden all afternoon. I nearly keeled over with exhaustion, but she would never stop. She also made the best sauerkraut in the area.

We remodelled the house, and through Reins

Mittelstadt's insistence, we put in the water and sewer. Reins let us charge the pump and plumbing supplies, for which we were most thankful.

By this time Terry and Lorna had made great friends with the Nordin girls, Debbie and Colleen, and they had the church yard to explore in. Then Terry was off to Grade one and Lorna was not far behind, and Greg was "bugging" Warren Nordin. Then our beautiful blue-eyed blonde baby girl, Tam-mie Jane, was born in Camrose on January 14, 1960. In between babies, drilling our well (which nearly drove Pastor Frank wild) we both found time to curl, and Lorne became the Hay Lakes first Scout Master, with Walter Busenius as his assistant. I joined the Circle "S" Club and Lorne was elected to the Village Council and was Mayor in 1966.

In 1962 we bought a lot beside Mrs. Emily Schmidt for \$250.00 and built a new open beam home. There was more than \$250.00 worth of black dirt on that lot, and it made a lovely garden. That same year our fifth child was born in Camrose on November 27, 1962. We named him Darcy Robert, and fourteen months later Darryl Lorne was born in Camrose, on January 21, 1964. We called them the "TWO TERRIBLE D's."

We can recall many happy events in Hay Lakes. We even had the Hay Lakes first Swine Club, consisting of members by the name of Paul Karpyszn, Basil Lind — President, Jim Selin, Scotty Jack, Grant Skippen and Lorne. Also the town folks joined together to form a committee to help keep law and order in the town and area, as we were never policed that often. But it was such a peaceful community, and word got around about us looking after our town and we never had too many problems.

We had lots of fun at the Circle "S" Halloween dances; the catering to the big weddings and the fall bazaars makes my feet sore thinking about them.

We recall how the community pulled together in any form of emergency. One in particular was a violent blizzard just prior to one of our ladies' bonspiels, in the year of 1963-'64, when we had several accidents on the highway. We made Floyd Baier's (the butcher) stationwagon into an ambulance and borrowed a door for a stretcher from Reg Berry at Beaver Lumber to take the injured to Camrose Hospital. The school buses were forced to stay in town, and the town people opened their hearts and homes (bless them) to all those stranded in this particular storm. Lorne and other Calgary Power employees were out working for two days steady restoring power failures and rescuing stranded people — the boys put in some long cold hours!

Our children have fond memories of Hay Lakes and when we found out we were to be transferred to

Mayerthorpe in November, 1965, we regretted leaving. Lorna was leaving her Brownies, Greg was leaving his first love, his Grade two teacher, Miss Christopherson. The other three children were pretty small, but Tammie remembers driving Vern Nordin crazy with her screaming, and Terry leaving and breaking the hearts of Allen Lofgren and Howard Sware.

We were given a huge farewell party by our friends in Hay Lakes and received a beautiful big green lazy-boy chair which we still have. Mike and Margaret Sych purchased our house, and we were off to a new life in Mayerthorpe, Alberta, where on February 2, 1966, our seventh and last child was born, a girl we named Jody Lynn.

Terry married Darrel Hunt on February 5, 1972 and they have two lovely girls, Kerra Micheal, seven years old, and Kaley Jane, aged two. Darrell was a policeman with the City of Edmonton for ten years, then they moved back home and put a mobile home on our farm, which is one and a half miles from Mayerthorpe. Darrell works with Canada Cities Service Gas Plant in the Mayerthorpe area and Terry works for the County of Lac St. Anne in Sangudo, Alberta.

Lorna married Garth Garratt on November 30, 1974 and they live in Edmonton. Garth is a member of the Edmonton City Police and Lorna is a secretary with ADAAC. They live in the Castledown area of Edmonton and have no children as yet.

Greg is single and is employed with Mobile Oils at Rainbow Lake, Alberta. He works up north for a week and then is back to Edmonton for a week, where he maintains his apartment. He is too busy refereeing hockey to get married.

Tammie married David VanDerWolf on July 14, 1979. They live at Slave Lake, Alberta, where David is employed by Kodiak Electric as an oilfield electrician. They have no family as yet.

Darcy graduated from Grade twelve this past spring, 1981, and he is now employed with Esso Resources and lives in Swan Hills, Alberta. He also, like Greg, is too involved with hockey to find a girl friend. Darryl is an apprentice mechanic with Big Country Machinery in Mayerthorpe and will enter The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in the spring.

Jody is in Grade eleven at Mayerthorpe High School and is enjoying her horse, hobbies and skating.

Lorne and I bought a quarter section — one and a half miles from Mayerthorpe, in 1978, and moved out and built a pine log home. Lorne is still employed with Calgary Power Limited (now Trans Alta Utilities Corporation) and is now in his thirty-third year



L. to R., Back Row: Darryl, Greg, Darcy. Second Row: Lorna, Tammie, Jody, Terry. Front: Lorne, Gerry.

with the company. He gave up his seat on the council and as chairman of the Hospital Board when we moved to the farm. He spends a few evenings a week as an Auxiliary Royal Canadian Mounted Police constable; he was sworn in September, 1979 (a volunteer position).

I am employed with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Mayerthorpe as a stenographer, a position I have held since 1975.

We have been back to Hay Lakes a number of times and our whole family attended the Hay Lakes Homecoming in 1980, which brought back many fond memories. The eight years of living in Hay Lakes was an experience that everyone raising a family should have. We made many friends while there, friends whom we still visit.

Dyck, Frank and Esther

Frank Dyck was born in Winkler, Manitoba, while Esther was born at Morden, Manitoba.

Frank arrived in Hay Lakes in January, 1960 and was the Assistant District Manager for Calgary Power. From January to August he obtained board and room at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLean. In August he married Esther and brought his new bride to Hay Lakes. They lived in the small house behind the pool room, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stelmaker.

Heather Jane Dyck was born June 21, 1961 and Arlene Frances Dyck arrived October 9, 1962. Both children were born in the Camrose Hospital. Arlene was baptized in the Lutheran Church at Hay Lakes by Pastor Otto Frank.



Frank Dyck Family: Frank, Esther, Arlene, Heather.

During the three years they lived in Hay Lakes, Esther belonged to the "Circle S Club", did some substitute teaching, and was captain of the Girl Guides. Frank was a member of the Legion, curled, and coached baseball.

At the present time, Frank, Esther and Heather live in High River, Alberta. Frank works for Trans-Alta Utilities, the new name for Calgary Power. Esther is teaching Grade three. Arlene, who was in a car accident in 1975 and is wheelchair bound, lives in the Dr. Vernon Fanning Centre in Calgary. Both girls are attending Mount Royal College in Calgary.

Early, Bob and Family

Our quick and unexpected ties to Hay Lakes began on October 6, 1978. Bob was placed as the new United Farmers' Association agent in the town. With no office we operated out of a holiday trailer for the first couple of months. Besides, we could not find a place to rent so we drove back and forth from Round Hill every day. Our start was not all roses as we did not know the area yet and were expected to find the right farm to deliver the fuel, which did not always materialize. It was all an experience we shall never forget. We finally were able to rent a house and moved into Hay Lakes on November 15, 1978.



Bob and Martha Early celebrated their first anniversary as agents in Hay Lakes October 6, 1979.

Bob was born in 1944 in Calgary and shortly after he moved with his parents, Daphne and Harold Early, to Monitor, Alberta, where he grew up.

I, Martha, was born in 1951 at the Camrose Hospital and grew up in Round Hill, the daughter of Stan and Ann Banack.

We were married on a cold and snowy day, November 15, 1969. We have been blessed with three children: Denise, who was born on May 2, 1970; Arlene, born on June 30, 1972 and, last but not least, Harvey, born on January 20, 1974.

We are all proud to be members of, and to serve such a thriving farm community.

Edwards, Jack

Jack and Anne Edwards came from Choiceland, Saskatchewan. They moved to New Sarepta in 1968 where Jack continued in his own trucking business and Anne took up her teaching position in the New Sarepta Elementary school.

On December 1, 1980 Jack and Anne moved to Hay Lakes where they purchased a home.

They have one daughter, Janice, and two sons, Stuart and Ralph. Janice lives in Calgary and is in Dental Hygiene. Stuart and Debbie live in Edmonton and have two daughters, Angela and Tammy. Ralph and Lynn also live in Edmonton and have three daughters, Ronda, Tara and Carla.



Anne and Jack Edwards.

Erickson, Daniel

Daniel Erickson was born in Poland in 1891. As a young man he, along with two friends, decided to come to Canada. Sailing from Poland they landed in the U.S.A. and Dan needed money to get to Canada



Daniel Erickson 1916.

so went to work in a steel factory in Toledo, Ohio. There he worked riveting the inside of steel vessels; the noise was believed to have caused his loss of hearing in later years.

In 1911 he arrived at Hay Lakes where he visited with his sister, Mrs. Ludwig Kopf, who had come some years earlier. He found employment in Edmonton where he worked as a sausage maker for Swift Canadian Company. It was during this time that he met Teckla (Liz), also an employee. They were married in 1915.

Teckla was born in Austria in 1891 and had come to Edmonton to live with an uncle who had a hog ranch just outside of Edmonton.

After their marriage they lived in a small house near Swift's and it was here that their first son, Ewald, was born in 1916. It was three months after Ewald's birth that Dan decided he would like to farm and bought a piece of land, N.E. 25-48-22-W4, close to his sister and brother-in-law. A son, Leonard, was born in 1921.

Daniel was a walking man and when he was young he walked from Leduc to Hay Lakes to visit his sister, Mrs. Kopf. In the coulee there was a curve in the road but he went straight across and had to pull himself up by the trees and shrubs.

In 1929 Dan sold this land to Emil Lachman and bought NE 24-48-22-W4 from Andrew Ditmanson. While living here they suffered the tragic loss of their son Leonard in 1935. Their eldest son, Ewald, who had just entered a trade school in Edmonton, returned home to help his parents farm. Ewald recalls that during his short stay in Edmonton he helped his cousin haul ice from the river to the Arctic Ice Company, the temperature in the valley being sixty-eight degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

Dan and Liz continued to farm until 1947 when they bought some land in Hay Lakes and built a house. They were both avid gardeners and were faithful members of the Lutheran Church.

Teckla (Liz) passed away in 1967. Dan lived in their home caring for himself until 1981 when he passed away at the age of eighty-nine years.

Ewald married Hedwig Lede in 1939 and they continued living on the farm. A daughter, Hildegard, was born in 1940 and it was shortly after her birth that they moved to Hay Lakes. Ewald bought the shop and house from Adolph Metzker and continued to do some woodwork, branching out into auto mechanics and welding. When Ewald got his welding papers he decided to expand so he bought the garage from Dick Gellert and sold the other property to Reins Mittelstadt. Ewald operated the garage as "Erickson's Repair Shop" until 1948. By this time he had become very interested in construction and caterpillar work.



Daniel, Ewald, Hildegard and Liz Erickson.

It was through this work that he was introduced to the North Country. The difficulty in transporting equipment to the North got him interested in flying. In 1948 he got his Pilot's licence and bought his own plane.

He operated his own air service called Hay River Air Service from 1961 to 1964. He was commended as having the neatest, cleanest, one-man owned air service in the North West Territories.

In 1981, after his father's death, Ewald came back to Hay Lakes where he now lives.

Hildegard married Leonard Fulford and lives in Summerland, British Columbia.



Steve Ewanuk Family: Annie, Steve, Mary.

Ewanuk, Steve by Mrs. Annie Bell

My father, Steve Ewanuk, was born in Austria on August 14, 1886. He came to Canada in 1908 as a young man. He worked on the farm for Nick Maruschak, southwest of Hay Lakes, then joined the Canadian National Railroad extra gang, and later worked on the section. He was a good neighbor and loved parties and beer with his friends. My dad and mother were married in 1931.

My mother, Mary Schurek, was born in 1902 at New Kiev, Alberta (in the Vegreville area). She was a real pioneer, did farm work, helped her neighbors and was a good mother and wife.

My parents retired to St. Albert in their later years. Mother died on October 31, 1957 and Dad died on December 29, 1961. They are both buried at St. Albert.

I, Mrs. Annie Bell, am the chosen daughter of Steve and Mary Ewanuk and was born in Edmonton in 1924. I went to school in Hay Lakes during the time my parents lived there, from 1933 to 1936 and Mr. Lyle was my teacher. I loved my friends and neighbors there and "baby-sat" children.

Fisher, Rudolph as related by Ed Fisher

Rudolph Fisher was born in Valhynia, Russia on June 27, 1891. He came to Canada as a young man in 1911.

Rudolph first went to Bruderheim where he worked on farms. Later, he moved to Edmonton where he worked in the coal mines and brickyards. He also worked as a laborer and in a blacksmith shop. He then went to Mannville where he worked on a ranch for a few years. On moving back to Edmonton he went to work as a foreman for the Canadian National Railways. His first position was at Lavoy and then he was transferred to Hay Lakes.

Rudolph married Emelia Fredrich in Strathcona, Alberta on November 23, 1912. Emelia was also born in Volhynia, Russia, on March 25, 1895, and emigrated to Canada in 1910 as a young girl. She came with her parents to a homestead near Looma, Alberta and was afraid to get off the train because all she saw was bush.

When they arrived at the homestead site, her father was sick with the flu. He did however, manage to cut a big pile of brush and they lived under the brush pile for six weeks until he was well enough to build a home. When Emelia was old enough to work, she went to Edmonton and worked in hotels as a waitress. It was there that she met Rudolph and later came to live in Hay Lakes.

When the Fishers arrived in Hay Lakes to resume

the position as section foreman, their first home was in the C.N.R. station. They lived here for a few years as there were only two trains a week, these consisting of two passenger cars and the rest freight cars. There was no need for an agent and old Mr. Nelson looked after the freight shed.

As more trains began to use the rails, an agent was brought to town, and the Fishers had to move. The C.N.R. spotted a box car, that had been partitioned into living quarters, on the side track. Mr. Fisher and his seven or eight workers along with the help of the New Sarepta crew, then moved the box car off the rail car onto railway ties to a position north of the station. Mr. Fisher also built a tool house from old planks in which to keep the speeder and tools for the tracks next to the house. This railway boxcar house was used by several section foremen in the following years. There were additions built on.

There was another boxcar spotted for the use of the section crew as their living quarters north of the house. The crew consisted of seven to eight men during the summer and was reduced to the foreman and the first man only for the winter months. The only job in the wintertime was to make sure the rails were clear of snow and the crossings were swept. Mr. Ingve Sikstrom was the first man for Mr. Fisher. While foreman, Mr. Fisher often put the speeder to use in case of an emergency. A mattress would be put on the speeder, and very ill patients were taken to the hospital in Edmonton or Camrose.

Mr. Fisher worked for the C.N.R. for ten years. During the last four years, he also ventured into farming, renting the SW 7-21-49-W4 for two years and then buying the NE 25-22-48-W4 which he farmed for two years. He then sold the farm and moved into Hay Lakes where he built a blacksmith shop and grinding mill. The grinding mill, which consisted of a large tractor and elevators was set up to serve the farmers of the district for their livestock needs. Farmers brought in grain in grain boxes and sacks for grinding. The cost was ten cents a sack for grinding and the machine ran late into the night. When people began purchasing their own grinders, the shop became only a blacksmith shop.

In winter, the main job was shoeing horses and in the summer you could always hear the sound of a trip hammer pounding out plow shares.

When Mr. Fisher retired from the blacksmith shop, he moved into a new home, but still was not ready for complete retirement. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher worked as caretakers for the Hay Lakes School for some fifteen years.

The Fishers had a large family of three sons and six daughters. Edmund was born in Strathcona, Alberta in 1913, and married Viola Kreamer. They had one son, Ronald.

Elsie (Mrs. Nick Shulte) was born at Mannville in 1915 and they had one son, Noel.

Ida (Mrs. Art Schmidt) was born in 1916 in Mannville, Alberta, and passed away in 1940. They had two daughters, Rita and Joan.

Olga (Smith) (Mrs. Lew Roberts) was born in 1918 in Edmonton. They had two children, Ken, and Susan.

Martha was born in 1920 in Lavoy, Alberta and passed away in 1923.

Arthur was born in 1922 after the family moved to Hay Lakes and married Ding Orlamuns while over in Holland during the war. They had one daughter, Diana.

Hatty (Mrs. Douglas Roberts) was born in 1924. They had two daughters, Mae and Geraldine.

Gordon was born in 1929, and married Carol Liden and they had four children, Marc, Sherry, Robert and Danny.

Vera (Mrs. Richard Lofgren) was born in 1940. They have four children, Nancy, Peggy, Brant, and David.

Rudolph lived in Hay Lakes and district for fifty-four years and passed away in December, 1974, at the age of eighty-three years. Emelia had pre-deceased him in September, 1968 at the age of seventy-three years.

Fisher, Edmund as related by Ed.

Edmund Fisher was the eldest son of Rudolph and Emelia Fisher, born in Strathcona, Alberta in 1913. At the age of seven he moved with his parents to Hay Lakes. Ed recalls his Dad taking him on the speeder to visit the dentist, who at that time was Rev. Scheel, minister of the Moravian Church near New Sarepta. Ed as a young lad also remembers being paid ten cents for leveling the grain on loaded box cars for Fred Hustad, a job that took about an hour. He also helped his dad grind feed after school, sometimes working until mid-night. When Ed was thirteen or fourteen he helped by working on farms. He also started working in the Chris Hein store during the summer holidays. At the age of nineteen years he started working in the L. Larsen store. This became his lifetime career as he continued working for each new owner of the same store. As the years went by, he became part owner of the store in 1951 in partnership with Joe Tober, and later, became sole owner.

In June 1937, Ed married Viola Francis Kreamer, daughter of Wesley and Emily Kreamer of Ardrossan. They built a home on a lot right next to his parents home. Here their only child Ronald was born in 1941. Ron took his early education in Hay Lakes and then at Camrose Lutheran College, then attended

the University of Alberta, where he received his Bachelor of Education. Ron married Linda Matson of the East Hay Lakes district. He and Linda spent six summers in U.S.A. where Ron took several special courses. Ron taught school in New Sarepta for a year. Then he taught in Daysland before moving to Sundre.



Viola and Ed Fisher 1962. Silver Wedding Anniversary with son Ron.

Ron and Linda had four sons. The eldest, Darcy, passed away at the age of seven years from leukemia. They now live at Sundre, Alberta, with sons, Scott, Jason and Justin, and Ron continues teaching school.

Ed and Viola moved into the residence above the store and Viola became Ed's favorite clerk. In 1969, Ed suffered a severe heart attack and retired, selling the store which had been his place of employment for thirty-six years.

Viola and Ed enjoyed their retirement. Viola was very interested in making fish and bird mobiles. She made close to a thousand, some of which were sent to

countries aboard. Ed is an active member of the Fish and Game Association and also does wood-work, having made several of the windmills and bird houses seen in the community.

In January 1975, Viola passed away very suddenly. Ed still lives in his own home in town.

Francis, William

"Kandid Kommentz from the Francis Four"

How nice to be invited to share our family story in the Hay Lakes book!

Both Bill and Myrna started out — and continue to be — Albertans through and through. Bill was born and raised in the Carstairs-Didsbury area, and Myrna was born in Vermilion. Since both birthdates are in early September, we consider that to be a vintage month!

We met in Tofield — a blind date arranged by a mutual friend. Both of us were just launched into new careers: Myrna as a second-year teacher, and Bill as a Calgary Power lineman. The happy couple was transferred to Hay Lakes after three years of marriage. What a fortunate occurrence!

To this day, our fondest memories are of Hay Lakes. Whenever we need an example of a community where everyone does more than his share for the sake of "pulling together" and getting a job done, some incident from our days in Hay Lakes always comes to mind. We always felt that this extra effort also applied in terms of patience with — and understanding and acceptance of — each other, whether a long-time resident or a newcomer in the community.

Our years with the 'Teen Town are among our most memorable. One Christmas the 'Teen Town went caroling on a hayrack and were rewarded at one house with a box of apples. Next day, our home became an apple pie factory where a group of 'Teen Town members transformed all those apples into culinary masterpieces. (Myrna has never doubted that "Never Fail Picrust" recipe since.

We will always treasure memories of our home filled with laughter, shrieks, good-natured insults, and just plain happiness by a group of young people who just felt like being there. Those were the years of organizing dances, curling bonspiels, and the decorating of Francis' vehicles for the annual parade.

About three years after the 'Teen Town started, we had occasion to announce that we would become parents in May, 1966. We weren't prepared for the reaction: APPLAUSE! The Teen group presented a memorable sendoff at our farewell party that year by pantomiming a record, with Dale Nordin as a very unlikely baby and Rita Switzer as an equally unbelievable mother.

Of course, our first experience with parenthood is our most highly memorable event from our life in Hay Lakes. In addition to the exciting experience of becoming a real family, Bill pitched a no-hitter in a men's fastball game in Camrose the day Bruce was born. That proved he was proud, don't you think?

Bill played with the Hay Lakes men's Fastball team for as long as we lived there, and "our" team was always a formidable force, winning the County championship in both 1964 and 1965.



Myrna and Bill Francis, Bruce and Jackie.

Surprisingly, neither of our children is involved in team sports. Jackie (born on October 10, 1968) is a serious horsewoman and takes English riding lessons. Bruce, at fifteen years, has sacrificed most of his other interests for his love of cars. He attends Lethbridge Collegiate Institute, and all of his chosen options relate to cars. Our house is again filled with shrieks and laughter as in our 'Teen Town days.

Both Bill and Myrna are involved in commuting to work: Myrna teaches Grade two at Picture Butte, and Bill travels forty miles to a small gas plant which he operates with three other men.

One of the benefits of moving to Lethbridge was that it has a university. As a family project, we "put Mother through" to finish her Bachelor of Education degree. Graduation was May 10, 1980 — on Bruce's fourteenth birthday.

As we look back on our Hay Lakes days, we realize how dearly we still treasure each and every friendship made there. To us, the years and the miles haven't weakened these bonds, or the joy and pleasure we receive from all of the happy memories.

Our present neighborhood is characterized by friendly visits, work-bees when someone starts a home improvement project, and general goodwill. We like to think that we helped to bring this about in

memory of our days with so many of you — a little bit of Hay Lakes right in the city of Lethbridge!

Frank, Rev. Otto

I was born July 18, 1909 in Poland and graduated from the University of Warsaw in 1935. My parents, Wilhelm and Julianna, operated a water mill and farmed some land.

My wife, too, was born in Poland July 9, 1921 and graduated from High School in Lwow. We were married in October, 1939, only weeks after the start of the Second World War.

Our son, Waldemar, was born six months before we fled Poland for the West in 1944.

I served some congregations in Poland and Germany before we boarded a rather small ship bound for Canada in 1952.

My wife's parents, Wilhelm and Valerie Bisanz, joined us in Canada in 1954 and lived with us for a while, later moving to Edmonton, where they passed away in the late 1970's.

After brief stays in Winnipeg and Saskatoon I served congregations at Patience, near Millet and at Golden Spike, Alberta.

I received a call from St. Luke's congregation on Oct. 30, 1961 and arrived in Hay Lakes before Christmas from Port Alberni, B.C. We were readily impressed by the quiet, likeable atmosphere of the community. We looked around the church area and correctly guessed which house was the parsonage. We phoned Erwin Lachman and he eagerly showed us the inside of what would be our house for the next twelve years. Soon we got to know many dear members and the Church Council made plans to amalgamate the town and country congregations into what is now "Our Saviour" parish. I served the community till June 24, 1974. The fact that we stayed in Hay Lakes more than twelve years is a sign that there was a spirit of cooperation and good will around us.

The high points of my ministry were the building of the new church and the upgrading and beautifying of the church yard and cemetery. My wife truly enjoyed the visitations and took an interest in many aspects of congregational life (choir). The spirit of peace and harmony prevailed in the community — we grew together. It was difficult to part from Hay Lakes.

Waldemar started Grade twelve in Port Alberni but completed the year in Hay Lakes High in 1962. He graduated from the Faculty of Business Administration and Commerce, University of Alberta, in 1966, then graduated in Education in 1969. He still recalls being attacked by a swarm of bees while carrying some boxes across the school lawn for Principal Dahl. He claims he ran so hard from them that



Farewell for the Otto Frank family and the replica of the Lutheran Church presented to them.

he never gained one pound thereafter. He still keeps in shape playing some hockey and tennis.

Renée, born September 10, 1958 in Edmonton, made many fast friends in Hay Lakes and fondly regards it as her "home town". Renée completed a degree in Social Work at the University of Alberta in 1981 and plans to work in her chosen field in Edmonton.

Waldemar taught High School in Winfield, B.C. from 1970 to 1973 and is now running the orchard here in partnership with me. I had purchased an old orchard here in 1959 and throughout the years replanted mostly cherry, apple, peach, and plum trees (10.4 acres of orchard, 1400 trees). We then built a house here in 1970.

And now here in Winfield since 1974, we often think of the fine friendly people with whom we had the privilege to work together during those memorable years in Hay Lakes.



Rev. Otto Frank Family. L. to R.: Agnes, Waldemar, Renee, Otto.

Fraser, Margaret (Nordstrom)

Margaret Ann Fraser was the Grade three teacher in the Hay Lakes School, 1945-'46.

She spent the weekdays here, then returned by train to her home in Edmonton on Friday evenings. When she'd arrive Monday morning she'd be greeted by a group of her pupils waiting on the station platform for her.

Margaret and Hedwig nee Schmidt were instrumental in organizing the Ladies' Circle S Club. The purpose in those days was to give the young mothers in town an evening out. The club is still very active.

Margaret was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Axel Nordstrom of Bonnyville. She passed away at the age of forty-eight years, leaving her husband, Cedric, and four daughters, Jean, Elaine, Sherrill and Marlayne.

Freeman, Jean

Jean Freeman was born in Rosalind. She attended school in the Ohaton district as well as in Camrose and Rosalind. After attending the University of Alberta she taught in Kelsey before coming to Hay Lakes in 1953. Here she taught Grade one and later Grades three and four.

Jean married Alvin Davignon and they have two children, Laurie and Eddie. They live in Kelsey.

Alvin Davignon also lived in Hay Lakes for a while when he was a little boy. His father, Fred Davignon, was the section foreman here.

Alvin and Jean make their home in Kelsey where Jean runs the Post Office and Alvin has his own trucking business, Al's Trucking, out of Camrose.

Galenza, Victor and Bessie by Bessie (Sych) Galenza

Victor was the ninth child born to John and Barbara Galenza on April 7, 1916, on their homestead in the Hay Lakes district. He attended the Ellswick School until he was fifteen years old, finishing his Grade nine. He then stayed at home to help his father on the farm. As the years passed he worked out at various farm jobs. In 1943, Victor joined the Army and spent three and one-half years travelling around the world and was discharged in 1946. Through his years of courting he met Bessie Sych, daughter of Harry and Mary Sych.

Bessie attended school at Big Hay Lake. "I remember that we had to walk two miles to school every day. And when we got there, we had to share one teacher between all the classes." Bessie enjoyed playing ball, so as soon as she could she joined the Central Community Red Wings Team. At the age of fifteen, Bessie had finished her schooling and she

worked out for a few years. That is, until she met Victor.

Victor and Bessie were wed on July 12, 1950. Victor started working on the oil rigs and Bessie set up housekeeping. She travelled with Victor in a trailer, eight feet by ten feet, moving with him to Leduc, Wizard Lake, and Calmar.

When the first child, Veronica, was born in 1952, they decided to build a skid shack and move to Drayton Valley. Next came Brian on February 24, 1954. They lived in Drayton Valley until Victor had his leg crushed and spent a month in an Edmonton Hospital. Victor returned home with a cast and crutches, but was unable to work for one year.

Then we decided to sell our skid shack and move to Hay Lakes and live in Bill Sych's yard in a house that consisted of one bedroom and a kitchen. By this time, two more boys had been added to the family: Eugene who was born on May 1, 1956 and Mark, born on April 17, 1958. Veronica then started school, Victor went back to work, and Bessie stayed home. Rick was the next son born to Victor and Bessie and he came on March 6, 1960. After all these boys, the sight of Theresa born on April 6, 1961, was a welcome change. Darcy followed on December 13, 1962. Their last child, Michelle, came on January 15, 1968.



Victor Galenza Family. L. to R., Back: Mark, Veronica, Bessie holding Michelle, Victor, Brian. Front: Theresa, Darcy, Rick, Eugene.

Veronica has one child, Angela, born on Aug. 21, 1974, and they live in Hay Lakes. Brian married Iris Wentland and they have one child, Adam, born on March 20, 1980. Brian manages the Tune Rite Garage in Edmonton where they live. Eugene, Mark, and Darcy are all unmarried and reside in Hay Lakes. Rick is also unmarried and lives in Edmonton. On

May 3, 1980, Theresa married Glenn Harke and they also reside in Hay Lakes. Michelle is still attending school in Hay Lakes.

Victor and Bessie now have two grandchildren and live in Hay Lakes. Victor works for S & T Drilling Co. and has for the past twenty-five years.

Gellert, Dick and Margaret

Dick was born and raised near Lublin, Poland. As a youngster, during World War I, he was sent to Siberia for three years, along with other members of his family. When he was nineteen years of age, he began working on papers to come to Canada. He left his home two months later, May 6, 1929, and arrived at Halifax on May 24, 1929. Dick didn't know anyone in Canada and had no place to go; however, he had made friends with a fellow on the way over, Emil Janke, who was going to Hay Lakes and so Dick decided to go there too.

They arrived at Hay Lakes on the steam train the first day of June, 1929. The first place they went to was Kiel's Hotel and the first man they met in the lobby was Henry Tober's father, whose nickname was "Strausnik". Mr. Tober spoke to them in German as they did not understand English at that time. Since they were looking for work he advised them to see Pastor Goos of the Lutheran church who would be able to assist them.

Dick and his friends only had one dollar between them, but decided they had better have something to eat. The meal cost forty cents each, leaving them only twenty cents. The friend wanted to have a smoke so they walked over to "Old Charlie's" and bought some Turret tobacco and cigarette papers, which left them flat broke!

Rev. Goos proved to be very helpful, and in the afternoon drove them out to the Nichols farm (now W. Harke's) where they needed help brushing. The pastor told them to come back to town the following morning and he would take them along to his church, west of Hay Lakes. This they did, and had the pleasure of riding in the rumble seat of the pastor's fine 1928 Model-A touring coupe, one of the first in the Model-A series.

At church they met Sam Berkholtz, Senior who was able to give them the directions to the farm where Emil Janke's Polish friends lived. Sam had a big Hudson automobile with three rows of seats and they were happy to have a ride in it. They enjoyed their first Sunday dinner in Canada at the Berkholtz home.

After dinner they were directed across the bush and lakeside to where Emil Janke's friends lived, back of Big Hay Lake. They found it strange to walk such a distance as they were not used to farms being so far apart. They arrived at the Otto Pawloske farm

and the people they were searching for happened to be visiting there. They were invited to sit in and join the group, and that is when Dick had his first taste of moonshine!

Dick began his first employment at the farm of Adolph Mittelstadt's dad, piling brush and clearing land. He then went on to various farms in the area, clearing land and helping with the haying. At harvest time he got the job of stooking at Dreberts, which he enjoyed very much as it was a nice place, with good cooking and good management. Threshing time came. He went to the Dave Busenius farm and drove his team on the Johnnie and Hjalmer Sware rig. They threshed for many of the farmers in the Sulitjelma district.

Dick then went back to the Drebert farm for the winter, brushing and clearing nine acres, and splitting wood. In the spring he went to work for Ole Sandbu. Jack Hirsch was working there at the time too. It was an early spring and they seeded on the summerfallow on April 12th. Dick worked there steady for three years in a row. As Ole was also a bachelor, they always managed to get a few good meals at the neighbors, who were the Hansens, Hans Arntsons and Martin Thompsons.

In 1934 Dick went to work for Albanus Johnson and this is where he learned to speak Swedish from Mrs. Stina Johnson, who couldn't speak English. He learned a good pure Swedish, with no slang.

The following year Dick worked for Turnquists, who needed a hired man to take charge of the farm. While there he further improved his English. That fall the crops froze and Dick left for the West Coast and went into cattle buying. He worked for some Jews in Vancouver and learned how to judge good cattle and how to cut meat. Dick had liked Alberta and decided to return in the fall of 1936. He started a meat route in the Dinant and Lundemo area, buying cattle from the farmers, butchering them and then peddling the meat from farm to farm in his small 1925 Chevrolet truck, with ice in it. Beef sold for six to fourteen cents a pound, with the best T-bone selling for fourteen cents.

Dick returned to the Turnquist farm for another year and in 1939 came back to work for Ole Sandbu. He threshed in the neighborhood with Arntson's Rumley outfit. One day he came into Hay Lakes and met Eric Lofgren who asked if he could fix tractors. Dick was hired on the spot. While working for Eric and John Lofgren, Dick improved the light plant for the Hay Lakes village. First a small diesel unit was built and then a larger unit was purchased in Saskatchewan and this was also built up, making a pretty good light plant for a small town, which kept running until Calgary Power came along, early in 1949. Eric

then sold the plant to Ewald Erickson, who took it down to Plamondon, Alberta. Pieces of the plant are probably still there.

In 1942 Dick quit mechanics and went to Edmonton and rented a poolroom from Adolph Mittelstadt. However business was not good as the boys were leaving for the Army. Dick soon received his Army call and went for a medical. He was placed in category "E" and was not accepted for the Army because of his varicose veins. He then returned to farming and rented the Drebert place for two years (Albert Hirsch's old place). These were lucky years for Dick for it was during this time that he met his future wife, Margaret who was a teacher at the New Sarepta Rural school.

Dick and Margaret were married in Edmonton on August 26, 1944. After a brief honeymoon in Banff, they came to their first home in Hay Lakes. Dick rented old Oscar Grahn's garage for two years and Margaret taught Grades one to six in Hay Lakes School. In September, 1945 there was no teacher available to replace Margaret, so she continued to teach until the end of October, when Mrs. Margaret Fraser took the position.

Their first child, Marlene, was born on March 2, 1946 and Margaret did not plan on returning to school. However, teachers were scarce and in September of 1946 she was back in the same classroom at Hay Lakes School. Evelyn Sikstrom was their baby-sitter that year. Margaret continued teaching until June, 1949. A son, Ted, was born on December 7, 1949 and Margaret remained at home to be a mother and housewife for the next two years.



Marlene and Ted Gellert with baby-sitter Helen Berkholtz.

Their first house had been purchased from John Zucht and was located across from the church in town. Later this was traded off to Ewald Erickson,

along with some cash to boot (with the help of Einar Broen) for a garage. Dick felt that Hay Lakes was a good place to operate a business since it was a lively town, and also it was a good place to raise his family.

In the fall of 1951 schools were being consolidated — students from some of the country schools were being brought into Hay Lakes School by bus. Dick was a school bus driver for one year. Home Economics and Industrial Education facilities for Junior and Senior High School students of the surrounding area were built in Kingman. Since Home Economic teachers were in short supply, Margaret transferred to Kingman school and became their first Home Economics teacher. It was her first experience at teaching Home Economics, and she found the subject very practical and enjoyable. Consequently, she has taught Home Economics every year since then. She is presently teaching just one semester (five months) a year.

In 1953 Dick sold his garage, “Dick’s Repair Shop”, in Hay Lakes, and the family moved to Red Deer. In 1959 they moved to Kelowna, British Columbia, and have remained there ever since. A couple of years ago Margaret received a “20-Year” certificate of appreciation from the Kelowna School board for her years of dedicated teaching there.

Their daughter, Marlene, spent ten years in Israel, studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she received her Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees. She also taught school there until 1975, when she returned to Canada and taught at the Armed Forces Base near Montreal. She is married to Terry Hutchins, a counselor, from Sherbrooke, Quebec. They live in Ottawa, and have one daughter, Ayalah Andrea, born on June 17, 1980. Marlene is presently teaching part-time at the University of Ottawa.



Margaret and Dick Gellert and grandchildren, Peter and Adam Gellert — 1980.

Ted went to university in the U.S.A. on an Athletic Scholarship. He received his Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Oklahoma and his Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the University of Texas in Austin. He married Betty Goldsmith from Dallas, Texas, where they presently make their home. They have two boys, Adam, born on October 22, 1974 and Peter, born on October 20, 1977.

Dick and Margaret are enjoying their life in Kelowna. They frequently travel and visit with their family.

Charles and Caren Giasson

Charles, the son of John and Therese Giasson, was born November 29, 1954 at North Battleford, Sask. He was raised near Delmas, Sask. until 1970, then moved to North Battleford where he completed his schooling. Charles moved to Edmonton, Alberta in 1972. He started his employment with General Carpets, working there until 1975. Then he apprenticed as a welder and by 1977 was a qualified welder.

On October 9, 1976 Charles married Caren Desrosiers, daughter of Oneil and Remonne Desrosiers. Caren was born April 11, 1958 at North Battleford, Sask. She lived there until July 1975 and then moved to Edmonton, where she was employed for a year prior to her marriage to Charles Giasson.

On July 15, 1977 they purchased property in Hay Lakes. In February, 1980 the business of Flash Portable Rig Welding was formed by Charles.

Caren and Charles have two children, Michael Charles born March 21, 1978 and Rachelle Thérèse born on November 18, 1980.

Charles is a member of the Hay Lakes & District Lion’s Club. Caren plays on the Hay Lakes Ladies’ Fastball team.

The Gibbons Family

John Gibbons and his family moved to Hay Lakes in the spring of 1934 from Marshall, Sask. and lived in the hotel. He worked for the C.N.R. Then in September Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons moved to Beverly where Mr. Gibbons worked as signalman in East Edmonton. Lloyd, their older son, stayed in the Hay Lakes district until December of the same year driving fence posts for Joe Kreamer and helping Simon Grue with haying and threshing operations. He returned the following year to help on the Simon Grue farm. He played hockey and baseball with the Hay Lakes teams.

He and his wife Betty reside in Athabasca.

Gosnell, Joseph by Dorothy (Gosnell) Stuve

Dad was born in 1885 and Mom was born in 1887.

They were married in 1910, making their home in Collinwood, Ontario.

In 1912, Dad, a young man seeking job opportunities, left Ontario, hauling a load of cattle for his uncle. He brought along with him his wife and young daughter, Dorothy. They arrived first in Camrose. Then in 1914, we moved to Hay Lakes where Dad worked for the Manning Sutherland Lumber Company. We lived in a company house across the street from Larsen's Store.

In 1927 they left Hay Lakes to manage the lumber-yard in Forestburg, till 1940. Then they bought a store in Sedgewick, which they ran until 1957, when they moved to Camrose. Dad died in 1962 and Mother passed away in 1978.

Mother made all her own clothes and the children's wearing apparel. They travelled on a hand-car on the railway track a few times, and very occasionally by train to Edmonton.

Dr. P. F. Smith (Camrose) came to Hay Lakes by horse and buggy. Mother called Dr. Smith for all our children's diseases. She called him one time when I had a rash. He came all the way from Camrose and diagnosed it as the "Itch". Mother was very shocked when I came home with lice, which she treated with coal-oil. In the 'flu epidemic, Mother and Dad attended many families, but never contacted it themselves. We children had every child's disease except diphtheria. I even had small-pox, and Mother sat and held my hands while I slept so I wouldn't be badly marked.

There were many fires in the early days. My Mother was always the first to hear the crackling of flames and would be out in her nightie screaming, "fire" to get as much help as possible.

One night Dad heard a noise and looked out the kitchen window and saw what he thought was a dog, when the dog struggled to his feet, he saw it was a drunk man. Dad fainted!

There were many attacks or disturbances on the Chinese manager in the restaurant. He called Mr. Larsen and Dad to help, so they both acted as "police" for a time.

I, Dorothy, married Harvey Stuve, and we live in Camrose. We have three children. Leola (Forster) has one son and one daughter. Curtis, our son lives in Toronto, and has one daughter. Sharon (Anchikoski), lives in Salmon Arm and has one son.

Alene, married James Baker, and they live in Sedgewick. They have four children. Robert, married Norma (McIvor), and they have two daughters and live in Singapore. Don married Pamela (Nesvold), and they live in High Prairie and have one son. Janice lives in Vancouver. Elizabeth married Ron Balke and lives in Camrose.

Grab, Rudi and Christine

Christine and Rudi Grab, along with their children, Russell and Kerrie moved to Hay Lakes in December, 1977. They had previously resided at Warburg, Granum, and Grassy Lake.

Upon his arrival here, Rudi became Principal of Hay Lakes School, while Chris, (nee Fenwick) accepted a teaching position in Leduc.

In addition to being extensively involved in extra-curricular activities at the school, Rudi curled with the Hay Lakes Curling club for one season and has been a member of the Hay Lakes volunteer fire department for approximately three years. He also served as president of the Camrose Alberta Teachers Association, Local No. 5 for two years. Chris has served on the executive of both the Hay Lakes Play-school and Early Childhood Associations. She has also instructed an Adult Keep-Fit class at Hay Lakes.

Russell will be entering Grade three in September, 1981 while Kerri will be entering Kindergarten.

Goos, Rev. Ernest G.

I was born in the parsonage of a little rural church in the Hanover area of Ontario. My father, Juergen Goos, was pastor there. In 1903, the family came West to live at Spruce Grove, Alberta, which at that time was no more than a general store and post office.

My wife, Elizabeth, was born in Neudorf, Saskatchewan, but lived in Winnipeg when we were married on July 9, 1924. Our son, John, was born while I was pastor in a little rural church in Wetaskiwin. Our home in Hay Lakes was a little house on the corner at the end of the street past Grahn's home. If it is still there, a line of trees that we planted must protect it a little from the dust of the road.

I came to be the pastor of St. Stephens Lutheran Church out in the country. We were also asked to take over services at a mission in town initiated by the Moravian Church which was situated between Hay Lakes and New Sarepta. This was the beginning of St. Lukes Church in town. We came with horse and buggy, and that was our vehicle of transportation for a number of years before we bought our first car, a Ford with a rumble seat, from Mr. Lechelt.

In the late 'twenties many immigrant families came to the Hay Lakes district. They cleared the bush and some of them bought farms and made their permanent homes there.

We still remember the Chautauqua and the fall fairs held in the then recently built hall.

After we had left in 1931, we were happy to hear that Mr. Henschell, the owner of the smithy, had given the property to the church people so that they could build a church edifice in town and they would

not need to have church and Sunday School in the schoolhouse anymore.

When we left Hay Lakes to take charge of a parish in North Dakota, there were three children in our family, John, Louise and Dorothy. Seven more children were born in North Dakota.

Louise and Dorothy both live in Chicago where Louise is a secretary at Quaker Oats head office, and Dorothy is an executive of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

Fred is a High school teacher in Baltimore and has two daughters, Julie and Sandy.

Carl lives in Ontario and has two children, Mark and Lisa.

Walter is a school counsellor at Leduc, Alberta, and has three children, Stephen, Kathryn and Aaron.

Flora, Mrs. Bernie Pregler, is a teacher and lives in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. She has two sons, Kurt and Brian.

Margaret, Mrs. Kenneth L. Peterson, is the wife of a pastor in the Augustana Lutheran Church, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and has four children, Debbie, Andrew, Lois and Diana.

Victor is a High school teacher at Melfort, Saskatchewan, and has three children, Kristen, Ryan and Lindsay.

Having lost our eldest son, John, we have another son, John, and he lives in Yuma, Arizona where he teaches retarded children. He has a family of three, Elizabeth, Charles and Dana.

We enjoy our home in Crystal Beach, Ontario.

The John Grahm Family

**written and researched by John Grahm's
granddaughters:**

**Alice Skalin and Hazel Naslund with major
contributions submitted by Augusta (Grahm)
Saby**

Between 1865 and 1914, a million and a quarter Swedes, unable to make an adequate living at home, emigrated to North America.

Among this adventurous and hardy group of people were John and Vendla Grahm who arrived in Canada in the early spring of the year 1902.

Born on the 4th of February, 1849, in the Province of Vesterbotten, Krosjö, Sweden, (Krosjö means Crooked Lake) John Grahm grew to manhood and continued to reside in Krosjö till he emigrated to Canada in 1902. His marriage to Vendla Sikstrom had occurred twenty-one years earlier on June 24, 1881. Their family of eight children were all born in Sweden, where John Grahm provided for his brood by farming a small, poorly producing piece of land.

John Grahm was an industrious and efficient individual who utilized all barn wastes to fertilize the soil

causing the impoverished earth to provide sufficient food for the family.

John and his wife were also resourceful parents who made everything by hand. Woolen and cotton materials were hand woven and shoes for the children were hand made from horse leather.

Vendla Grahm, born October 1, 1864 was almost sixteen years younger than her spouse and was a strong minded, adventurous out-going woman. In 1901, she came across a news item describing the opportunities awaiting emigrants to that new country in North America where every male, eighteen years and over could get a quarter section of land free!

Vendla Grahm's adventurous spirit was immediately challenged by this prospect and she eagerly broached the idea of a move to her husband. More retiring by nature than his wife, and at that time fifty-two years of age, it is readily understandable that John Grahm was reluctant to embark on this venture and initially refused to consider the idea. They were free of debt, they owned their own land, (poor and inadequate though it was), and no doubt the insecurity and risk such a move would present, were the major arguments to his wife.

But Vendla Grahm, undaunted by her spouse's protestations, kept the subject alive by discussing the matter with three other families of relatives, all of whom (no doubt through her persuasions) tended to agree with her and assisted in swaying John Grahm to his wife's way of thinking. Consequently, the decision was finally made, an auction sale was held and sufficient money was obtained to purchase eight passages to the new land.

Since the money did not stretch to buy tickets for all, the eldest daughter Esther, then eighteen, who had a good job, and the youngest daughter Augusta, fourteen years, were left behind. They were sent to stay with an aunt until such time as the money could be raised for their fare. In the early Spring of 1902, John and Vendla Grahm, their five sons: Hilmar twenty years, William eleven, Thor ten, Oscar seven and Otto three and their middle daughter Emmy sixteen years, set sail for Canada. The price of their passage at that time was \$50.00 for adults and \$25.00 for children.

Travelling on an old steamer, called the Oriosta, the trip across the Atlantic to St. Johns, New Brunswick was fraught with hazards and discomfort. In addition to the frightening Spring storms, the journey was protracted by being re-routed to Africa to bring home troops from the Boer War. Drinking water was at a premium and trunks, suitcases and belongings were floating below decks of this leaking old steamer. Much of their clothing was ruined as a result. Even the landing on Canadian shores was not

without misadventure when the ship became lost in a fog and ran aground on a sand bar. Passengers had to be taken ashore in rowboats.

A long and tedious train trip was still to be endured before the weary emigrants reached their Western Canadian destination. Wetaskiwin, Alberta was the welcome end to their grueling journey, where they were met by Government Land Guides who assisted them in choosing a spot for resettlement.

Three other likeminded families along with John and Vendla Grahn specifically requested land with trees in order to provide materials from which to build their homes. One advantage they had was that their family group was large enough to have permitted them to bring a fair selection of tools and equipment with them as part of the poundage allowance allotted to each ticket.

Arriving at their homestead on NW 36-49-22-W4, in what was then known as the New Sarepta District, they were readily able to construct a shelter with the carpentry tools they had wisely brought from their homeland. What a thrilling and wonderful feeling it was for them to finally settle on this rich and fertile land. Land that had never known a plough, that held abundant promise for all and that easily compensated for the worry, inconvenience and discomfort they had experienced along the way. Surely it seemed that they were settling in paradise!

Not only was the land generous and welcoming, but so were the people. A neighbouring farmer gave them a cow, another a pig and still others donated chickens to this grateful family of newcomers. Thankful they were for these gifts from neighbours and also for John Grahn's good fortune in getting work with a Norwegian bachelor who paid him a whole dollar a day!

As time went on the family's circumstances improved, but not without the usual hardships of crop failures, food shortages, etcetra. However, because

of the abundance of game, wild berries and fish, starvation such as they had known in Sweden was never part of their experience in this new land.

Progress and change marked these years and in 1911, with the coming of the railroad, the village of Hay Lakes burgeoned and grew on SW 6-49-21-W4. The townsite, which was located on land owned by George Pithouse was not officially incorporated until 1927. The first lots sold in the village of Hay Lakes were purchased by John Grahn and L. Larson.

Active and involved in the early growth of this community, John Grahn built a restaurant in 1912 which subsequently burned to the ground and was followed by the Grahn Boarding House built in 1915. John and his son Thor opened the first livery stable in Hay Lakes in 1913 and John Grahn was also one of the early members of the village council.

John and his wife Vendla lived out their full and active lives in this community contributing to its growth and development, through their own efforts and the ongoing contributions of their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, a number of whom still call Hay Lakes and district home.

In 1938, at the age of seventy-four, Vendla Grahn's death left John Grahn a widower. In 1948, at ninety-nine years of age, John Grahn joined his wife and was buried by her side at the Vasa Cemetery in the Swan Hills district.



John Grahn Family. L. to R., Back: Thor, Oscar, Augusta, Emmy, Bill and Otto. Front: Hilmer, John, Vendla, Esther.



John Grahn Sr. and Augusta Saby.

Each of us today owe an immense debt of gratitude to families like the Grahns who paved the way for our modern comfortable way of life. To them and to all the early pioneers, we pay tribute!

Children and Descendents of John and Vendla Grahm

Hilmar married Caroline Olson and had eight children.

Esther married Harold Hurom and had three children.

Emmy married George Pederson (second marriage Andrew Olson) and had four children.

Augusta married Tom Saby and had four children.

William married Nanny Grundberg and had five children.

Thor married Mabel Nelson and had three children.

Oscar married Elida Nordin and had two children.

Otto married May Robinson and had three children.

All five of John Grahm's sons and their wives are deceased. Mrs. Augusta Saby (ninety-two years) of Vernon, British Columbia is the only living member of the original family. The two oldest daughters and their husbands are also deceased.

Olson, Emmy (Grahm) by Susie Museus

Emmy Johanna Grahm was one of eight children born to Venla and John Grahm in Lycksele, Sweden in 1886. As a child she, in company with a neighbour's child, would herd their cattle and those of the neighbors up in the hills for the entire day, returning at milking time. When she was a little older she helped in the hay fields raking and bundling hay. During the winters they would card, spin and knit the wool. The Laplanders would come down in the winter time driving their reindeer, and the pappa would stop at the various houses and make shoes for the whole family.

Emmy was sixteen when the family came to Canada in 1902. The boat trip from England was unforgettable. The "Oriosta", a cattle steamer, was hurriedly converted to a passenger carrier for the emigrants. On route it was sent to Africa to pick up troops from the Boer War. They ran into storms the fourth day at sea and the ship lost its rudder, a two-day repair job. Other problems encountered were: a shortage of drinking water, suitcases floating in salt water from the leaky ship, then close to the Canadian shore the ship was stranded on a sandbar in heavy fog and they were transported by rowboat to shore.

They settled at Hay Lakes in 1902. Emmy's first

job was at a bachelor neighbour's place within walking distance of their place. He had a habit of cooking enough oatmeal porridge in one lot for the entire week. She and her sister Augusta (who is now in her nineties and lives alone in Vernon, British Columbia) decided to look for work in Wetaskiwin. There they learned about getting jobs with two nice families in Edmonton. It was a great deal of work for ten dollars a month as their families were large, so Emmy quit and went back to the homestead at Hay Lakes.

On July 12, 1905 she married George Peterson, a cattle rancher who was around buying cattle. They moved to Sedgewick. The nine hundred head of cattle on his ranch had been driven up from Montana. George was from Boros, Sweden; his dad was related to Swedish royalty. George had led an exciting life in the United States, namely working on cattle ranches, driving a stagecoach, rode for the Pony Express, carried a gun on his hip for thirty-five years and was once shot in the chest by an Indian with a bow and arrow. A Spanish Mexican named Carlos Emilios saved his life.

There were always at least eight cowboys to cook for in their two-story log house. Their herd increased by seven hundred more, bought from the Studebaker Ranch in the Hay Lakes area, and more in 1907 when the railway came through and George bought feeders from Winnipeg. With the coming of settlers and fences, the big herd ranches were whittling down. In 1914 they built their fourteen-room house which still stands today. Their first son was named Milo after the Mexican who saved George's life. Milo was born in 1906, Susie in 1909, Selma in 1914 and Arlo in 1920. In addition to knitting, Emmy was a gifted, self-taught designer and made all her daughters' clothes.

Emmy's biggest fear in those days was of forest fires and once when the men were gone, one got close enough to burn the clothes off the line as Emmy and the children ran ahead of it. The ploughed fire guards around the buildings saved them.

Groceries in those days were bought in Edmonton. Over the rough trails the trip would take a week by horse and buggy. There was lots of wild game, and fish was shipped in from Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba by train. They would also catch the big white hares, a change from beef.

George had also tried mining in Alaska in 1898, and had two gold mines of his own. He left Alaska and landed in San Francisco with \$40,000.00 in gold, went to Montana, then back to Alberta and located his homestead where he lived until his death in 1929.

Emmy later married Andrew Olson, a farmer and hotel owner at Czar. Ill health forced them to sell and move to Edmonton. Andrew passed away in his nine-

tieth year and Emmy passed away in 1980 at the age of eighty-four. Emmy had a colorful and interesting life, particularly during the early years with George who had experienced cattle rustling, horse thieves, Indian raids and cattle stampedes. Emmy had a great fear of Indians and later the gypsies who would camp near by. There were no trees in Czar so Emmy hired men with trucks to transplant trees from the farm at Sedgewick and they were planted all around the town. She is still remembered for her tree planting and the park she started. She was a wonderful jolly lady with a great sense of humor. I know as I am her oldest daughter. My two brothers are in California and sister Selma is in a Vancouver Nursing Home.

Grahn, John Oscar and Family by Wanda Grahn

Oscar, the eldest son was born in September, 1912, to Hilmer and Caroline Grahn. Often called "Young Oscar", as he had an uncle whose name was also Oscar, he grew up on his parents' farm in the Sulitjelma School District. On leaving home and venturing out on his own, he worked in the Kingman area. While there he went into partnership with his brother-in-law, Odd Rogstad, and bought a garage business from Thor Grahn. Late in 1930 Oscar returned to Hay Lakes and worked as a mechanic, renting the workshop in his uncle Oscar's garage.

My parents were Peter and Hilda Hanson, who also lived on a farm in the Sulitjelma district. Here I attended school, a three-mile walk. Oleanna Hendrickson was my teacher in the Junior room and Mr. Grommers taught in the Senior room. Some of my High school was taken in Hay Lakes.

Like many children growing up on farms in those years, we enjoyed a close-knit community social life. I have many warm memories of the times spent with neighbors, and the many hours I spent with Mary Lofgren in her home just one-half mile from my home. Her homemade candy was a treat. We would browse through the weekly newspapers for something to read as books were rather scarce. If we got our hands on one we soon had it read. Often young people gathered on Sunday afternoons just for a visit. What good times we had at the skating rink at Lars Grue's and sleigh rides to birthday parties for the young people in the neighborhood. We planned and got clothes ready for the July first picnics which were joyful events, as were the summertime dances at the Bowery when we danced until dawn and then took the long way home.

On November 10, 1942 Oscar and I were married. This was during the war years when people were conscious of the "war effort". There were few idle



Wanda and J. Oscar Grahn.

hands as women were turning to all types of work and youngsters were a needed help.

Oscar enlisted in the Army Service Corps. After a period of basic training in Canada he left for overseas in 1943. He was stationed in England for some time, then served in Continental Europe with the rank of Machinist Sergeant Major. In February, 1946 he returned home, almost a year after the end of the war.

In the spring of 1946 we bought a small house in the Village of Hay Lakes on Lot 6, Block 8, with an extra lot. We had outdoor plumbing, no running water but we had a basement with a coal furnace in it and local power. What comfort!

Oscar again rented the workshop in his uncle Oscar's garage. Now we were a part of Hay Lakes village.

Years sped by and we saw the village grow. The discovery of oil in the area was a boost to the economy. Calgary power was installed and a sewer system put in. We were content in this very active village as it was then. Such busy years! Working in village organizations was a pleasure. I recall the many people that we saw come and go. They were such friendly people and a real asset to the community while residing here.

Oscar was very interested in curling and enjoyed the bonspiels at the home rink as well as in other centers. He was also a member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Canadian Legion which was very active for many years. Their autumn carnivals were fun for young and old.

I joined the Ladies' Circle "S" Club, am still a member, and have had the privilege of working with so many wonderful people. The years I was in the Boy Scout movement was an experience I dearly treasure. How refreshing those young boys were. Summer highlights were our family camping trips travelling through Alberta and British Columbia.

1948 was the year when our oldest son, Randy, was born on March 16. That was also the year Oscar and his brother Theodore bought the Hay Lakes Garage from their uncle Oscar. As partners they worked long hours and very hard to build a good business. Oscar was very dedicated to his work.

We built a new house in 1954 on our vacant lot. My mother retired from the farm that year and came to live in our small house next to us. How lucky we were to have Mother so close.

In 1959 Oscar bought his brother Ted's half share in the business. Among some of his employees were Bob Webster and Reuben Pasula, who took their apprenticeship there. Reg Kreamer and Lloyd Grams worked there in later years. Rudolph Nordin often helped when he found time to do so.

By this time our family had grown to five children: four boys, Randy, Leon, Allen and Kendall, and one daughter, Laurie.

Gradually we were looking at changes in the village, unlike the ones which took place during 1950 and early 1960. The business section began to shrink. So many businesses were being closed, and some transferred to larger centers. The paved Highway Twenty-one was built and we saw people moving in and commuting to work elsewhere. Our young people were leaving, some to further their education and others to employment at another place.

In May, 1970 a tragedy occurred in our family. Oscar suffered a severe stroke which left him partially paralyzed and unable to do any work. After a year of therapy at the Bethany Nursing Home, Camrose, he returned home. Gradually his health declined and on September first, 1973 he passed away.

Since 1970 the garage was operated by Randy, with a part-time mechanic and help from other members of the family. When Kendall finished High school he also worked in the garage until it was sold in 1976. The Hay Lakes Garage had been our family business for twenty-eight years.

Our five children graduated from the Hay Lakes High school. All except Allen were interested in sports. The boys also belonged to Cubs and Scouts during their early school years.

While in Intermediate Grade school, Randy began playing in the Hay Lakes Band under the leadership of Reinhold Mittelstadt. He continued playing

with this band for some time after they joined the County of Camrose Band.

Randy also earned a few trophies playing fastball on the Hay Lakes team in the latter part of 1960. When this team disbanded he played with the New Sarepta team for a few years.

During the time the 'Teen Town Club was active in Hay Lakes, Randy was a member. He also belonged to the Curling Club and was an avid curler for several years.

Randy still makes his home in Hay Lakes and commutes to work.

Leon, born on August 30, 1949, continued his education at the Camrose Lutheran College and University of Alberta, receiving his Bachelor of Education. In May 1972 he married Bronwen Jack of Edmonton. They have two children, Lorna Lee born on May 11, 1976 and Michael born on September 20, 1980. Their home is in Kingman. Leon taught school in Crooked Creek, Fox Creek and Fultonvale. He is presently on the teaching staff in Tofield.

February 12, 1951 is Allen's birthday. He also chose Education as a career, attending Camrose Lutheran College and the University of Alberta. In 1974 he and Annalisa Hansen of Edmonton were married. Their home is in Ferintosh. They have two children, a daughter Karen, born on February 28, 1976 and a son Peter, born on March 21, 1979. Allen teaches in the Bashaw school. Allen and Anna both enjoy painting in oils as a hobby.

Kendall was born on September 22, 1955. His winter interests are skidooing and curling. He is employed by Cantrac Rail Services but still considers Hay Lakes his home-base, even though part of his time is spent working in other provinces.

On July 17, 1957 our daughter, Laurie, was born. Being an outdoor type of girl she could hold her own with her older brothers. They had many interests in common, especially when the curling season was in full swing. During her years at school and after leaving school, Laurie participated in many types of sports. Horseback riding is one of her favorite hobbies. She was a member of the Hay Lakes Gymkhana Club, winning several trophies and ribbons throughout the years.

In 1978 Laurie compiled a booklet containing a brief history of the Village of Hay Lakes to commemorate their Fiftieth anniversary as a village. This she did within a time limit of two months.

Laurie attended Camrose Lutheran College for two years in the field of Education. She worked at the Alberta Game Farm and various other jobs before deciding to take a Technician's course in Meteorology in Cornwall, Ontario. She is now employed at



J. Oscar Grahn Family. L. to R.: Kendall, Laurie, Bronwen holding Michael, Leon, Wanda, Anna Lisa, Allen, Randy. Children standing: Lorna, Karen, Peter.

Upper Air Station, Sachs Harbor, Northwest Territories.

In a span of thirty-five years roots grow deep. Mine are here in Hay Lakes Village with my family close by and people I have known for so many years.

The Oscar Waldamar Grahn Family written by Oscar Grahn's niece, Hazel Albertine Naslund

Oscar Waldamar Grahn, born April 1895 in Lycksele, Sweden, emigrated to Canada with his parents, John and Vendla Grahn in the spring of 1902. Since he was only seven years of age, he had had little opportunity for any schooling prior to leaving his native Sweden but the longing for an education was constant and unquenchable.

The early years on the family's new homestead in the Hay Lakes district presented an endless round of tasks for even a child of Oscar's tender years. In addition, the prohibitive distance to the nearest schoolhouse, when one was finally erected, was a major deterrent to the realization of his longings. His struggle to obtain the modest amount of formal schooling that he finally achieved are both touching and heartrending. Approximately five years elapsed in his new country before the chance to actually go to school came his way.

A family in the area wanted to send their younger children to school but feared their offspring were too young and too little to handle the horse and drive the considerable distance alone. Oscar knew boundless joy at being given the opportunity to work for his room and board, drive the children to and from school and at the same time attend classes himself.

That he had to be up a good two hours before leaving for the day's lessons, in order to do the milking and other chores, which awaited him again

on his return, were tasks he accepted without complaint. Saturdays were busy from morn till night with wood to haul and chop, stables to clean and hay and fodder to be hauled for the animals. All of this he did willingly for the supreme privilege of attending school.

He was obsessed with the desire to obtain an education and he once said that he wanted so much to learn that he felt he would burn up with his desire for knowledge. His formal schooling experience lasted barely two years but his pursuit of learning, his preoccupation with this quest for knowledge, persisted throughout his lifetime.

Later as a young man, he worked for a rancher in Southern Alberta and while there he sent away for correspondence courses which he pored over at nights and pondered over as he rode horseback in the day. His tenacity and dedication to expanding the horizons of his mind served him well throughout his long and productive life.

The first World War brought an end to his ranching days and like many young men of his time he served his country as a soldier. Oscar survived the holocaust of war to return to Hay Lakes in 1919 and begin the first garage and car agency in the village.

In 1926 he built the Hay Lakes Garage, a building that still stands on the main street of Hay Lakes. Charlie Lechelt purchased this garage business from Oscar Grahn in 1928; two years later, in 1930 Oscar re-purchased the business.

For a short period, possible 1928-1930, Oscar and his wife, the former Elida Nordin whom he had married in December 1927, tried raising fur bearing animals on a Mink Farm north of Miquelon Lake. Much more a man of business than a farmer, he readily returned to his former occupation in the village of Hay Lakes, where from 1930 to 1948 he continued to operate his thriving, bustling garage and auto agency.

Oscar Grahn participated actively and enthusiastically in the life of the community during those years, serving numerous terms in the village as Mayor and Councillor. He was keenly interested in politics and an ardent supporter of William Aberhart at the beginning of the Social Credit movement.

The Vasa lodge also claimed his support and allegiance where here too he assumed a leadership roll on executive bodies and committees. His expertise in public speaking was frequently utilized in these various positions.

Two sons were born to Oscar and Elida Grahn, Harvey Gordon on April 27, 1931 and Dennis Lyle on March 6, 1934. Their sons were fourteen and seventeen years of age when the Oscar Grahn family



Oscar Grahm Sr. Family. L. to R.: Elida, Oscar, Dennis, Harvey.

moved to Edmonton in 1948 to the new retirement home Oscar had built on Whyte Avenue.

Six years later they experienced the anguish and heartache of losing their youngest son Dennis in an R.C.A.F. plane crash.

Elida and Oscar Grahm lived on in their Edmonton residence until Elida's death in September of 1973. Oscar disposed of his home shortly after and

PO Dennis Grahm. Killed in jet plane crash Dec. 14, 1954.



moved to Sherwood Park to spend his remaining years with his son Harvey and family until his death on November 1, 1976.

Oscar Grahm was a gentleman and a romantic. He was a man of loyalty and high principles, a man to respect and admire. There was about him a gallantry and type of chivalry that hearkened to another age.

Knowing him was a privilege!

Remembering him is a delight!

Descendents of Oscar and Elida Grahm

Dennis Lyle Grahm — deceased at twenty years.

Harvey Gordon Grahm — resides in Edmonton, Alberta.

Grandchildren

Janet Watson — Edmonton, Alberta

Holly Grahm — Sherwood Park, Alberta

Dennis Grahm (Jr.) — Sherwood Park, Alberta

Jeffrey Grahm — Sherwood Park, Alberta

Heather Grahm — Sherwood Park, Alberta

Otto Grahm

by Jean (Grahm) Crowhurst

Being the youngest of eight children, Otto took his schooling in Bawlf while living with his sister Augusta and her husband, Tom Saby. There he went to school for three years, finishing the eighth grade, whereupon he returned to Hay lakes to help his parents on the farm.

It was probably during these years that he learned his hunting techniques for which he was well known. Throughout most of his lifetime he continued hunting — ducks, geese, and other game birds, and big game (moose and deer).

One of Otto's stories: During the influenza epidemic in 1918 everyone in the house was sick. His mother needed a chicken to make soup so he opened an upstairs bedroom window and from his sickbed shot a chicken for chicken soup.

During the intervening years he farmed, helped his mother cook in the Hay Lakes Hotel, threshed in Alberta and Saskatchewan with a steam engine and threshing machine, served as a Sheriff and whatever.

During visits to his sister Emmy and her family in Sedgewick he met May Robinson, whom he eventually married and brought to Hay Lakes.

Otto and May spent most of the early years of their married life in Hay Lakes where Otto worked at numerous occupations as many others did during the Depression years. This included selling cars, machinery and grain. He also had set up a feed grinding "outfit" which he drove around to various farms to grind farmers' feed. In winter he pulled this outfit on a sleigh with a team of horses and in the summer it was mounted on wheels and pulled with a Model T Ford — the back seat having been removed.

I can remember my Dad talking about working in Edmonton during the time the Masonic Temple was being built. Men would be lined up waiting for a job which paid ten cents an hour. The main job for Laborers consisted of shovelling gravel in the making of cement. If you stopped shovelling — for whatever reason, to smoke or straighten your back or pass out from fatigue — the next man in line got your job and you were without.

There were many pleasant memories however — going out with Mom and Dad berry picking with the old Model T without the back seat; going along occasionally with Dad on feed-grinding trips, watching the setting up of new machinery for display, or visiting friends and relatives.

In my memories of Hay Lakes we always lived in the two room house that my Dad built across from the Beaver Lumber Yard until we left Hay Lakes in 1940 to move to Czar, Alberta. There was an Auction Sale in the yard — selling all the furniture and the machinery left from the Massey-Harris business.

We lived in Czar for six years, then moved to Edmonton where my parents eventually purchased a house. Here they lived until they passed away — Otto in 1970 and May in 1978.

For most of the time in Edmonton, Otto worked in carpentry and construction and was noted for his finishing work. May spent several years working at Bonnie Doon Bowling Lanes. Following Otto's death she worked as an aide at the Allan Gray Memorial Auxiliary Hospital until shortly before her death. This was the closest she came to doing what she

would most have liked to do as her vocation — nursing.

I was fortunate enough to have been born in a hospital in Camrose but both Romeo and Irene were born in Hay Lakes in our house with Mrs. Schweitzer, the local midwife in attendance.

JEAN — the eldest daughter completed her schooling in Edmonton following which she took Nurse's training at the Provincial Mental Hospital in Ponoka. She has lived in Ponoka ever since. She married George Crowhurst who also worked at the hospital and they had two children, Aaron and Wendla.

Jean is still nursing at the hospital (now called Alberta Hospital Ponoka) and she and her husband plan on retirement in a few years to take up travelling.

ROMEO — the second child, left school early and went to work. He started an apprenticeship in tin-smithing in the heating line. He finally became employed in the steel business working his way up the ladder. His work took him to Saskatchewan where he met his wife Florence. They have three boys, Daryll, Allan and Brian.

Romeo and his family live in Sherwood Park and Romeo is employed in Edmonton.

IRENE — the youngest child also left school early to find a job. She worked several years at Johnstone Walker's in Edmonton. Following this she began working for a steel company.

Irene joined Jack Metzner in matrimony and two children, Janine and Bryce, were born to this union.

Living in Cranbrook, B.C. interrupted Irene's working life for several years until she relocated in Edmonton again and now lives with her children in Mill Woods.

The Thor Grahm Family

written by:

**Thor and Mabel Grahm's daughter:
Hazel Albertine Naslund**

Thor Englebrecht Grahm was the third eldest of John Grahm's five stalwart sons all of whom were born in Sweden. A man as unique and distinctive as his unusual name, he arrived in Canada with his parents in 1902 at the age of ten years.

Outgoing, intelligent, articulate and eager to learn, Thor Grahm had the adventurous spirit and hardy disposition, characteristic of many of the second generation of newcomers who were destined to be the early entrepreneurs, enterprising citizens and community builders of this burgeoning young country.

His thirst for education was denied him as he was



Otto Grahm Family. L. to R., Back: Jean, Romeo, Irene. Front: Otto and May.



Thor Engelbrecht Grahm.

old enough and big enough to help his parents wrestle a new home from their homestead in the Hay Lakes district. The three years of formal schooling he obtained in Sweden marked the end of his school-boy days but by no means did this stifle or discourage his inquiring mind and persistent determination to educate himself.

By the time he reached adulthood he had so improved his speaking and writing skills that he easily and competently handled the bookkeeping, letterwriting, accounting and various forms of personal and written exchange that accompanied the running of the businesses he operated throughout his lifetime.

One of his earliest ventures was a partnership with his father in the livery stable business in Hay Lakes. He was thus engaged when he met, and sub-

sequently married, Mabel Josephine Nelson, the youngest of John Peter and Kjarste Nelson's five daughters. The marriage took place on the nineteenth of November, 1919.

Thor and Mabel Grahm began their married life in Hay Lakes where their first child Lloyd Edwin was born on the third of August, 1920.

Thor's adventurous and enterprising spirit was challenged in 1923 to leave Hay Lakes in order to establish a new home and business in the village of Kingman. There he operated a garage and machine agency and later a small general store.

Two more children were born to Thor and Mabel during those years in Kingman. Hazel Albertine in 1925 and June Eleanor in 1934. A year later, in 1935 the family sold their Kingman business and returned to the village of Hay Lakes where from 1935 to 1937 Thor and Mabel Grahm tried to keep afloat of the depression by once more opening a small general store.

Those bleak and impoverished years of the thirties provided neither encouragement nor opportunity for growth in a fledgling business. Inadequate stock and insufficient finances to carry customers on credit for any length of time took their toll on this new venture and ultimately forced Thor Grahm to consider an alternate means of providing a livelihood for his family.

Consequently, for the first time in his adult life this dauntless individual decided to try his hand at farming. In 1937 he purchased one quarter of land, eight miles south and one mile east of Hay Lakes, from Oscar and Carl Andreasson. Several years later he was to acquire a second quarter of land from these brothers.

Thor Grahm's attempts to become a farmer were never quite successful as in his heart of hearts he was first, foremost and always a business man. Everyday of his life he would put on his shirt and tie and the community indulgently smiled, when they spied him at work. "There's Thor Grahm" they would say — "Even picking roots, piling brush, milking cows or forking manure, he still wears his tie!" No, not for Thor Grahm was the comfortable bib-overall and plaid shirt of the practical farmer, for the most menial of tasks he steadfastly retained his preferred style of dress.

This tug-of-war in his soul, this longing to operate his own business never let up and although he kept his farm property for over ten years, at intermittent periods during that decade he tried his hand at other ventures. A return to the village of Hay Lakes in the early forties as elevator agent for the Federal Grain Co. was preceded by a short stint as owner,

operator of the Red Head Service Station in Camrose.

In 1948, Thor and Mabel Grahm purchased a home in Camrose where they resided for over eight years. During this period they owned and operated a small business in Camrose which was known as "Mabel's Dress Shoppe". The tragic loss of their youngest daughter June in November 1953 was a bereavement from which Mabel Grahm never fully recovered.

In 1956 they moved to Edmonton where they had hoped to enjoy many long and active retirement years. This was not to be however, as this vibrant, lively, active man was struck with a terminal illness that ended his life on June 21, 1957. Those who knew him will remember him for his vitality, his love of life, his talent and interest in music and his loyal, outgoing, friendly personality.



Thor Grahm Family. L. to R., Back: Lloyd, Hazel. Front: Mabel, June, Thor.

Thor's generous, vivacious and attractive wife Mabel survived her husband by thirteen years and was deceased on June 7, 1970. She too is warmly and lovingly remembered by friends and family.

Descendents of Thor and Mabel Grahm

Lloyd Edwin Grahm

R.R. 1, Bittern Lake, Alberta

Children

Jane Christenson
Terry Netherton
Danny Grahm
Tim Grahm
Robert Grahm
Billy Grahm

Grandchildren

three
one
one

Hazel Albertine Naslund
Camrose, Alberta

Children

Colin Naslund
Nathan Naslund
Valerie Naslund

Grandchildren

June Eleanor Grahm — deceased November 1953.

Grahm, Theodore

Theodore Richard Grahm was born May 11, 1915, being the son of Hilmer and Caroline Grahm. He attended Sulitjelma school and helped his father on the farm.

In 1940-42 he operated the road maintainer in the District of Cornhill and boarded with his sister, Ellen Rogstad, in Kingman.

In 1942 he enlisted in World War II and served with the South Alberta Regiment until the war ended.



Ted and Gladys Grahm.

Gladys Evelyn Skalin was born August 31, 1917 to parents, Olaf and Anna Skalin. Gladys attended Pretty Hill school and Kingman High School. In 1938 she graduated as an honor student in Home Economics at the Olds School of Agriculture.

During World War II she worked as a civil servant for the Federal Government in Ottawa.

On June 29, 1946 Ted and Gladys were married. Ted was working for the County of Beaver and resided in Kingman. Following their marriage they bought a lot in Kingman and Ted built a cosy little home. Their only daughter, Ann Carol, was born on April 19, 1947.

In 1948 they moved to Hay Lakes where Ted and his brother, Oscar, became co-owners and operators of the Hay Lakes Garage.

In Hay Lakes they were both very active in community affairs. They both enjoyed curling and Ted was very active in the Legion. Gladys was talented in handicrafts and was very active in the Circle "S". She also served on the Library Board when it was organized.

In 1960 Ted sold his partnership to his brother, Oscar, and the family moved to Surrey, British Columbia, where he bought a home and was engaged in carpentry and mechanics. Ted had just retired from work when he passed away on June 8, 1980 at the age of sixty-five years.



Anne Grahm

Ann started school in Hay Lakes, graduated from High School in Surrey, and attended the University of British Columbia. She worked as a laboratory technician in Sardis. She is now living in Victoria, and has a daughter, Wendy, born on December 5, 1979.

Grams, Lloyd C.

Lloyd Charles was born to George and Emma Grams on a farm three miles west and south of Hay Lakes. He was baptized and confirmed at a nearby church, St. Stephens Lutheran. His brothers and sisters were Herbert, Lawrence, Elmer, Robert, Al-

ice and Gertie. They all went to school at Canard, the school being just over a big hill on the Grams farm.

Lloyd took up welding and travelled a lot with friends Stanley Boehler and Ewald Kein. They worked in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario. Then Lloyd joined his brothers Herb and Lawrence in the Army. Lloyd was in the 49th Loyal Edmonton Regiment and served in England, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He then joined the South Pacific forces. Lloyd came back to Canada in July, 1945.

He married Lily Ann Boehler of Emerson, Manitoba in August, 1945. They moved to the village of Hay Lakes in November, 1945 and lived there until April, 1946. Lloyd worked as a welder in Fort Nelson, Prince Albert, Hay Lakes and Edmonton. Their first child, a son, Lloyd, was born in Edmonton. A daughter, Charlotte, was also born in Edmonton.

They moved to High Prairie, Alberta in 1953 and lived on a farm for many years. Lloyd also worked for oil companies in Red Earth, Swan Hills and other points. He also set up microwave towers for telephones. A daughter, Charlene, was born in High Prairie. She was the only white baby in the hospital and had no hair. All the other babies had long black hair, so there was no problem finding Charlene amongst the babies, although there was another Charlene Gayl. Charlene went to Grade five in High Prairie and then completed her schooling at Hay Lakes, Wetaskiwin, Camrose and Calgary. She is now employed as a hospital unit clerk in the Calgary General Hospital.



Lloyd Grams Family. L. to R., Back: Lil, Lloyd, Charlene. Front: Lloyd Jr., Charlie and Charlotte.

Charlotte and Lloyd took their Grade twelve in High Prairie, then attended Mount Royal College in Calgary. Charlotte took nursing, then changed to social work and is presently continuing studies at the University of Calgary. Son Lloyd chose the oil fields in work and training.

In 1971 Lloyd moved his family back to Hay Lakes and worked for Eric Lofgren Implements. Then he worked for Toyota in Edmonton, Leduc Construction, and now works in the good old outdoors of the Alberta Provincial Parks. Lloyd and Lil now have their own home in Hay lakes. They have one grandson, Charles Lloyd, seven years old, who gives them much joy. Charles has attended kindergarten and Grade one at Hay Lakes.

Groeller, John and Mary

I was born in Neustift, Austria, March 17, 1904, the oldest of five sisters and one brother. I started school when I was six years old, finished public school at the age of twelve years, completing the equivalent of present-day grade eight. We learned two languages, German and Hungarian.

After my father returned from World War I he went into the cattle buying business. A few years later I joined him, and also farmed forty acres of land. The land was ploughed with a one-share plough, pulled by horses, oxen, or even cows. Grain and Hay were cut with a scythe.

In 1926, the Canadian Immigration agents came around telling us that Canadian farmers were in need of farm workers. We could earn up to \$100.00 a month. Imagine earning \$100.00 a month instead of \$25.00, which was a good wage in Austria at that time. Who would not leave home for that kind of money?

I and six friends from the same village left Vienna, Austria for Canada on my twenty-third birthday, March 17, 1927. Our first stop was Paris. When we arrived there we were told we had missed our ship. We stayed in Paris for four days, and everyday we were taken on a bus tour all over Paris. We saw the Eiffel Tower and a lot of other interesting buildings.

From Paris we went across the English Channel to Southampton. From there we went to London, England for four more days stay. We did not mind because every day they took us for a tour of London including Buckingham Palace. From London they sent us to Liverpool for another four days. Again we were taken on bus tours everyday through the smoky city of Liverpool. By then it was the first of April.

We embarked from Liverpool on the White Star Line Ship, The Regina. We landed in Halifax on the tenth of April. Before we boarded the train for Win-

nipeg, we had to buy our rations from the Immigration Office for the trip from Halifax to Winnipeg. For \$5.00 we got a loaf of bread, canned meat, cookies and apples. Tea or coffee was served from the train kitchen. From Halifax to Winnipeg we could not leave the train for any reason. We had to eat and sleep on the "soft" wooden seats of the C.N.R.

We left Winnipeg for Edmonton arriving on the 17 of April, the day before Easter Sunday. Here we were met by an agent of the White Star Ship Line. The final destination for five of us was Bruderheim. We arrived there at ten o'clock the same night, and the first thing we saw was a sign that read: "Hotel, Prop. Straus." We walked in and asked, in German, if there were any rooms for rent. The clerk, to our surprise, replied, "Ja wir haben." (Yes we have).

Our first disappointment came on Easter Monday, when we encountered our first blizzard. We could not see across the street from our Hotel. The second disappointment came the next day when the farmers came to town to hire us. They offered us \$20.00 a month to cut brush, a far cry from \$100.00 a month for farm work as we were led to believe by the agents in Europe. We had no choice but to accept, we had no one to turn to.

My first job was sharpening fence posts for a farmer, Reinhold Steinbrener. I worked for him all summer cutting down brush to make more new land. I slept in a shack with an earthen floor and straw mattress. My first winter I worked for \$10.00 a month cutting firewood.

The year of 1928 was one I will never forget. I had to have two operations, one in May, the second in August. I could not do any work for the whole year. After my release from the hospital I was taken in by a young married couple, Carl and Elizabeth Kupsch, just to have someone in the house while they were away. In 1929 I started to work for Adolf and Eldor Schultz on their farm until the fall of 1931. That same fall I moved to Edmonton, and started work in the Marcus Coal mine.

I met Mary (nee Trelenberg) at a friend's house party in the winter of 1931 in Edmonton. Mary and I were married October 28, 1933 by Pastor C. Kleiner of St. John's Lutheran Church, Edmonton.

While I was working in the mine, Mary was taking care of a Rooming house for single men on relief. The men were charged ten to fifteen cents a night, paid for by the City of Edmonton with vouchers. In the summers of 1934 and 1935 we both went working on Dairy farms for \$30.00 a month, milking twenty-four cows twice a day by hand.

Our oldest daughter, Dorothy, was born November 14, 1935. That winter I was working in the Black Diamond Coal mine, where the Oil refineries are

situated now. It was a long way to the mine from where we lived. I took the street car from 95th Street and 103rd Avenue to the end of the line. From there we walked through Beverly and across the Beverly bridge. It was about a four-mile walk from the end of the street car line to the mine. That meant spending twelve hours away from home everyday. It did not take us long if we could catch a ride on top of a truck-load of coal.

Mary started working again doing house work for twenty-five cents an hour. At that time there was a day care centre for working mothers to leave their children at for fifteen cents.

Our second daughter, Bernice was born on the fifth of July 1937, in the University hospital. By then I was working steady in the Kent Coal mine. Wages were fifty-three cents an hour, or \$4.23 an eight-hour day.

We bought our first farm in the fall of 1939, sixteen miles west of Ponoka, with seventy acres broken, for the price of \$1200.00, with a down payment of \$400.00. We moved into our first home in the spring of 1940 in the Bismark School district. We bought five horses, and one cow from one farmer, but two horses died before spring work started. The cow lost all of her hair when Mary washed it with Creolin to get rid of the lice.

We moved to the Big Hay Lake district in March of 1942. We bought the farm (S.W. 15-48-22-W4) from Mary's parents, Mike and Anna Trelenberg, for the price of \$4600.00, complete with machinery, horses, and cows. We bought our first car in 1943, a 1932 B. model Ford for \$250.00. Times were improving by then.

Our third daughter, Gerty, was born April 9, 1944. In 1946 we bought the adjoining quarter section (S.E. 15-48-22-W4) from Sam Berkholtz Sr., and in 1947 we bought our first tractor, a John Deere D. 1928 model for \$700.00.

Our first son, Marvin, was born December 10, 1948. We built a new house to replace the old Trelenberg house in 1951.

One more late comer, Les, was born June 7, 1955. That completed the Groeller family.

Sewer and water were put in the house in 1955. With all those gadgets it felt like we were living in the City of Edmonton. The power bill for three months was a mere \$10.00. What a bargain!

The farm steadily prospered through the years that followed. In 1960 we built a new barn and in 1967 we bought Jack Shurek's quarter section (S.E. 17-48-22-W4). During the years on the farm I also served on St. Stephen's Church Council for nine years.

In 1972 Mary and I retired to our new home in the



John Groeller Family. L. to R.: Gerty, Leslie, John, Mary, Bernice, Marvin, Dorothy.

Village of Hay Lakes. Marvin took over the farm and in 1974, Les became involved with the farm also. I served on Village Council for two years, and at present I am serving my seventh year as Mayor of The Village of Hay Lakes.

Dorothy took her Public schooling at Big Hay Lake school. She is married to Vivian Branson and has three children. They live in Edmonton.

Bernice is married to Harold Leicht; they have four children and live in Hay Lakes. Bernice also took her Public schooling at the Big Hay Lake school.

Gerty is married to Gil Combs. They have two children and live in Surrey, B.C. She started school in Big Hay Lake, went to Gwynne for two years and then finished in Hay Lakes.

Marvin is married to Veronica (nee Ebertz). They have two children, and live on the home farm in the Big Hay Lake district. He took his schooling in Hay Lakes and Camrose.

Les is married to Brenda (nee Shold). They have one child and live on an acreage on the home farm. Les took his schooling in Hay Lakes.

The years have been good to us since I left my home in Austria fifty-four years ago. Mary and I have been back twice to visit my sisters and brother, in 1972 and in 1977.

We enjoy the love of our children and grandchildren and of the many friends that we have made throughout the years we have spent in the Hay Lakes District.

God Bless you all!

Hall, James and Judith

The Hall family came to Alberta from Eastern Canada in May, 1976. They settled in Edmonton where James was employed by Canada Safeway. In June, 1980 they purchased a home in the Village of

Hay Lakes. James then transferred his present employment to Camrose.

The Halls are "Foster Parents" and Judith finds it a full-time job to look after the children from Social Services. Judith was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Ken and Dorothy Elton. The Eltons now reside in Ken's original home in Parshall, North Dakota where they are farmers. Judith's grandparents came to North Dakota from Norway.

James was born in Toronto, Ontario to Reg and Freda Hall. They have lived in Toronto and Cobourg, Ontario. When Reg retired they moved to Peterborough, Ontario. Freda's parentage comes from the United Empire Loyalists and Reg was born in Sheffield, England.

Also in the Hall family are a son and a daughter, Jason and Stacey. Both were born in Toronto. They are presently attending Hay Lakes School. At present there are two foster children, Kelly and Melodie.

Hawryluk, Paul and Frida

Paul and Frida Hawryluk lived in Hay Lakes during 1972-'73, where Paul was a teacher in the Junior and Senior High School. They are both Albertans; Frida was raised at Fawcett and Paul came from Derwent. During their stay in Hay Lakes they were both involved in the community. Frida was a Circle "S" member and assisted with the Brownies. Paul was a Cub leader.

They have four children: Jenine, born on May 22, 1967; Robert, born on November 17, 1969; Paula, born on February 10, 1979; and Jonathan, born on February 6, 1981.

At present they live in Lethbridge where Paul is a freelance writer and college instructor. Several of his articles have been published in Canadian newspapers and magazines. Frida is completing a post Registered Nurse degree at the University of Lethbridge.

Heald, Ralph and Family

Ralph came to Hay Lakes in the fall of 1946 to work for the Beaver Lumber Company. His co-worker was Reg Berry.

In March, 1947 Ralph married Evelyn McCormick. They lived in a small house next to the Tullis' and Nordins and then behind the cafe for awhile. Then in 1950 the Beaver Lumber Company built a house for them to live in.

Ralph was interested in golf, curling and hockey. He was also a member of the Hay Lakes Legion and helped with the construction of the Legion hall.

Ralph's and Evelyn's first two sons, Dennis and Larry, were born while they were living in Hay Lakes.

In 1953, Ralph was transferred to Ponoka where their next two children, Linda and Brian were born.

Their next move was to Brooks, Alberta, then on to Creston, British Columbia where they have lived for the past seventeen years. Ralph is now working with the Customs. He is the Superintendant of five ports of entry in the area of Kingsgate.



Ralph Heald Family. L. to R.: Ralph, Evelyn, Brian, Linda, Larry and Dennis.

All of their children are married now. Dennis has two children and is in the the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Brandon, Manitoba. Larry also has two children and he is with the Royal Bank in Vancouver, British Columbia. Their only daughter, Linda, is employed with the Royal Bank in Creston, British Columbia and Brian also works in Creston at Labatt's Brewery.

Hein, Chris

Chris Hein was born in Prussia in November 1892 to Gottlieb and Wilhelmina Hein. He came to Canada with his family in 1903. Chris worked in a store in Stony Plain in his younger years. There he met and married Margaret Schram in 1917. She was clerk in the general store. They lived in Mirror for a few years. Chris and Margaret had a family of two girls; Esther born in Calgary on June 25, 1918 and Margaret born at Mirror on August 21, 1919.

In 1923 the Chris Hein family moved to Hay Lakes and started a general store located a few yards east of Grahn's garage and next to Priebe's pool room. A young man named Ed Fisher worked as clerk. A fire destroyed both the store and pool room



Esther Hein's Birthday party. L. to R., Back: Margaret Hein, Alma Lechelt, Olga Fisher, Martha Kiel, Dorothy Lerke. Center: Margaret McTaggart, Juanita Ogilvie, Ernest Lerke, Ervin Lechelt. Front: Hatty Fisher, baby Margaret Lechelt, Esther holding cake, Ella Lechelt, Gordon McKinnon — 1931.



Chris Hein and wife Maggie, daughters Esther and Margaret confirmation 1932.

in 1934 or 1935. After the fire a store was started in a small building a few yards east of the hotel.

In 1928 when Hay Lakes was incorporated as a village, Chris Hein was the first mayor for the years 1928-1932.

Later the family moved to Edmonton where Chris worked for Sunland Biscuit Co.

Chris Hein died in August of 1966 and his wife Margaret in October of 1970.

Esther lives in Kamloops and has one daughter Pearl and two grandsons Robert and Mark Ratz. Esther's husband Harvey Kellogg died in August of 1973 and her son-in-law, Ronald Ratz died in December of 1977.

Margaret Hein lives in Portland, Oregon.

Hein, Gus and Florence

Gus was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Hein who arrived in Canada from Volhynia, Russia, to take up a homestead on SW 2-22-49-W4 in 1902. Gus was born in 1903, the year after his parents arrived in Leduc, Alberta in the County of Strathcona.

He lived on the family farm, attended the Canard school and eventually moved to Hay Lakes.

Here he bought the livery stable from William Werner in 1929. After business in the livery stable started to decline he built a garage in 1932 on the site of the livery barn. This garage was not for service work but did have gas pumps for awhile. He had trucks and did draying work in town; his main job was to haul the butter for the creamery, then operated by Burns and Company, up to 1950. He also had a trucker named Jim Evaswich working for him. Jim stayed in their home.

When Gus discontinued his trucking business he started work in the creamery as the butter maker. In 1952 Gus won the award as top butter maker in the province. He also won several other awards and ribbons for butter making over the years. In 1960 he became the manager of the Creamery which was now the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool and remained in that position until it closed in 1968.

Florence was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edward Talbot. Her mother was the former Maryann McKeagve. Florence was born in 1905 in Cootehill County, Caun, Ireland.

In 1926 Florence and her mother decided to come to Canada and went first to Edson where her mother had an aunt and uncle. Her mother was a nurse and nursed for a short while there. Florence worked in a clothing store for a few months. Her mother did not prefer to stay in Canada and left for Los Angeles but Florence moved to Edmonton and started to work for Mr. Baker, an accountant. It just happened that Mr. Baker knew a Mr. L. Larsen in Hay Lakes who was looking for a bookkeeper. So on February 7, 1927 Florence arrived in Hay Lakes and took up the position of bookkeeper in Larsen's store. It was while working for Larsen that she met Gus and they were married in 1928. Florence also worked as town secretary for a short while before having a family.

Their first home was a teacherage used by J. W. Morrison when he taught at Sulitjelma School. It was bought and moved into town and built on to.

Their first daughter, Eileen, was born in 1929. In 1953 she married Bob Woolner who is the manager of an Insurance Investigation Agency in Kelowna, B.C. They have four children, Barbara a nurse, John a mill worker, Colleen a teacher, and Gail a bank clerk.

Their second daughter, Maureen, was born in 1934 and married William Bishop in 1956. Bill is a civil engineer and they live in Edmonton. They have three children: Brenda a teacher, Caron a home economics teacher, and Bradley attending Concordia College.



Gus Hein Family. L. to R.: Maureen, Gus, Florence, Eileen.

Gus and Florence continued to live in Hay Lakes and took up a very interesting hobby in 1962. Gus built a number of cages on his property and started raising exotic birds, some of which were peacocks, pheasants and several other species. This proved an attraction for people in the community as well as those from a distance.

In 1972 Gus passed away and Florence, not wanting to live alone, sold their home and moved to Bethany Sunset Home in 1973. She lived there for four years and then moved to a Senior Citizens' Home in Sherwood Park where she now lives, enjoying fairly good health.

The Fred and Mary Henkelman Story

In the spring of 1936 Fred was a student in a Barber School in Edmonton. A good business man, D. F. Hughes, who managed a grocery store in Hay Lakes, came to the Barber School for a shave and a haircut. As it happened, he came to Fred's chair, got his shave and haircut, and was very satisfied with the results. He immediately invited Fred to come to Hay Lakes to start a Barber Shop as there was no barber

there at that time. This was all the enticement Fred needed. Taking a day off from school, he boarded a train bound for Hay Lakes to investigate the situation which proved to be a turning point in his life.

On main street Fred saw a small building with a "For Sale" sign in the window. The barber's equipment consisted of a well-worn barber chair, a stove, an old bench and a dish that had been used to shave many a beard. It was rusty but it still held water. The previous owner was at that time barbering in Bentley so Fred phoned him to inquire about the price which was \$175.00. Fred felt this was too much and offered him \$60.00. This offer was accepted, but being he didn't have the money, Fred had to borrow from his brother.

Fred moved his wife Mary and son Arthur to Hay Lakes and Fred's Barber Shop was soon open for business: Hair cuts — 25¢ Shave — 20¢ Shave and Haircut — 40¢." At those prices Fred was very busy making money hand over fist. Some of his customers told him to charge more as they felt he couldn't make a decent living at that price. Fred said, "If you don't think it's enough you can always pay me more." But as far as Fred can remember, he never received any tips.

Many good times were had in that Barber Shop. Mary recalls that their two oldest sons were baptized there and being their living quarters at the back of the building was limited for space, they had to open the adjoining doors to the barber shop.

Fred had reported that if sixty-five percent of his customers came back for haircuts he would stay. They did, and he continued barbering until 1940 when some of his good neighbours thought he was making too much money. They felt he deserved a holiday for two and a half years at a Florida Summer



Fred Henkelman Family. L. to R., Back: Gary, Walter, Elly, Ervin, Priscilla, Art, Dale. Front: Fred, Mary and grandchildren.

Resort. (It wasn't really Florida and it certainly wasn't a resort to which Fred was sent.) He knows many good friends and neighbours were behind this cruel false accusation, but he still says, "May God Bless Them."

It didn't hurt Fred as much as they thought it would. It was Mary who suffered being left with three children to raise. She had to live on Fred's interest money which Fred didn't have at that time. He wonders if those friends ever thought about helping his family during this hardship. Most of Hay Lake's older people will remember Fred and Mary's dilemma.

When Fred returned to Hay Lakes in 1943, things were not the same anymore so when the opportunity arose he moved to Trochu, Alberta to start over once again. There he established a very successful Barber Shop and Pool Room operation until 1975. Fred still lives in Trochu,, is retired and gaining weight (so he says). Both he and Mary are very active in the Senior Citizen's Drop-In Centre, community functions and Church activities. They do a good deal of world travelling and Fred is always busy stringing a line in his favorite fishing hole while Mary is sewing or catering for the Lutheran Women's League.

Their four children are well established. Arthur, the oldest son, his wife, two daughters and one son live in Bowden, Alberta where he is a Hotel Manager. Ervin, his wife and three daughters live in Fort Wayne, Indiana, U.S.A. He is a Superintendent with Lutheran Schools. Walter is Manager of Project Cost administration for Fluor Construction. He lives in Calgary with his wife, daughter and son. Gary, their youngest son, is the world traveller and he is still single. He is presently in India with the Canada World's Youth.

Fred and Mary continue to go back to Hay Lakes as they still have a lot of good friends there. They enjoy these frequent visits and wish to convey their many thanks to these wonderful people.

Henschell, Ferdinand

by Rosabella (Henschell) Slater

My dad, Ferdinand August Henschell, the second son of August Henschell, was born in Russian Poland in 1888. He had one brother Wilhelm; his two sisters died in childhood. Eight years after his father's death he emigrated to Canada on July 1, 1904, with his mother and step-father and their children. He spent some time in the Edmonton and surrounding area before going to live with his brother Wilhelm, who had taken a homestead in the Hay Lakes area.

My mother, Emilie Parno, was born in German Poland in 1898 and came to Canada in 1903, with her



Emilie Henschell 1923.

parents Karl and Elizabeth Parno and her brothers and sisters. They settled in Saskatchewan and later moved to Armstrong, B.C. before coming to Hay Lakes in 1908.

Mother and Dad were married in 1914 and lived on his brother's homestead until they moved into the village of Hay Lakes, on the site where Our Savior Lutheran Church now stands. (After moving to the coast, Mother and Dad decided to donate their three lots to the village for the purpose of building a church on it. So, the United Lutheran Church was erected. We all motored out from Vancouver for the dedication, in the summer of 1932. It served the community for thirty years when it was sold and moved, and the present Our Savior Lutheran Church was built to take its place.)

Dad was the village blacksmith which he started in 1915 and a few years later the implement shop was added. Dad invented the "Wonder Shredder" and started manufacturing them in Hay Lakes in 1926.

In 1927 we left Hay Lakes and moved to Edmon-

ton where he opened a shop, naming his place of business, Rapid Manufacturing Company. Two years later, in 1929, he closed the Edmonton shop and we moved to Vancouver, B.C. where he built a shop and started operations in the summer of 1930, continuing to manufacture the shredders and several other items he had invented. In the meantime he also opened a shop in Seattle, Washington in 1928 which was in operation until 1933.

Dad was in the process of amalgamating with another Vancouver firm when he was stricken with a heart attack and passed away three days later, in January 1947. Rapid Manufacturing Company became Advance Industries and continued operations until 1975, when it was sold.



Ferdinand, Helen and Rosa Henschell beside shop and living quarters.

I, Rosabella, was the first born to Emilie and Ferdinand Henschell and live in Vancouver, B.C. My sister Helene (Mittelstadt) was the next and returned to Hay Lakes in 1967 with her younger daughter. A brother, Dexter, was born three years after we left Hay Lakes. He resides in Seattle, Washington. Mother is presently living in White Rock., B.C.

We three blessed them with eight grandchildren. I, with four, two of whom died in infancy. Helen has two daughters, and Dexter a son and a daughter.

Herring, Frank

Frank Herring, was born and raised in Morris, Manitoba. He met his wife, Lucy Wear Radomsky, in Edmonton when he was stationed there as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They were married in September, 1963 and shortly after were transferred to Ottawa.

On November 10, 1965 their first daughter, Susan, was born. The next year on December 23, 1966

their second daughter, Barbara, was born. In 1967 Frank retired from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and took his family back west to Edmonton. They lived there only a short time before buying the Hay Lakes Hotel and moving to Hay Lakes. On March 16, 1968 their third daughter, Sandra, was born.

Frank and Lucy stayed in Hay Lakes for ten years, sending all three children to the Hay Lakes School. Lucy was active in the community, serving two terms as President of the Ladies Auxiliary of Brownies and Guides and also one term as President of the Home and School Association.

In June, 1977 they sold the Hotel and retired to Stony Plain, where they lived for two years. They then moved to Vernon, British Columbia, where they live now.

Hickey, Rudolph and Olga by Olga Hickey

I, Olga Hickey (nee Soch) was born November 30, 1915 in Ellerslie, Alberta, which is located about ten miles south of Edmonton. I was the second daughter born to Gottlieb and Emelie Soch. I was baptized in the Ellerslie Lutheran Church. In 1921 we moved to Hay Lakes where my parents bought the farm that my Grandparents lived on, NE 36-48-22-4 which was about one mile west of Hay Lakes. I attended the Hay Lakes School till I passed to Grade eight. There were no school buses those days, so we mostly walked except on very cold days when the older brothers would take us with horses and sleigh.

I worked at home and for relatives for several years as a helper in the house and also doing chores outside. When I was about twenty years old I went to look for work in Edmonton. I worked as a waitress for a couple of years.

It was not too long before I met Rudolph Hickey. Rudolph was born on April 10, 1916 in Kellaly, Saskatchewan. He was the fifteenth child born to Frank and Elizabeth Hickey.

When he was three years old he came to Carvel, Alberta with his parents and family, where they farmed. Rudolph attended the Carvel School for a few years, then the family moved to Alberta Beach, where they bought a farm. Here Rudolph attended the Alberta Beach School and finished his education at Grade six. April, 1932 was an important month for him, as on the ninth he was confirmed by Rev. Klingbeil in Onoway Lutheran Church, on the tenth was his fifteenth birthday, and on the eleventh he took his packsack and headed out to Edmonton to make a life of his own.

He got a job apprenticing as a Blacksmith and Welder for Adolf Minchau. His wages started at just

room and board, and worked up to \$30.00 a month. It was not as easy in those days to learn a trade as it is now. But he was glad to be able to do it.

He quit working for Minchau for a while and went and rented a shop at Gunn, Alberta. He soon found that batching and trying to serve customers did not pan out so well, as Rudolph was no bachelor in the first place. So he quit and went harvesting on a farm in Fort Saskatchewan.

Wages were low in those days. Rudolph could never make enough money to travel by train or bus. But he wanted to go east and visit his brothers and sister whom he had not seen for twenty-one years. So how else? "Jump the freight," like so many others did. So it was that after harvest he and three buddies "jumped the freight" and went east to visit his relatives and to see what the east was like. After visiting in Saskatchewan with relatives and having some good times, he "jumped the freight" again to Pont Pool, Ontario to visit a brother whom he had not seen for sixteen years, so it was real nice to get together again. But a person has to eat, so he rented a shop in Ponty Pool, and with making some tools and using some his brother had, and with a few that were in the shop, he shod horses all that winter. He got tired of shoeing horses so he went to work for a farmer; he wanted to see how the Ontario farmer farmed, but it was not to his liking. While he was gone from Edmonton the war broke out and Mr. Minchau was taken to a concentration camp. So having no one to run the shop, Mrs. Minchau located Rudolph and wrote to ask him to come and run the shop for her. Which he did.

In 1941 Rudolph and I were married in the Trinity Lutheran Church, South Edmonton by Rev.

In 1942 Rudolph was called to the army, but due to health problems he was rejected. He kept on working in Edmonton where we lived.

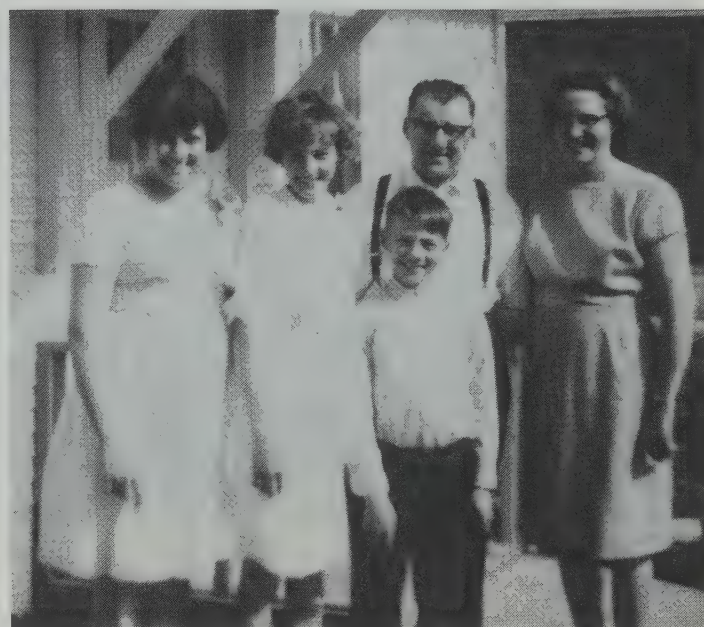
In August, 1942, we were blessed with our first child, Lorraine Virginia, who lives in the Deer Home in Red Deer, Alberta.

In 1947 we bought the blacksmith shop from Rudolph Fischer and moved to Hay Lakes. Here Rudolph welded and sharpened plow shares from daylight to dark, trying to please the farmers and keep their machines in running order. He also was often called out to work on the oil rigs when they moved into the district. All the hard work and long hours did not agree with his health, as it lead to a heart attack. After that he had orders from Dr. Hamp Smith to get out of the shop and find some work with less responsibility and worry. His chance came when Wilmer Radowitz asked him to go along to Frobisher Bay, N.W.T. to work on a rock crusher. He enjoyed the work.

After coming home from Frobisher Bay he worked in Camrose for Mr. Kuntz for two years. Then he went to Yellowknife and did some more rock crushing. After that he worked in Edmonton for Alco Gas and Oil for seven years. He drove back and forth to work with the truck every day from Hay Lakes to Edmonton.

But it wasn't all work and no enjoyment. We found time for church, picnics and other family gatherings. Rudolph served on the church council for twelve years and enjoyed it. He also found time to help build Our Savior Lutheran Church.

In 1952, two more daughters came to live with us. Linda Phylis, born January 16, 1952 and Audrey Emily, born December 21, 1952. Also, our only son, Rueben James, was born on June 8, 1957.



Rudolph and Olga Hickey. Linda, Audrey, Rueben — 1967.

They were all baptized and confirmed in Our Savior Lutheran Church and attended the Hay Lakes School. Linda worked at Bethany Hospital in Camrose before her marriage to Cameron Gibbs. They have three children: Patricia Ann, born April 7, 1973, Collin Wayne, born February 16, 1975 and Devin Lawrence, born August 30, 1978. They live in Ponoka, Alberta, where Cameron drives a truck from Calgary to Vancouver.

Audrey, after graduation, worked for the Workmen's Compensation Board in Edmonton. She met and married Henry Brausen. They had two children, Michelle Dawn, born January 7, 1975 and William James, born October 21, 1977. Henry worked in the Luscar coal mine. In July, 1977, he was killed in a motorcycle accident. Audrey now lives in Camrose, Alberta, with her children and works for Dr. Cloeric as a receptionist.

Rueben worked for Walter Busenius for a while on the farm. After he finished school, he went to work in Edmonton. On May 17, 1980 he married Sally Anne Schmidt. They made their home in the Millwoods district of Edmonton. Sally works for Continental Petroleum Rubber, and Rueben works for Alco Gas and Oil as a welder.

Rudolph retired in October, 1980. We enjoy our retired life by visiting and helping the children. We also go camping and fishing as often as possible.

Hillman, Les

by Winnifred Hillman

Having purchased the Danielson home in 1970, the Hillman family of Les, Winnifred (nee Pedersen) and daughter Dale finally made the big move from our home in Ardrossan to Hay Lakes on a cold January 17, 1971.

Les and my parents were pioneers of the Ardrossan district, Les's parents having come over from England and mine from Denmark and England and settling here in the early 1900's.



Les Hillman Family. L. to R.: Dale, Winnifred, Les, Margaret and her husband Bob and their children.

We made many trips between Ardrossan and here with our belongings and I remember the kindness of Viola and Ed Fisher, next door, having us in for coffee and a chance to warm up as the heat wasn't turned on here in the house yet. (Viola has since passed away and is sadly missed by her friends).

Another daughter, Margaret Bennett, resides in the Uncas district with her husband Bob and five children.

Huard Louis

by Mrs. Phil Jensen (niece)

Louis Huard came from North Dakota to the Peace Hills of Wetaskiwin and married Ethel Blakely, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Blakely, of the north Bittern Lake district.

I remember as a young girl our trips to Hay Lakes. My mother's brother lived there and worked in the creamery, he also worked in the hotel for Mr. Gibson who had the hotel at one time. His name was Louis Huard.

During the flu epidemic my mom went to stay with my uncle's family as they were all very sick. This was in 1918 or 1919 and she must have been there three weeks or more. There was a doctor Nordbye that came and delivered medicine to them. Necessary food supplies and other needs were left on the door step as they were quarantined.

I think when they first moved to Hay Lakes Louis was a livestock buyer. They sometimes had boarders in their home, two of them being Mary Collingwood, now Mrs. Gibb Moen who worked at the Drug store and Post Office, and Olga Schmidt, now Mrs. George Schultz, who worked at Larsen's store.



Louie Huard Family Louie, Ethel and Dora.

They had two children, a girl named Dora who later became a teacher and taught school at La Cory near St. Paul. While there she married and is now Dora Pitre and lives in Richmond B.C. There was also a boy who only lived a little over a year. I think he must be buried near Hay Lakes.

Louis and Ethel separated and went their own ways. Louis lived in several places after that including Sangudo, Lavoy and then Vancouver where he passed away. While in Sangudo he worked for Mr. Gibson again in his hotel there. He remarried and had a lumber yard in Lavoy.

Huebner, August and Emily by Hilda Huebner and Irmgard Hiller

August Huebner was born in Volhynia, Russia on November 25, 1889. There he met Emily Schmitke, who was also born in Volhynia, Russia on March 15, 1890.



Wedding in Russia in 1912. August and Emily at center back.

They were married on April 4, 1912. Emily gave birth to eleven children. Five died in infancy, while only six survived. The names of their children are: Freida, Lydia, Eric, Rueben, Amilda and Hilda.

From Russia, they emigrated to Germany, where they made their first home for three years before emigrating to Canada in September of 1948. August and Emily arrived in Quebec, Canada, with their two youngest children, Amilda and Hilda. From Quebec, they travelled by train to Leduc, Alberta.

Their first home in Canada was a farm which they rented from Carl Fuernkranz in the Hay Lakes district. They rented this farm together with their eldest

son, Eric, and his family, who had arrived from Germany in April, 1948.

Eric Huebner was born in Volhynia, Russia, on February 16, 1923. He married Blondina Piltz on February 14, 1942, in Shitomis, Volhynia, Russia. Before they left Russia, Blondina gave birth to their first son, Ervin. A few months after they arrived in Canada, Eric and Blondina's first daughter, Krystal was born. Another daughter, Lorraine, and also a son, Ron, were born in Canada.

In 1949, Eric, Blondina and their family moved to Edmonton where he became a goldsmith for Birk's. They moved to Chilliwack, B.C. in 1973, where he now owns his own business.

August and Emily's second son, Rueben, was born on March 1, 1926. Rueben was drafted into the German Army when he was sixteen years old. He was taken prisoner and sent to Siberia. His parents never saw him after that though they did receive word that he was still alive. August and Emily received several letters from Rueben after they were in Canada. Rueben married Ann in Russia. In June, 1980, he died of a heart attack. He was pre-deceased by two sons.

Approximately 1949, or a year after August and Emily arrived in Canada, they bought a farm two miles north of Hay Lakes.

In 1951, August sent for their oldest daughter, Freida (Huebner) Wanke and her three children, Ernest, Ervin and Erika from Elsa, Germany. Freida was born in Orenburg, Russia on April 19, 1917. Freida's first husband was conscripted into the German Army, and was killed in action. Freida then emigrated to Canada and stayed with her parents until they settled in the New Sarepta area. Freida remarried in January 1953 to Oscar Gahr. They had four children: Edith, Diane, Eleanor and Harold. Freida had fourteen grandchildren.

Not quite two years after August sent for his daughter, Freida, their second daughter, Lydia Pe-trick, who was still in Germany, passed away on November 16, 1952. Lydia was born September 19, 1919 in Volhynia, Russia. Lydia's two children, Valentine and Irmgard came to live with their grandparents, in January, 1953. While living with their grandparents, they attended school in Hay Lakes and then in New Sarepta. Valentine is now living in Hillcrest, Alberta and is married to Sandra Bachura. They have one child, Lydia Ann. Irmgard married Norman Hiller in April, 1962, and is now residing in Millet, Alberta. They have three children; Rickey, Joyce and Jason.

Amilda was born on September 4, 1929 in Volhynia, Russia. She married Elebert Lawrence on April 14, 1955. They are now living in Edmonton and



August Huebner Family. L. to R.: Rueben, Eric, August with Amelia in front, Freida, Emily holding Hilda, Lydia.

have six children; Bernadette, Doug, Caroline, Charlene, Fern and Rosemary. They have five grandchildren.

Hilda was born on May 7, 1931, in Volhynia, Russia. In 1950, she married Eric Huebner of Hay Lakes. They are now living in the Hay Lakes area and have five children: Raymond, Donna, Debra, Jean and Kathryn. They have twelve grandchildren.

In 1954, August and Emily rented a farm in the Joseph Lake area and in 1957 they returned to the Hay Lakes district where they rented a farm from Seigmond Schmit. They farmed for three more years before retiring in Hay Lakes in 1960.

On April 4, 1962, they celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with all their family and many friends. Ten years later, 1972, they were very glad to celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary. They spent many happy years in the community of Hay Lakes. On October 14, 1975, the family was saddened by the loss of Emily, wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Five years later, on December 10, 1980, August and Emily's eldest daughter, Freida Gahr passed away.

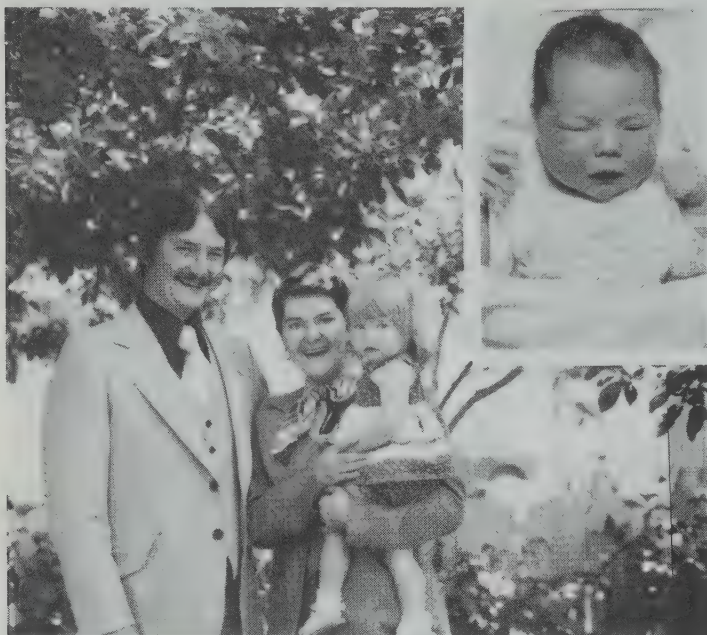
Shortly after Emily's death, August sold his house in Hay Lakes and is now residing in Edmonton, Alberta.

Huebner, Clarence **by Carol Huebner**

Clarence Huebner, was born on November 8, 1953 in the General Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta. He was one of a set of twins born to Arnold and Ada Huebner of New Sarepta, Alberta. He grew up on a farm five miles north of Hay Lakes.

Clarence spent his first nine years of school going to New Sarepta, but transferred to Hay Lakes for his High School years. He graduated with the class of 1972 and went to Edmonton to work. His first job was with B and R Drilling, where he worked for five months. In the fall of 1973 he went to work for Mobile Augers and Research, where he is employed now. He met his wife to be, the former Carol Radomsky, in Hay Lakes. They were engaged in September, 1973 and were married on May 18, 1974. They lived in Edmonton until June, 1976, when they moved back to Hay Lakes to build a home. Their first

child, Jody Lynn, was born on July 29 of the same year and in November they moved into their new home. Their second child, Amy Marie, was born on October 12, 1981 in the University Hospital, Edmonton.



Clarence and Carol Huebner; Jody, Amy (Inset).

Clarence, has four brothers, Delmer Davidson of Medicine Hat, Jarrett Huebner of Leduc, Terry Huebner, his twin, of Hay Lakes and Bob Huebner of Edmonton. He also has two sisters, Shirley Radawetz, who lives on the home farm five miles north of Hay Lakes, and Annabelle Heinz who lives on a farm just outside of Hay Lakes. His parents live in Tofield.

Huebner, Terrence Family

Terry was born November 8, 1953 in the General Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. He grew up on his parents (Arnold and Ada Huebner) farm, two and one-half miles east of New Sarepta. He attended school in New Sarepta from Grades one through nine, and Grades ten through twelve in Hay Lakes where he graduated in 1972. On August 24, 1974 he married Donna Radtke at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes.

Donna was born to Gary and Erna Radtke on May 15, 1956 at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose. She is the youngest of four children and lived on her father's farm four miles south west of Hay Lakes. After graduating from Hay Lakes High School in 1974, she worked at the Eric Cormack Center, until her marriage to Terry in August. She then joined him in Fort Vermilion, where they were employed with Alberta Transportation. They purchased their home in Hay

Lakes, in February 1975 from Irwin Berkholtz. During their employment as road construction surveyors they worked in Fort Vermilion, High Level, Rainbow Lake and Derwent, Alberta.

In August 1976 they purchased a Backhoe and began their own business under the name of Tyron Backhoe Service, where they have been supported locally for the past five years.



Donna and Terrence Huebner, Lindsay, Kyle.

Born to this union are two children, Terrence Kyle, on May 10, 1978 in St. Mary's Hospital and Lindsay Lauren, on March 2, 1981 in St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose.

Hutchinson, Elmer

Elmer was born in Stratford, Ontario in 1924, the son of Dougald and Mary Hutchinson. He came to Alberta in 1961 and worked at Edson and Forestberg for a few years. Two sisters and a brother had also come West, settling at Forestberg, Alberta, Salmon Arm and Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

In 1967, Elmer came to Hay Lakes and purchased the former Marianna Busenius' residence. He continued to work for Beaver Lumber in Forestberg for a time, then commenced employment at the Hay Lakes Best Value General Store when it was operated by



Elmer Hutchinson.

William and Ruby Yoner. He also worked at the Hay Lakes Hardware for a year, assisting with pipe-fitting and installing gas furnaces.

For the past number of years Elmer has been employed as a handyman with the Village of Hay Lakes.

Karpyshyn, Paul and Mary

We moved to Hay Lakes from Round Hill in October 1952. Paul was employed with the Canadian National Railroad as a sectionman at the time. Ronnie was seven years old and in Grade two. His first teacher in Hay Lakes was Miss Joan Rattell. We will never forget his first day of school. When he came



Paul Karpyshyn Family: Paul, Mary, Adeline and Ron.

home after school, we asked him if he knew his teacher's name. He replied "Miss Hotel" (Rattell). And he said that there was another teacher by the name of Miss School, which we later found out was Miss Gould. We had a good many laughs over that later.

Housing was very scarce when we moved here, due to the oil boom, and we rented half a house from August Rost, while he and Donny lived in the other half. After a few months we were very fortunate to get Schweitzer's house and have it all to ourselves.

I was hired by Vern Nordin the following spring and worked at Vern's General Store till our departure in April, 1959.

Ronnie started delivering the daily Edmonton Journal when he was eight years old and did this for a number of years, with the help of his father during stormy winter days. He joined the Hay Lakes Band conducted by Reins Mittelstadt and played with the members until we left.

Our daughter, Adeline, was at the Provincial Training School in Red Deer (now the Mitchener Centre). During our holiday period we brought her home and she went with us on trips. Unfortunately in 1962 she was inflicted with Multiple Sclerosis, confining her first to a wheelchair, then she was completely bedridden until her passing in December, 1979.

Hay Lakes was one of the finest places to live in. There were a lot of strangers coming into the village about this time and we were all accepted and welcomed by the local people. Paul also helped in the hotel bar, whenever they needed help. The hotel was owned by Martha and Carl Nordin. We enjoyed curling, square-dancing and numerous other activities. We attended the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the Hay Lakes district. Father Hrynshyn was the Parish priest.

In the spring of 1959 Paul bid for a job in East Edmonton, not thinking he would get it as his seniority was not that high at the time. To his surprise he was offered a job. Once again we had to pull up our roots, leave our newly acquired friends and move to Edmonton. We bought a home in the Bonnie Doon area.

I worked for Zellers for sixteen years until Paul retired in 1975. I then resigned from my job so we could have some time to ourselves, and enjoy doing things we had no time for when we were both employed.

Ronnie joined the Bank of Montreal. In 1965 he married Vivian Dennison, and then due to better opportunities he accepted a position at the Bank of Nova Scotia. He was in Calgary at the time he received a transfer to Beirut, Lebanon (in the Middle

East) as an Assistant Manager for a two-year period. It was quite an experience for them both but they got to like it there and hated to leave when his time was up. However, it was for the best, as a civil war broke out shortly after they left for Canada. He had a few close calls, one of them was when in the adjacent place to the Scotia Bank, hostages were held in the American Bank. They had to spend a couple of hours lying on the floor. Later they helped the hostages out.

We visited them in 1973, and spent an enjoyable month with them. By this time our grandson was twenty months old, and it was a real treat to see him again. While there Ronnie, Vivian, Paul and I visited Egypt. Drew (our grandson) stayed with some friends. We enjoyed this trip immensely, visiting the Pyramids, Kings Tombs, Museum, where we saw the egyptian mummies and many other things. Yes, we even rode the camels and went on a cruise down the Nile River. Paul and I also took a tour to Damascus, Syria. Our whole trip was an experience we will never forget.

Ronnie came back to Calgary for a few years as manager and now for the past three years he lives in St. Albert and manages the Scotia Bank in the Grandin Shopping Centre.

We have two grandchildren. Drew is ten years old and Dawn Marie seven. Dawn was born in Lebanon. It is nice to have them closer to home, where we can see them more often and enjoy the grandchildren. They grow up so fast.

Since retiring we have done a bit of travelling, to such places as California, Hawaii, and Europe, where we spent a month and visited eight countries. We now have a little "Home on Wheels" which we enjoy in the summer time. We are now involved in volunteer work, bowling, dancing, et cetera. I am also on my fourth year of oil painting and enjoy it tremendously. To our many friends we extend an invitation to drop in any time for a cup of coffee. You are all welcome.

Kaulitzke, Martin and Family

Martin Kaulitzke was born on November 20, 1883 in Keonegburg, Germany to David and Anna Kaulitzke (nee McGuiness) in a Luthuanian Colony. When he was nine years old, he came to Alberta with his parents, his brother, Bill, and sister, Elsie. They settled in the Blackmud district. There were nine more children born there: Mary, Martha, Katherine, Helen, John, George, Dan, Michael, and Henry.

As a young man, Martin left home and worked as a tourist guide at Banff and received some property as a grant from the Government. He played hockey at Trail, British Columbia and also was an enthusiastic football player. He was an employee of the railroad at

Frank when the Frank Slide occurred. Three years previous to his coming to this area in 1909, he had won the Canadian log rolling championship at Fernie, British Columbia.

Martin homesteaded SW 19-50-21-W4 and later bought NW 18-50-21-W4 for \$400.00 and SW 18-50-21-W4 for \$200.00. These two parcels had been homesteaded by Mr. Coté.

Martin made his living trapping and fishing in the Ministiks Lake area selling fish to homesteaders in and around Edmonton from his wagon box on sleigh runners.

He recalled one very cold winter when many fish drowned due to lack of oxygen and covered the lake shores in the spring. Ministik Lake had several islands and there many birds nested, the most prominent being the great Blue Heron.

In 1920, Martin married Florentine Schulz, a widow with five children: Natalie (Tollie), Adam, Emilie (Millie), Henry (Hank), and Johanna (Anna).

Florentine was born in Volhynia, Russia in 1886. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Schalm. She came to Canada to the Wetaskiwin district with her parents and sister in 1908.

The Kaulitzke family milked some forty cows by hand and herded them on their land. They made their hay on government lease land along the shores of Ministik Lake.

They lived in a little log house for two years before building a modern two-story frame house in 1922.



Florentine and Martin Kaulitzke.

The children all attended Looma Vista School which was only half a mile from their home. They helped catch muskrats, weasels, skunks, and badgers with Martin. They also tasted the meat of muskrat and badger. They caught rabbits, eating the meat (which is much like chicken) and selling the skins for three cents each. The abundance of game birds helped feed the family.

They had their own dance orchestra comprised by

Adam Schulz (violin), Bill Dunn (guitar), Henry Schultz (banjo) and Mac Dunn (piano). They played at local dances and social events.

Natalie married Ed Dunn in 1937 and they farmed SE 26-50-22-W4 until they moved to Duhamel.

Adam, an ordained minister in the Pentecostal Assembly of Canada served in Ponoka, Thorsby, Edmonton, and New Sarepta. He married Freida Pohl, a widow, in 1952.

Emilie (Millie) married Carl Hoffman of Nisku in 1937. She later married George Miller of the Wye district.

Henry (Hank) served in the army in World War II in heavy artillery. He was wounded in Europe where he stayed until his recovery and remained in active service until the end of the war. He returned to the farm in the Looma Vista area, later moving to Edmonton.

Johanna (Anna) married Marvel Thompson in 1938. They farmed in the Hay Lakes district for several years before retiring to Camrose.

Martin and Florentine bought a house in the Village of Hay Lakes from Mrs. Martin in 1954. They enjoyed their retirement.

Keitel, Rev. Kurt

Kurt Keitel was born in Inglis, Manitoba, in April, 1924. He moved to Rosenfeld, Manitoba in 1926 and grew up there. He took all his education there except for the last year of High School, which he took at the Mennonite Institute in Gretna. This was a very strict but highly accredited school.

The next year he was a "permit" teacher in a northern school, where he was initiated to teaching, in a country undeveloped physically and crude in mannerism and expression. There were many embarrassing situations, but these were a training in themselves.

Two years following this were spent at odd jobs in town and country. Finally, when the opportunity arrived, he enrolled in the Lutheran College and Seminary in Saskatoon, in pre-theology. He graduated from there in 1949 and was ordained the same year. He also married Ruth Kleiner, daughter of Doctor and Mrs. Kleiner, the same year. She was a Registered Nurse employed as a supervisor at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon.

They moved to Eaton, Saskatchewan for a short time and then came to Hay lakes in 1950. He served the two congregations at Hay Lakes for five years before moving to Edmonton. His parents, now retired from the ministry, also resided in Hay Lakes while he served the local church. The Keitels had three children while at Hay Lakes, and the family left many friends and warm memories with the people of this area.

Kemppainen, Robert A.

Robert Kemppainen was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on November 28, 1951 to Arthur and Marion (Newton) Kemppainen. He grew up in the suburb of Brooklyn Center. He attended the University of Minnesota, majoring in Music Education, then went to Luther Theological Seminary. He was ordained to be a pastor in 1977. He moved to Hay Lakes to be the pastor of Our Saviour and Wilhelmina Lutheran Churches in September of 1977. On August 18, 1979, he married Marilyn Schoenknecht, daughter of Edwin and Elsie Schoenknecht. He continued to serve the Hay Lakes Parish and they made their home there up to the time of this writing.



Marilyn and Rob Kemppainen.

Kiel, Emil and Jenny by Jenny (Kiel) Berendt

First, an explanation of my name. My teacher had difficulty trying to say my name, Adelgunda, so she nicknamed me Jenny and this was the name all knew me by and still do. It wasn't until we all had to register during the Second World War that anyone had heard my real name. I still recall Mr. Ogilvie's amazement and how he enjoyed teasing me about it.

I, Jenny (Adelgunda), was born on May 27, 1898 in Volhynia which was then a part of Russian territory. I was the eldest child of Julius and Eva (Schultz) Schultz. Conditions were not good in Russia so in 1905 my parents decided to leave and together with their four children, Olga, George, Jessy and I, they immigrated into Canada.

My grandparents, the Karl Schultz family, were already in Canada and had a homestead in the New Sarepta area. My mother's sister, Mrs. Pauline

Eckert, was also living there with her husband, Benjamin. We stayed with my grandparents until Dad was able to find a house for us in Edmonton.

In 1911, I was confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmonton. Because I was the oldest I went to work to help with the family finances. I worked as a waitress in the Maple Leaf Café for \$8.00 a month and later at the Troy Laundry where I earned the princely sum of \$1.00 per day. It was during this time that I met Emil Kiel who was working at the same mill as my dad. We were married by Rev. Shlange on June 21, 1913 at New Sarepta.

Emil was born on August 11, 1889 in Bogdanka, Poland, the son of Edward and Emilia (Witzke) Kiel. In 1909 he decided to emigrate to Canada and join his brother, Gus, who had preceded him the previous year. After arriving in Edmonton he went to work at Walter's Sawmill. As soon as Emil had saved enough money he filed on a homestead five miles northwest of Hay Lakes, S.E. 14-49-22-W4.



Emil and Jenny Kiel on their homestead — 1924.

There were no buildings on the homestead so after our marriage we lived with my parents on the farm just west of us until we had a house built. And so our farming career began. We were able to buy two cows, two horses and harnesses, a wagon, plow and rake. There were only twenty-two acres of dry land as most of the farm was lake bottom. For the first two years we spent the summers on the farm and then in the fall we took our livestock to my dad and we moved back to Edmonton. There we rented a small shack that we shared with Mr. and Mrs. Pole. Emil worked in the Beverly Coal Mine and I took in boarders. In the spring we went back to the farm to build and also to clear more land. For several years hay was our major crop and it grew very well on that lake bottom. One day Martha, our little girl, decided to go and see her dad who was cutting hay on the far north side of the farm. The hay was exceptionally tall that year and she soon got lost. Fortunately her dog was with her and started jumping up high enough for us to see him and so we were able to find her.

The hay was cut, raked, stacked, and later baled and in winter was hauled to Hay Lakes with horses and sleighs and loaded into the Canadian National Railroad boxcars and shipped to buyers in Saskatchewan or southern Alberta. Usually buyers would come around in the late summer and make a deal for the entire crop and I remember one year being offered \$7.00 a ton by a Mr. McDill. Eventually the lake was drained and we were able to put more land under cultivation. This land proved very productive and we threshed up to one hundred and thirty bushels of oats per acre. We gradually increased our dairy herd and milked as many as twenty-five cows and without the aid of milking machines as they were unheard of at that time. The cream was taken to the Hay Lakes Creamery every few days. In the summertime we would hang the cream cans down in the well to keep the cream from getting sour. For several years we also raised sheep and had a flock of about seventy; these would be sheared in the spring and the wool that we did not need for our own use would be sold. As we didn't have enough pasture for all the cattle and sheep we rented school land across the road just south of us.

When they were surveying the Canadian National Railroad right-of-way east of us three of the men boarded with us for two weeks. For this we received \$1.00 per day.

Roads, such as they were, were often impassable. We travelled by horse and buggy or sleigh. In 1917 we bought our first car from Ed Kiel, a secondhand McLaughlin Buick. What luxury!

In 1925 Emil became extremely ill and we sent to Hay Lakes for Dr. Stoner. He told us it was a ruptured appendix and Emil would have to be rushed to Edmonton immediately for an operation. Emil couldn't stand the long, rough trip to Edmonton so in desperation we contacted the Canadian National Railroad section foreman, Mr. Rudolph Fisher. Permission was received from Mr. Brown, the Roadmaster, and Emil, accompanied by Dr. Stoner, Mr. Fisher, and our hired man, Otto Pawloske, was transported to Edmonton on the railroad. They got there in time and the operation was performed by Dr. Keillor.

The following year we had only threshed thirty bushels of wheat when it began to snow. The wheat was wet so Emil went to shovel it and by doing so he tore open the incision and again had to be rushed to Edmonton for another operation. The doctor told him he would have to avoid strenuous work and it was soon after this that we decided to buy the Hay Lakes Hotel from Anton Pearson.

We took possession on January 1, 1927 and were met with the aftermath of an all-night farewell and New Year's Eve party held by the former renter. With the help of our two employees, Minnie Rost and John

Werner, we got busy and cleaned up the mess and soon were ready for business.

Two years later we sold our farm to Gus Kiel. It is now owned by Ervin Soch.

The hotel at that time had a small beverage room with a capacity for twelve people. There were no tables; you stood at the bar. The dining room was very large and was divided in half by folding doors. During normal business these doors were only opened for dances, picture shows and other public functions. There was also a movie-projection room. In 1928, a new hall was built in town so Emil dismantled the projection room and used the material to build an ice cooler for the kitchen. The dining room was remodeled and the beverage room enlarged. The age limit at that time was twenty-one, and beer sold for ten cents a glass and twenty-five cents a bottle. The dining room was still used for Ladies' Aid Chicken Suppers, Banquets, Auction Sales, etcetera. One special event was the New Year's Eve supper and dance we held annually and old-timers still tell me what a good time they all had.

Full course meals, including beverage, cost forty cents. Special meal tickets could also be purchased at a reduced price. Rooms were \$1.50 per night with monthly rates available.

There were fifteen rooms upstairs and this is where we also lived. In those days no one ever locked his doors and if the occasional traveller did request a key for his room it was usually difficult to find one. Even the dining room was never locked and although the cash register was there, nothing was ever taken.

There was no water supply at the time and all the water had to be carried from the well at the station. In 1928, we had a well dug behind the hotel and as this was soft water, all the residents of the village got their water here for washing clothes. It was quite a meeting place, especially on Monday mornings. That year we also bought a huge kitchen range with two big ovens. Wood and coal was used for heating and after breakfast was over we would fill up the stove to get a good fire going in order to cook dinner. Toast was made on top of the stove and if a late-comer wanted some, after the fire was stoked, there we would stand with a long handled fork, trying to get at a bit of heat under all those coals.

Then the 1930's came and with them the depression. Men would be riding the freight trains, going from place to place in hopes of finding work. Many came to the kitchen door asking for a bit to eat and no one was ever refused. Business was very poor and days would go by when we didn't have any sales. We always had boarders and the \$25.00 we received for room and meals per month was a big help. We also had a big garden; in fact we owned three lots in town

that were planted with vegetables each spring. Fall was a busy time because of all the canning that had to be done for winter use, not only the vegetables, but also fruit, chickens, meat, etcetera. We had an ice-house behind the hotel and every winter the men would go to Joseph Lake and cut huge chunks of ice and haul them home to fill the ice-house. Ice was needed not only for the cooler in the kitchen but also to keep the beer cold.

You often heard odd sounding names of people or things in those days and when we bought a Chevy Coupe in 1933 it was no exception as Mrs. Schmidt soon named it the "Klucken Nest" because it had a rumble seat. And Julius Sagert's car she named the "Coffee Grinder" because it was rather noisy.

In 1935 Emil, Martha and I made our first trip to Banff in our Chevy Coupe and although many trips were made there in later years, none could compare with the thrill of seeing the mountains for the first time, Johnson's Canyon, Marble Canyon and the Hot Springs, just to mention a few. In 1937, our transportation improved when we bought a new Chrysler from Lorne Wensel at New Sarepta.



Emil Kiel Family. L. to R.: Martha, Emil and Jenny — 1938.

Emil loved sports but because of ill health could not participate. As far as he was concerned Hay Lakes had the best ball team in the area. In honour of Martha's 21st birthday he challenged the Searle Grain Superintendent, and his Edmonton team to a game at Cooking Lake and the loser would have to pay for a keg of beer. The local boys didn't disappoint Emil and everyone had a good time as both winners and losers got to share the prize.

People were always willing to help one another. So often the ladies would come to give me a hand with wall papering, calcimining, canning or spring cleaning. I so well remember when Emil was a patient at the Banff Springs Hospital in 1938. Martha and I wanted to spend Christmas with him but because of the icy roads and cold weather we were afraid to make the trip by ourselves. Mr. Cohen gave Reg Berry several days off so he could go with us. How thankful we were to have such good friends! The temperature was fifty degrees below zero Fahrenheit when we got to Calgary.

Our 25th Wedding Anniversary was a most special event with over five hundred friends in attendance. This was held in the Hay Lakes Hall on June 21, 1938.

In 1941 we remodelled the hotel. An addition was built to the bar increasing its size to twice the original, and we also installed a water system and a sewage disposal field.

With the war came the rationing of not only gasoline, but sugar, meat, and coffee. Most difficult was the provision of meals on "meatless" Tuesdays and Fridays. Beer was also rationed and the hours of service had to be shortened as the supply didn't last long. Quotas of bottled beer would be saved until there was enough on hand so each of the patrons could buy a few bottles to take home. It was surprising how many people you would see then that had never been in the bar before. Liquor was also rationed and at that time you had to have a Liquor License to buy beer or liquor at the Vendors.

Emil was on the Village Council from the time the Village was incorporated in 1928 until 1943. He strongly believed in progress which he tried to promote whenever possible. The result was many improvements to the Village during this time.

In 1943, we started to build a home in Edmonton for our retirement but before it was finished Emil passed away suddenly on September 25, 1944, from a cerebral hemorrhage. He was buried in the Edmonton cemetery. He was a kind, generous person and greatly missed by everyone who knew him. Our house was completed, rented out for a few years, and then in 1949 I moved to Edmonton.

We had one daughter, Martha, who is married to Carl Nordin.

In June, 1962 I married Alex Berendt and we are still living in Edmonton.

May 27, 1978 was a most memorable occasion when Carl and Martha had invited me to Hay Lakes to celebrate my eightieth birthday. We had plans to go to Camrose for supper but our first stop was at the Hay Lakes Hall as Conny had never seen the new Culture Centre. Imagine my surprise when we walked in and everyone started singing "Happy Birthday". My brothers, sisters, and all my relatives were there to help me celebrate, an evening I shall always treasure!

Koss, Rev. Leonard

A native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Leonard Koss took his education in Inglis, Manitoba, and then at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

His first parish was at Flatbush, Alberta. There he met and married Sedonie Block in 1939. They moved to Hay Lakes in 1942 where he served the town and country church congregations. A fluent bilingualist, he conducted services in the German and English languages.

These were very lean years as far as salary was concerned, and Rev. Koss was not one to pass up any job which could add a few vital dollars towards living expenses. He worked very hard, at labor he was not familiar with (such as stooking, or pitching bundles or shoveling grain in dust-filled granaries fit for no man), yet was never heard to complain. He preached on Sunday, conducted confirmation classes regularly, and found time to visit his parishioners.

The Kosses had two children while here, a son, Lorin, and a daughter, Linda. They left this area in 1949 to accept a call elsewhere.

Rev. Koss is now retired and living in the U.S.A. His son, Lorin, is a well-respected minister in The Western Canada Synod of the Lutheran Church of America.

Krisch, Pastor Reinhold by Emilie Krisch

My husband, Pastor Reinhold Krisch, accepted the call from Edmonton to Hay Lakes parish in October of 1955. Due to his illness, we were not able to move to our parsonage until January 11, 1956.

My husband held services at both churches, St. Luke's in the village, and St. Stephen's, three miles west, alternating in the English and German languages. He served the congregations in all aspects of the Ministry, and befriended many people of the community at large.

When we first moved to Hay Lakes, we had to haul water from our second neighbor, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sellin. Somewhat later, a pump was installed at the



Pastor and Mrs. R. Kirsch and grandchildren — 1956.

parsonage, and a hot-water heater was put into the basement. Those improvements were really appreciated!

Highway #21 had not been built yet, so our trips to Edmonton, where our children resided, took north to Highway #14, and west into the City.

We both enjoyed living in Hay Lakes, and our family liked to come out and visit us. In comparison to the big city, where we had been for nearly eighteen years, it was so peaceful and quiet.

We stayed in Hay Lakes for only a short time, as my husband was hospitalized in January 1957, and God took him home on April 6th of that year.

He mentioned to the family that the year in Hay Lakes was one of the most enjoyable in his ministerial career. In accordance with his wishes, he was laid to rest at the parish cemetery.

God richly blessed our stay in Hay Lakes, and I still value the friendship of many people that we learned to know in the area.

Laine, Mrs. Ella E.

I was born at Chauvin, Alberta after the World War I was over in the fall of 1918.

My father, Erick Nelson, built the first Pool Hall and Barber shop in Hay Lakes for my brother-in-law, Mr. William Clasper, and a house for them to live in.

In 1923 Claspers sold out to Mr. Larplas. The Claspers moved back to Ribstone, Alberta. Also Ed

Bloom, the Hay Lakes Senator, was a good friend of Mr. Clasper for years.

My family still lived at Hay Lakes. My father and mother had the Cream-testing station for the farmers that wished to ship their cream, to either Swifts or the United Co. at Edmonton, Alberta. My brother, Edwin, worked at Mr. Larson's store. My sister, Clara, cooked and worked at the first hotel.

My brother, Olfa, and I went to school in Hay Lakes. I had many friends to play with, but my dearest and lasting friend was, Gwendolyn Pithouse, more often called Lily. We rode horseback together and helped with things around their farm home, and our friendship has lasted all through the years.

Larplas, Hans

by Hazel (Larplas) Gerlach

At the turn of the century my father, Hans Larplas, left Norway to join his brother and sister in North Dakota, U.S.A. About eleven years later he came to Alberta to file on a homestead and settled at Stony Creek, later called Tawatinaw. There he met and married Emma Stephenson, also a Scandinavian emigrant from North Dakota. In the fall of 1920 he sold the homestead and moved the family to Edmonton where he went to barber college. In the spring of 1921 he bought Clasper's pool room and barber shop in Hay Lakes and our new home was a one-roomed shack behind the pool hall. My brother Milford was five and I was six and a half years old.

As soon as he could afford it, my father built an addition on the pool hall and installed a new billiard table. The house was also made a little bigger and even though the view from our east window was blocked by the long metal building which Chris Hein later converted into a store, and our kitchen window to the west looked out on the blank wall of Grahn's garage just two feet away, we were reasonably comfortable. In fact the six and one-half years I spent in Hay Lakes were some of the best years of my life.

In the fall of 1927 a hasty decision on an unsolicited purchase offer by Mr. Priebe, suddenly found us on the move again and after six months in Edmonton we were back on the farm, six miles northwest of Clyde. Milford remained on the farm while I went through school to become a teacher. Milford married Hazel Mitchell and they continued farming until just a few years ago when they moved to the town of Westlock. Here he managed a bulk oil sales outlet until his retirement in December 1980.

My father passed away in 1952 and mother has lived at Pembina Lodge Senior Citizen's Home in Westlock since 1966. She celebrated her ninety-second birthday in December 1980, still in reasonably good health.

After I graduated from Edmonton Normal School in 1933, I taught in the country for two years and then I married a farmer, Walter Gerlach of Rochester, Alberta. Eleven years and five children later, we sold the farm and bought one of the local general stores. We expanded the business to include a machine dealership with a service shop and bought a farm on the side. It was a very busy life. After ten more years and two more children, the store burned down. Rather than rebuild, we gave up the machine dealership and converted the service shop into a store.

In 1962, two of our sons took over the store while my husband concentrated on farming, selling fertilizer and short lines of machinery. He passed away very suddenly in 1977, at the age of sixty-eight.

My children are all married and except for a daughter who passed away in 1968, they all live within easy distance. There are fifteen grandchildren.

Larsen, Lauritz

Lauritz Larsen was born on January 16, 1884 in Hamar, Norway. He was the son of Ole and Lisa Larsen. He immigrated into Canada in 1905. For about three years he made his home in Camrose where he was employed in various trades. While living in Camrose he acquired the use of the English language by attending night classes. He got started in the retail business in a very humble way. Around 1907 he started freighting supplies by horse and wagon to the small settlement stores. Due to the lack of railway service he had little competition in that trade. One of the stores he delivered supplies to was the Halley store near Hay Lakes. This store was operated by Arthur Ladell and Charles Butcher. In the spring of 1908, Mr. Ladell and Mr. Butcher extended their business by opening the Long Prairie Store. This business was operated in the August Harke residence which was located near the Moravian Church.

Lauritz was offered the position to manage this store which he gladly accepted. He soon became involved in the development of this new settlement by helping to organize the first school district and serving as secretary on the board. He also helped to organize the first community picnic that was held on the Thomas Olson farm. While the settlement was predominantly of German speaking families, Lauritz soon learned to speak their language with fluency.

While the business in the Harke residence was operated on a temporary arrangement, Mr. Larsen began looking around for the opportunity of having a store built in the settlement. This opportunity availed itself when he met John Liedtke. Mr. Liedtke came from North Dakota where he had homesteaded for a

number of years. He had come into a small fortune when a railroad was built across his property. He then came to Alberta and invested his profits in buying Canadian Pacific Railroad land in the New Sarepta area. Mr. Larsen soon had him convinced in forming a business partnership. They built a store on one of the Canadian Pacific Railroad quarters and operated a business partnership for about two years.

The building of the railroad in 1912 attracted Lauritz to the new hamlet that was being surveyed on the Pithouse farm. He invested in the first business lot that was developed in the new hamlet of Hay Lakes. By forming a partnership with Lars Maland, the first store was built for the hamlet. While the store was under construction Larsen and Maland operated their business in the Martin Westad home which was located near the hamlet.

On October 24, 1912, Lauritz established a lifetime partnership when he married Inga Lund. Inga was the oldest daughter of John and Serianna Lund who were some of the first pioneers in the Hay Lakes district. The business partnership with Lars Maland was soon dissolved. The Larsens established their residence in the upstairs rooms of the Hay Lakes store where their only daughter, Louise, was born on January 30, 1915. During the fifteen years that the Larsens resided in Hay Lakes they saw the hamlet grow and prosper. They saw many new families move into Hay Lakes and establish businesses of their own. Lauritz and Inga established a warm friendship with them and cherished those memories for life. One of their closest friends were Joe and Leola Gosnell who operated the first lumber yard at Hay Lakes and their only daughter, Dorothy, became a lifetime friend with Louise.



L. to R.: Jenny and Emil Kiel, Inga Larsen, Norm Ogilvie, Louise and Lauritz Larsen, Lil Ogilvie.

Mrs. Larsen still has some cherished memories of Dr. Nordbye who came to Hay Lakes to care for the sick. He would make the long drive out of Camrose in all kinds of weather. She recalls the cold winter day when he came to put stitches in her husband's face after he was bitten by a dog that guarded the sleigh that he was loading with groceries.

In 1927, Lauritz and Inga left Hay Lakes but not to retire. He expanded his retail business by forming the Nu Way chain store business. Stores were opened up at Westlock, Holden, Irma and Castor. Most of these were managed by his former staff from the Hay Lakes store. Some of these were Mr. Dumont and Mr. Lidine who operated the Holden store. While the Larsens resided in Edmonton he continued to operate the Hay Lakes store under staff management until 1935 when the business was sold to Mr. Cohen.

In 1929, Mr. Larsen incorporated the Merco Wholesale firm to which he dedicated his lifetime career. The Merco Wholesale still operates a thriving business in Edmonton and Mr. Larsen served as president of this firm until his retirement. Lauritz passed away in January, 1971 at the age of eighty-seven years. Mrs. Larsen still resides in their family home in Edmonton living with her grandson, John Love. She still treasures the silver vase that was presented to her by the Hay Lakes Ladies Aid when they parted from Hay Lakes in 1927.

Louise graduated from the University of Alberta with an Arts degree in 1939. She married Harold Love of Edmonton in 1942. They now reside in Calgary where he is a Chartered Accountant. They have two children, John and Barbara. One of their children died in infancy.

Laskosky, Fred

Fred Laskosky was born in Poland on February 29, 1887. He emigrated to Canada in 1914 where he worked as a farmhand in the Camrose west area. He took up farming west of Camrose and later in the Armena and Hay Lakes districts. He retired in 1955, living in Hay Lakes until 1964, when he went to Camrose and was a resident of Stoney Creek Lodge until 1966. Due to poor health, he was transferred to Bethany Nursing Home, where he passed away at the age of eighty-three years.

Leicht, Harold and Bernice

Harold — I was born in Consort, Alberta, December 15, 1936 the oldest child of Herb and Emma Leicht. We lived on a farm near Loyalist, Alberta until 1937 when the family moved to the Big Hay Lake District. Dad rented a farm there until 1943. Mom used to set me in an apple box and take me out

to the field to keep an eye on me while she helped Dad with the stooking.

In 1943 we moved to the Herman Lechelt farm, presently the Zenon Goclon farm. Once settled on the new farm it was time to go to school and I enrolled in the Hay Lakes School in the fall of 1943. I spent a number of months with my grandparents while attending school due to the cold weather.

I was glad when spring and summer came because Mom and Dad had bought me a pony to ride back and forth to school. So every morning that fall I'd get on the horse and start for town. The horse would only get halfway to school, then she would turn around and race back home. She showed me who was boss but there were times when she would co-operate and take me to school. After battling with that horse for five years we moved into town and I could walk to school.

I left school in 1953 to work with my father who owned and operated Maple Leaf Service. I became very familiar with the rural area around Hay Lakes, as I delivered bulk fuel and oil to the farmers that were Dad's customers.

I met Bernice Groeller around this time and we were married in 1958 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, rural Hay Lakes. We made Hay Lakes our home.



L. to R.: David, Debbie, Bruce, Bernice and Harold. Lynn in front.

Bernice — I was born in Edmonton on July 5, 1937, the second daughter of John and Mary Groeller. We lived in Edmonton where my father worked in a coal mine.

In 1940 my mom, dad, sister Dorothy and I moved to a farm at Bismark, west of Ponoka. I can remember the large productive garden Mom always had there.

In the spring of 1942 we moved to the Big Hay

Lakes District. Dad had bought the farm from his father-in-law, Mr. Michael Trelenburg. This farm was where my Mother grew up.

I started school when I was six, attending the Big Hay Lakes School, the same school where my mother and her family received their education. I completed Grade nine there. My sister Dorothy and I had to walk two miles to catch the school bus to Hay Lakes where we attended High School.

Since we girls were the only farm help besides Mom, we were always eager to help. I was so anxious to drive the tractor because Dorothy was allowed to drive a year earlier, and finally when my turn came I had to give up because my legs were too short to reach the clutch.

I spent a year at home helping mom with my youngest brother Leslie in 1955.

Harold and I met at this time at a community dance.

I worked in Edmonton for a few years, first at National Home Furniture and then at the Workers' Compensation Board.

Harold and I were married on a beautiful summer day in 1958. We spent our honeymoon in Jasper and Banff.

Harold began working for Mr. Floyd Baier at Hay Lakes Meats and Lockers and stayed there for two years. Our first son Bruce was born August 15, 1959 and our daughter, Deborah (Debbie), on July 10, 1960.

With a growing family to support Harold changed jobs, working for Schnell and Barrie Tire Shop in Camrose for six years. David was born December 16, 1961 — one day after his father's birthday.

While Harold was working for Schnell and Barrie, I began working at Eaton's Order Office in Camrose. We commuted from Hay Lakes as we liked living in the village.

Harold then worked for Mr. Reins Middlestadt at the Hay Lakes Hardware Store for ten years. While working at the Hardware store he also served as Fire Chief for the Volunteer Fire Dept. for several years.

When Mr. Middlestadt decided to retire Harold went into business for himself, operating Wildrose Novelties and Giftware Ltd., and travels various routes throughout Alberta.

We built a new home in Hay Lakes (Lot 6, Block 10) and moved in during the fall of 1970.

Our youngest daughter, Lynn, was born June 3, 1971 and this completed our family of four.

Leicht, Herbert and Emma as told to Bernice Leicht

Emma was born at Medicine Hat, Alberta, on

May 10, 1913, the first daughter of Martin and Mary (Brouniske) Paul. They lived in Medicine Hat until Emma was five years old. In the spring of 1918 her parents and brother Emmanuel, as well as she herself moved to their first farm at Schuler. The family farmed there for three years.

In 1922 they moved to Hilda, Alberta for four years, and in 1926 they moved to a farm at Veteran, Alberta.

Mr. Paul became ill in 1929 and passed away in December of 1930. This left Mary Paul with a family of seven to raise and support. Emma was the oldest girl and had to work hard to help the family. Her mother remarried in 1935.

Emma met Herbert Leicht in 1932 and they were married in November 1934.

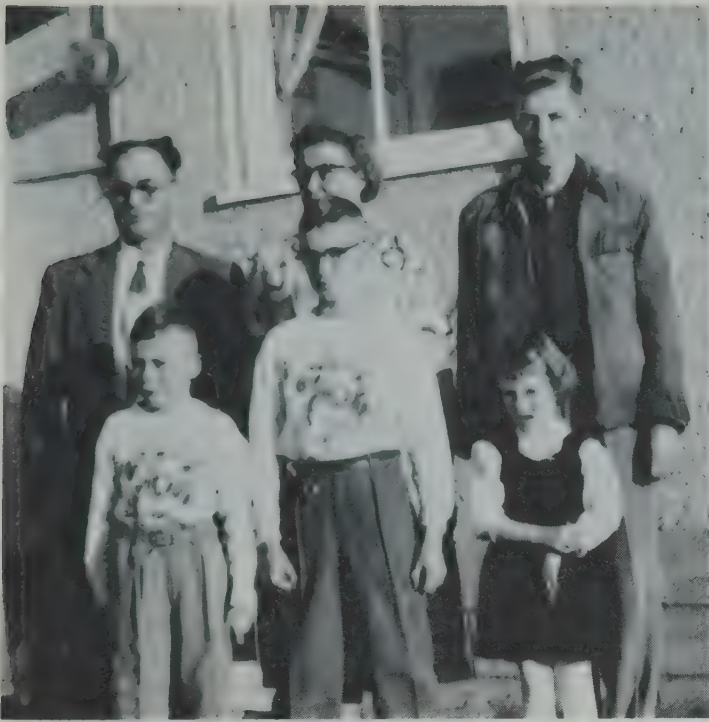
Herbert was born in Eureka, South Dakota, U.S.A. on September 13, 1912, the first child of John and Margaret (Bauer) Leicht. When Herbert was nine years old his parents, brothers and sisters emigrated to Loyalist, Alberta where they farmed for seventeen years.

Herbert decided it was time to strike out on his own and married Emma Paul November 4, 1934, in a double ring ceremony shared with Herbert's sister Hilda and her husband Henry Rennich.

They farmed in the Loyalist district for three years, and their son Harold was born December 15, 1936. Those were the dry years on the prairies, with dust storms so thick you couldn't see the sun or the top of the windmill. There was dust and silt in the house inches thick and the grasshoppers ruined the crops, which made farming a difficult way to make a living.

In the fall of 1937 they moved to Hay Lakes and rented a farm west of Big Hay Lakes NE 30-49-22-W4, owned by Herbert Prier. Lawrence was born January 16, 1943 while they lived on this farm. They farmed this for five years. They moved to NE 25-48-22-W4 which was the Herman Lechelt farm just south of Hay Lakes, now known as Zenon Goclon's farm.

Here Dennis was born on January 5, 1946, and Sharon on August 16, 1947. They farmed here for five years. Herbert had to give up farming for health reasons and sold all the farm equipment at an auction sale in the fall of 1948. They had purchased a house in Hay Lakes in the spring of 1948 and rented it out until they moved in the fall. Herbert had also built a garage in Hay Lakes that summer. The garage was called Maple Leaf Service which consisted of gas pumps while the U.F.A. Co-op had the bulk gas and oil, however it was all under one roof. The garage was located on Lot 10 Block 6 where Tero Welding and Machine is now located.



Herbert Leicht Family. L. to R., Back: Herb, Emma, Harold. Front: Dennis, Lawrence, Sharon.

In 1949 they signed the franchise for Case Machinery and Cominco Fertilizer (Elephant Brand). Harold started working with his father in 1952.

In 1954 Herb and Emma moved into their new home located on Lot 4 Block 1. Harold married Bernice (Groeller) on July 4, 1958. He left his father's employ in 1962 to work at the Locker Plant and Herb carried on alone with after-school help. Lawrence was married to Bernice (Schernus) in 1962.

In 1966 they purchased a new shop from Bill Francis and moved the business to Lot 5-6 Block 7, and used the old premises for fertilizer storage.

Dennis married Sharon (Hill) on March 9, 1968, and Sharon married Jim Mullan on June, 1968.

Their son Dennis took over the business in 1975 and Herb helped with the work when needed. Dennis sold the business in 1978 and Herb retired.

Their family includes four children and twelve grandchildren.

Harold and Bernice (Groeller) live in Hay Lakes and have four children: Bruce, Debbie, David and Lynn.

Lawrence and Faye (Adamson) live in Hay Lakes and have four children: Tara, Todd, Lisa and Lori.

Dennis and Sherry (Hill) live in Wetaskiwin and have two children: Deanne and Jason.

Sharon and Jim Mullan live in Wainwright and have two children: Darcy and Troy.

They are members of Our Saviour Lutheran Church. Emma enjoys ceramics and handicrafts while Herb is enjoying his retirement fishing, visiting and belonging to the Lion's Club.

Leicht, John

by John Leicht Jr.

John Leicht was born June 5, 1888 in Russia. At the age of fourteen, he and his family, which consisted of his Mother, sisters and brothers left Russia and went to South Dakota. There they were farming.

In November 1911, he married Margaret (Bauer). They farmed around Eureka, South Dakota until 1921. Then the folks and family, which consisted of four children, Herbert, Hilda, Helen and Johnnie, moved to Canada. They settled at Loyalist, where we were again farming. Here two more children were born, Hertha and Herman. There was always lots of work to be done. Drought and grasshoppers made farming very difficult, so they started operating a meat market in Consort in the fall of 1936.

Then in July 1937, a better opportunity came to start a meat market in Hay Lakes. Johnnie, Helen, Hertha and Herman came with Mother and Dad. Hertha was still going to school and Herman was only five and not going to school yet. Everyone in the family did their share and they were successful in getting their own building after a few years. When we first came, we rented the old Pithouse building. (This building is still in use today. It was fixed up when Reins Mittelsteadt had it as a hardware store.) The meat market was sold in the fall of 1940 to Mr. Bachor.

The folks then built a house on their acreage, where they retired. Dad hauled the dray for a few years. They had a nice garden and also kept a cow. Margaret died in August, 1965. Dad lived in the house a few years and then he moved to Stoney Creek Lodge, in Camrose. He passed away July, 1975.

John Leicht Jr.

I came with the family in July, 1937 and ran the meat market with Dad. We had plenty to do, but I managed to do the draying for the town. In November, 1939, I married Lydia (Lachman). We were with the folks until the meat market was sold.

In April, 1941, we left Hay Lakes and went to the farm at Ministick Lake. We farmed there from 1941 till 1948. We have been in Edmonton since May, 1948.

Our first child, a daughter, Shirley Elaine, was born in October, 1942. She died in January, 1947.

We have a family of four sons. John born March 11, 1944. He is teaching at Alberta College. He is married to Joanne (LaFramboise), they have two children, Krista, born in June, 1971 and Jonathan, born, September, 1976. Sherwin, born June, 1947, is a mechanical engineer for Suncar. He is married to Betty (Noetzel), and they have two children Janice, born in February, 1978 and Katherine, born in October, 1980. Rickey was born in November, 1952. He is

a dentist at Millbourne Mall. He is married to Nancy (McKay), and they have one daughter, Robin, born March, 1980. Eugene was born in January 1957. He is a draftsman and works for Barber Machine.

I have been in the meat business in Edmonton since 1948. I am retired now, but still enjoy helping out in different shops once in a while.

Leicht, John and Margaret as told by Herbert Leicht to Bernice Leicht

John Leicht was born in Berkdorff, Russia on June 5, 1888, son of Jake and Katherina Leicht. His father passed away in Russia and Katherina Leicht emigrated to the United States in 1903 with seven children; Jake, Chris, Elisabeth, David, Katy, John and Matilda. John was about fourteen years old when they settled in Eureka, South Dakota. It was there the family of eight made their living farming. In 1911 John married Margaret Bauer who was born in Campbell County, South Dakota on November 18, 1892. After marrying, they farmed that area and four children were born there: Herbert in 1912, Hilda in 1914, John Jr. in 1917, and Helen in 1919.

John's three brothers had emigrated to Loyalist, Alberta in 1909, and John decided to move his family after visiting Alberta one year. In 1921, John and Margaret emigrated to Loyalist with their four children. They moved by train bringing household effects, tractor, plow and a 1919 truck.

This truck had an interesting past; on Sundays all three families would pile onto the open box for the trip to church. Mr. Leicht eventually traded the truck in at the Ford dealers in Veteran, Alberta. In the 1940's the truck was sold to Edgar Webb, a local farmer who completely modernized the vehicle, with a new engine that had an electric starter. The truck changed hands again in the 1950's as it fell into the hands of a tractor collector, Fred Wright, who drove it in the Veteran Golden Jubilee Parade in 1962. Roger Hauser of Camrose bought the truck and drove it in the community's annual parade in 1963. In the spring of 1975 the truck was bought by Alberta Government Telephones and was totally rebuilt. By November of 1977 the restored truck was finished and was featured in the 1978 Calgary Stampede as well as the 1979 Klondike Days parade in Edmonton!

While at Loyalist two more children were born. Hertha was born in 1923 and Herman was born in 1932. Herman was the first child in the family to be born in a hospital.

In November of 1934, Herbert married Emma Paul and Hilda married Henry Rennich in a double wedding which was very common in those days.

In 1935 John Sr. bought a butcher shop in Consort and lived there for two years. In July of 1937 the



John Leicht Family. L. to R.: Hilda, Helen, Mrs. Leicht, Mr. Leicht holding Hertha, John Jr. and Herbert.

family moved to Hay Lakes where John started a butcher shop in the building which is now the hardware store. In 1938 they built their own butcher shop on the lot where Werner's house now stands. During this time John Jr. worked with his father and mother in the butcher shop.

In the fall of 1938 Helen married Thomas McLean, and John Jr. married Lydia Lachman in 1939. John Jr. and Lydia then went farming.

In 1940 John and Margaret sold their business to Mr. Floyd Backer and the same year they built a house where Ray Flannigan's now live. During the next six years John did the draying from the railroad to the businesses in town; they also had milk cows and sold the milk in town.

John and Margaret retired in 1946. However he continued to help his son Herb at Maple Leaf Service for many years. Herman then married Doreen Wilkinson in 1960.

John and Margaret celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1961, along with their six children, seventeen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

They spent their retirement years in fair health and were able to spend time visiting their children, always helping where they could.

Margaret passed away in August of 1965, and John remained in their home for four years until 1969 when he moved to Stoney Creek Lodge in Camrose. He passed away in July of 1975. At the time of his passing he had nineteen grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren in the family. Their sons and daughters are as follows:

Herbert and Emma Leicht of Hay Lakes — 4 children and 12 grandchildren, Hilda and Henry Rennich of Edmonton — 5 children and 13 grand-

children, Johnny and Lydia Leicht of Edmonton — 5 children and 4 grandchildren, Helen and Thomas McLean (deceased) of Athabasca — 2 children and 3 grandchildren, Hertha and Herbert Henschell of Edmonton — 1 child and 3 grandchildren, Herman and Doreen Leicht of Athabasca — 2 children.

Lenz, Pastor Frederick and Gertrude

Frederick Lenz was born at Vibank, Saskatchewan in 1905. He took his early schooling there, then attended the University of Saskatchewan and the Lutheran Seminary in Saskatoon. He graduated in 1933.

Gertrude, his wife, was born at Viscount, Saskatchewan in 1912. She was educated there, taking Grade XII and first year University at Outlook Lutheran College. She graduated from Teachers' College in Saskatoon and had a short teaching career before marrying Frederick Lenz in 1934.

Two children blessed their home in Hay Lakes.



Rev. and Fred Lenz and Marlene — 1938.

Marlene was born on April 17, 1936 and George was born on June 9, 1939. Two more were born in Winnipeg: Christine on August 12, 1941 and Karen on January 15, 1943.

Marlene married Flight Lieutenant Rolf Yri of the Norwegian Airforce in 1957. They moved to Canada in 1960 with one daughter, Karen Ingrid. Rolf enrolled at the College of Dentistry and graduated in 1966. A second daughter, Kirsten, was born here. They moved to Surrey, British Columbia where Rolf has a practice. Marlene, after earning her Master of Arts at the University of British Columbia is teaching at Douglas College. This summer Rolf flew his own aeroplane (with four passengers) to Norway via the Polar Route for a re-union of former flying partners, "War Birds", and return.

George took a surveying course at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and worked for the Department of Highways before marrying Eleanor Smith. He then entered the University of Alberta and obtained his Bachelor of Education Degree in 1968. They moved to Surrey, British Columbia with three children, and now teaches there. The older daughter, Cathy, is in second year Education while the younger daughter is a gymnastics instructor. Christopher is in Junior High School.

Christine is married to Dr. Malcolm Stewart, a practicing dentist in Edmonton. She has a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Alberta and taught for several years at the Ross Shepherd High before their children Cynthia, Tina and Matthew were born.

Karen graduated from the University Hospital in Nursing in 1963. She married Erwin Bartell in 1964. He is a computer science instructor with Al Tel and Karen works part time at the Sherwood Park Clinic. They have two daughters, Marnie and Jill.

Glimpses of Life in Hay Lakes and District by Pastor Frederick Lenz and his wife, Gertrude

On a fine September day in 1933, John Zucht and Herman Lechelt met the train in Hay Lakes to welcome the new pastor for the two Lutheran parishes of St. Stephens (rural) and St. Lukes (village), Frederick Lenz. A recent graduate, he looked forward to taking over his assignment.

He was supplied with a small house and garden in the southwest corner of the village, but, since it contained neither furniture nor wife, he decided to stay at the Hay Lakes Hotel operated by Emil Kiel.

The congregation of St. Stephens was largely made up of people of German origin, so the work there was conducted entirely in the German language. To provide a Sunday School and place of

worship for everyone regardless of ethnic origin or religious background the services at St. Lukes were conducted largely in English.

The following summer, Pastor Lenz returned from a trip home to Saskatchewan with a young wife. They took up residence in the "parsonage" and gradually accumulated some furniture and household effects. Very limited funds allowed no form of conveyance other than their feet so the three mile trip to the rural church and visits to parishioners' homes were made on foot. When winter snows and cold made this difficult, a farmer loaned them a home-made cutter and a horse so that parish schedules could be maintained. By diligent saving from the \$840 yearly salary, they were able to purchase a snappy black mare and a second hand "top buggy" with which they travelled in style. Not until seven years later, just before leaving for his second parish in Winnipeg were they able to purchase a used Ford sedan.

During the years in Hay Lakes, there were cement sidewalks only in the business center of the town. There was a bit of gravel on Main Street and board walks on some residential streets. To venture forth after a rain or during spring thaw was to risk getting stuck in the Hay Lakes gumbo which stuck with equal tenacity to wheel or boot. However progress was being made. Volunteer members of the parishes assembled to plant trees and shrubs and generally landscape the grounds around the two church buildings. All-weather walkways were fashioned leading to them. When the members of St. Stephens decided to install a fine bell in the church belfry, their Ukrainian neighbors shook their heads in disbelief. In their opinion the place for the bell was in a specially built belfry on the ground, not up above the people where it could come crashing down when rung too vigorously.

The people's love of the land and their natural horticultural skills resulted in bountiful vegetable and flower gardens. So bountiful in fact that when Saskatchewan was hit by dust storms and drought, the Hay Lakes people were able to contribute two carloads of vegetables (mostly potatoes) and some hay to the cropless Vibank, Saskatchewan area. The garden and grounds of Herman and Martha Lechelt will always be remembered.

Two general stores served the district, the larger one operated by Mr. Cohen who came from Edmonton seeking re-newed health in a country atmosphere, and the smaller one owned by Mr. Hughes, who had purchased it from Chris Hein as a retirement project. Anne Sware and her brother, Jack McCoy, had a drug store.

Electricity was supplied by a local gas-operated

generator. This was for lighting the village mainly because if several housewives plugged in their irons at the same time, lights would go dim. If the operator of the generator became "carried away" in some political or other involvement the plant often ran out of gas and the town would be plunged into darkness while the operator groped his way back to re-fuel and re-start the generator. Refrigerator was by ice box; heating and cooking by coal and wood; freezers and television had not been heard of and radios ran by battery. There were garages though, good ones; one of them was Oscar Grahn's. That is where the big bang originated one day when Oscar lit a match to see if a gas barrel was empty. He had to replace the back wall in his garage! Most people thought a large stone had hit their house when they heard the dull thud.

One of the amenities was a hockey rink and a hockey team which challenged all comers, public skating for all, and a curling rink with devoted curlers who staged night-long bonspiels every February.

Johnny Lyle and Doris Malmo kept the two-room school going and Justein Nordmoe ran the lumber yard. Mr. Gibson operated the Canadian National Railroad station. Fisher was the local blacksmith, Ed Schlender operated the butcher shop, and the grain elevators were operated by Bratke and Hamilton. A town hall supplied weekly movies and occasional dances, and there was a cafe that burned down one day.

The drought in this area was less severe than in other areas, but everyone suffered from low grain and cattle prices plus general unemployment. When the war broke out in 1939, many young men of the community enlisted at once and went away, some never to return, and for others it was several years before they saw their homes and families again.

On a September day in 1940, after packing his books in packing cases to be shipped by rail to Winnipeg, Pastor Lenz gathered his family and they set forth in their 1935 Ford for Winnipeg and St. Peters congregation who had sent him a call. Their household effects had been dispersed by an auction sale.

And so they bade farewell to his first charge in a forty-two-year ministry.

Many parishioners remember the times when the "snappy black mare" would cause Pastor Lenz some difficulties which would require action and rhetoric not usually associated with this minister. And the neighbors all knew the collection of cats which were fed daily by the surplus supply of milk given to the Lenz's by their cow. Anyone who had a cat "to spare" dropped it off at the parsonage . . . it was well taken care of!

Likness, Selmer and Lillian

by Julia Johnson (Selmer's sister)

Selmer and Lillian Likness with their two children Leopal and Arlo, moved to Hay Lakes from Coronation in the year 1934-35. Selmer operated the Hardware department in Larson's General Store in Hay Lakes. He had formerly worked for Mr. Anderson in Coronation, where he also clerked in a Hardware Store.

After operating the store in Hay Lakes, Selmer and his family later returned to Coronation and continued working for Mr. Anderson.

During the Second World War Selmer enlisted and after taking his training in Calgary, was sent overseas, but was invalided home because of a cataract on one of his eyes.



Selmer Likness with daughter Leopal and son Arlo — 1939.

Later, Selmer and Lillian moved to Vancouver and another child Gloria, was born there. They lived there till their passing. Lillian passed away in the year 1948 and Selmer passed away in 1971.



Lillian Likness and daughter, Gloria Lynn — 1941.

Their three children are married. Leopal and Gloria both live in Vancouver, and Arlo lives in Powell River. Leopal married Bob Graham and they have one son, Stuart. Arlo and Barbara have two sons, Graham and Paul and one daughter, Louise. Gloria McDonald has one son and one daughter; Richard and Lynda.

Lind, Basil

by Birdie Lind

Basil was born in Baggat, Manitoba in 1898. He came to Bulwark, Alberta near Castor, in 1905 with his Father, Mother and four other children. They lived in a log house and his father farmed a half-section at that time. Since there was no store or post office in Bulwark, formerly Lindville, Mr. Lind Sr. started one. The closest town at this time was Stettler and it took Mr. Lind a week with his oxen to get there and back. When Bulwark became a village he sold the post office and store and kept on farming. He retired at age 70.

Basil quit school and went farming for a time. He

had three quarters to farm and drove twelve horses. He then quit farming and went buying grain for the Pioneer elevator for four years. In 1940 he was offered and took a better paying position with Alberta Wheat Pool as grain buyer.

I, Birdie Lind (Castleman) was born in 1902 in Des Moines, Iowa. When I was three weeks old my dad brought his family to Lacombe, then took up a homestead at Bentley. There were ten children in our family and when my mother divorced father, we moved to Lacombe where she started a boarding house to keep the family together. Three of the children helped by working. Iona took in sewing and two brothers worked on the trains. May was married, Jessie was an engineer, and Artie was a fireman.

In 1910 Mother was remarried to Charlie Smith who had a homestead at Knob Hill. They later took up a new homestead at Fleet. There my brothers and I had four miles to walk to school. In winter time my older brother drove us there with a team and sleigh.

My step dad and mother went to dances at Knob Hill and would take me along. Basil and a boy friend used to come up there too. Basil and I fell in love, I was nine years old and he was twelve. Charlie was very strict and would never allow me to go without my parents, nor look at boys. But on November 19, 1919, Basil and I decided to get married, I was seventeen and he was twenty. We were married in the Castor Church by Rev. Brunton. To this marriage four children were born: Sheila, Mrs. Lyle Damburger; Doreen, Mrs. Melvin Lynn; Rella, Mrs. Bill Bowan and Douglas.



Basil and Birdie Lind — 1920.

In August, 1951 we moved from Warden to Hay Lakes where Basil continued to operate the Alberta Wheat Pool elevator until his retirement in 1964. He then did some relief work for the company for three years. In May of 1964 there was a special retirement party for us in the local community hall. All our family and friends attended as well as dignitaries from the Alberta Wheat Pool.

Basil, not yet ready for retirement, went to work at the Esso Bulk station for two years.

In November 1969, with all our family and many friends, we celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary. This had to be the highlight of our lives.

In 1975 we sold our home in Hay Lakes and moved to Castor into an apartment so we could be closer to our family. We lived in the apartment for two years when Basil became very ill and was hospitalized in Stettler. He knew none of his family and only lived for six weeks. He was buried in Castor in the family plot. I then moved into the Nursing Home in Stettler and enjoy fairly good health with family and friends.

Lindstrand, Dennis and Judy

Dennis was born on May 10, 1942 to Walter and Esther Lindstrand. He grew up on the family farm ten miles northeast of Camrose. Dennis attended the Round Hill School, graduating in 1961. Being an avid baseball player, he received a scholarship to Sam Houston University in Huntsville, Texas. While attending university he was united in marriage to the former Judy Russell.

Upon receiving a degree in Physical Education and Science, Dennis, Judy, and three-year-old daughter, Rae Ann, moved to Canada. They took up residence in Hay Lakes in 1966 and there Dennis began his first teaching assignment, teaching Grades VIII and in the High School. The first year in Hay Lakes proved to be a most interesting and busy year for all the family. Judy, being a native Texan, was amazed at her new environment including homes with basements, climatic conditions, the strange verbal communications, and winter activities such as curling, ice skating, hockey, and the heavy coats, boots, scarf, mitts, and toques.

Dennis busied himself with coaching various teams for the High School. Judy could not understand why the school did not have cheerleaders to root their teams on to victory. She undertook the task of forming a cheerleading squad for all High School sporting events. She even dressed Rae in the cheerleading uniform and had her cheering and jumping as much as the big girls. In the course of the development of extra curricular activities, the vari-

ous teams became known as the Hay Lakes Tigers and Tigerettes.

At the end of the 1968 school term, Dennis and family moved to Camrose where Dennis accepted a teaching position with the Charlie Killam Junior High School. At present he is still a member of that staff. Their second daughter, Angela Denise, was born in the fall of that year.

During the past nine years Dennis has received many honors for his baseball achievements. In the fall of 1972 Dennis played for Team Canada in Nicaragua, Central America, at the World Amateur Baseball Championships. At the end of the tournament, Dennis was chosen Canada's most valuable player and finished second in the overall batting average. He still holds the highest batting average for a Canadian player in International competition. He played once again for Team Canada in 1975 in Montreal, where the team finished fourth in the World Competition. Dennis was recognized in Camrose by being selected in the Lions Sports Hall of Fame in 1973.

Judy kept busy by being a teacher-aide for kindergarten for three years and now is active in the TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) organization for which she now serves as an Area Captain for the Camrose and surrounding area.

Rae is completing her first year University in Education while Angela is attending the Eighth grade at Charlie Killam Junior High School.

The Lindstrands (Dennis, Judy and Rae Ann) still speak fondly of Hay Lakes as it was their first Canadian home. They will always remember and treasure the many friendships they made with the warm people in the Hay Lakes Community.

Lindstrand, Max and Alice

Max and Alice Lindstrand (nee Morck) joined the teaching staff at the Hay Lakes School in the fall of 1971. They were "rookie" teachers, having graduated from the University of Alberta in the spring. The Lindstrands lived in Teacherage Number 1 and were actively involved in the community. They were also members of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Hay Lakes. Alice taught Grade five primarily and Max taught mainly Junior and Senior High mathematics. Max was High School boys basketball and football coach as well as staff advisor to the Junior High School students' union.

The Lindstrands taught for a total of four years in Hay Lakes before Max accepted a promotion to the Vice-Principalship at New Norway School. Alice accepted a promotion to motherhood!

Max and Alice continue to maintain ties with many members of the Hay Lakes community and

they have many fond memories of their first years of marriage spent in Hay Lakes.

At the present time the Lindstrands live in Camrose where Max is a Vice-Principal at Camrose Composite High School. Alice is kept busy looking after their two children — Jonathan, six years old and Jennifer, four years of age.

Eric and Mildred Lofgren

Eric Lofgren was born in Nastansjö, Sweden on January 28, 1908. A year later he came to Canada with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John Lofgren and other members of the family. They settled in the East Hay Lakes District. Eric attended the Sulitjelma School and later went to work in the lumber camp of Pearson Bros. in Breton.

On May 4, 1911, Mildred was born in Edmonton, Alberta to Roy and Lena McLean. In 1916, they moved to the Canard District east of Hay Lakes where they began farming. Mildred got her education at Canard School.

On January 8, 1938 Eric and Mildred were united in marriage at McDougall United Church in Edmonton and took up residence in the Village of Hay Lakes.

Eric's first business venture was operating a threshing machine and feed-grinding business in Hay Lakes. In 1934, he formed a partnership with his brother John. They purchased the power plant and implement business from the late Herman Lechelt, selling farm machinery. They operated the power plant until Calgary Power came in 1949. In conjunction with the Machinery business, they operated the Imperial Oil Bulk Station. They also hauled gas from Turner Valley as well as coal for the farm community and Village of Hay Lakes.

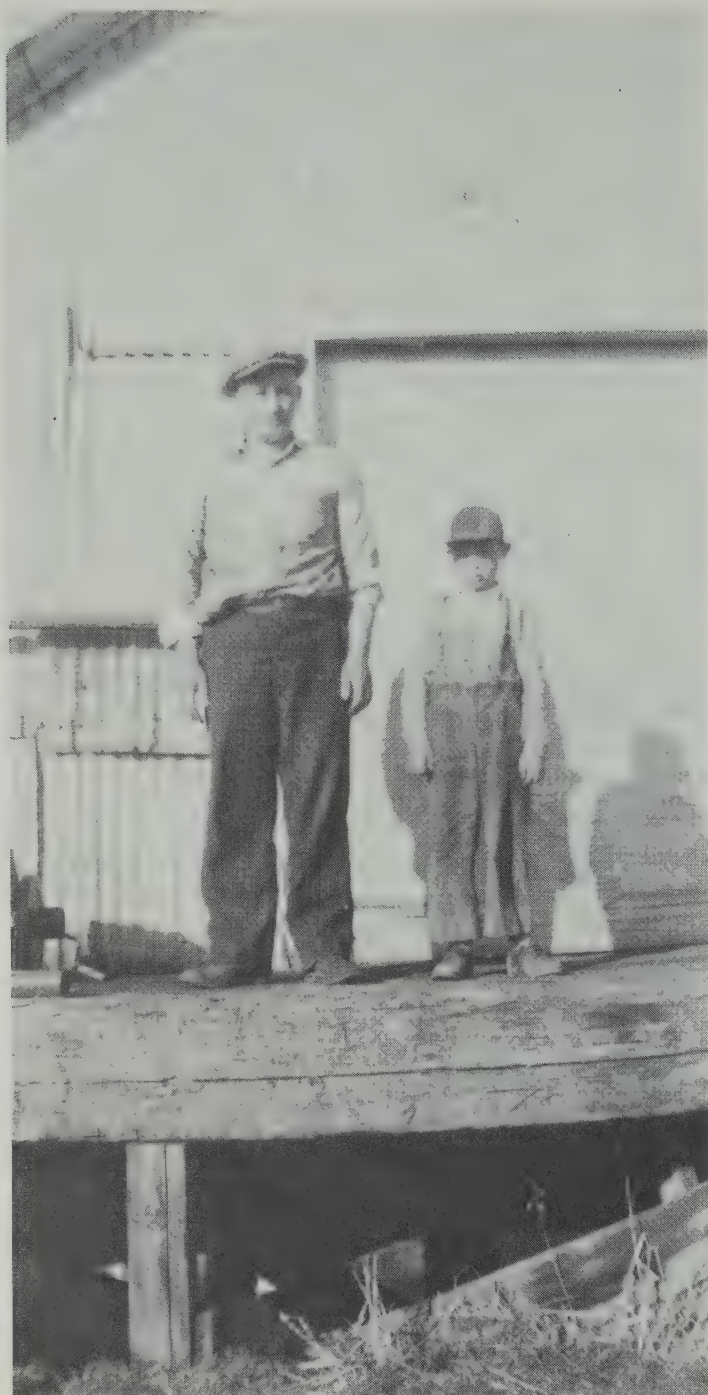
Before Calgary Power came in, Lofgren Bros. had the contract to supply ice for the Creamery. The ice was cut in big blocks on Joseph Lake and hauled into the Creamery where it was packed in sawdust in a cold room for cream storage during the summer.

Among the truck drivers employed were Art Schaffrick, Henry Schaffrick, Hilbert Lechelt, Gordon Soma, Dick Gellert, Ole Busenius, Rudolph Nordin, Garnet Ferguson and Billy Webster.

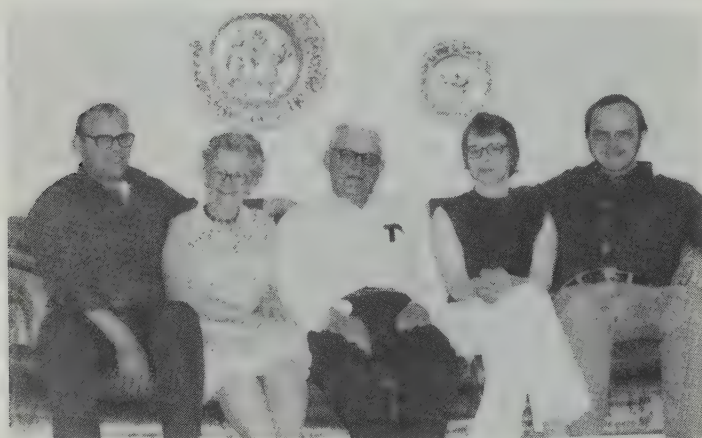
In 1943, John left the business to go farming and in 1958 Eric and his oldest son, Richard, operated the business, until 1972 when Richard left the firm and moved to Hythe, Alberta. In 1971, Eric's younger son, Allen, became a partner in the dealership and remained with his father.

Of their three children:

Richard married Vera Loner, daughter of Mr.



Eric Lofgren and Richard at Imperial Oil Station — 1943.



Eric Lofgren Family. L. to R.: Richard, Mildred, Eric, Ireta, Allan — 1975.

Rudolph and Emilie Fisher of Hay Lakes. They have four children, Nancy, Peggy, Brant and David.

Ireta married Herb Holt, son of Garfield and Lola Holt of Camrose. They have one daughter, Erica. Their home is in Camrose.

Allen continued the business until 1980 and then moved to Edmonton.

Eric served as Mayor of the Village of Hay Lakes from 1944 to 1945. He passed away in May 1977 after being in business in the Village for forty-three years.

Luger, John and Elsie

John is a grandson of Mary McArthur (widow), who with other members of her family pioneered in 1902 from Collingwood, Ontario, and settled in the area which was to become known as Bawlf. John was born in Bawlf, the son of Margaret and Alvin Luger.

I, Elsie, am the granddaughter of early pioneers who came from North Dakota in 1894 and settled in the area which later became known as Calmar. I was born and grew up there. My grandfather's name was Peter Dalquist. My mother married Hallie Phillips.

John and I met in Wetaskiwin where we were both employed at the time. We were married in 1938.

John became interested in carpentry and worked at that trade for many years. He built the first motel in Wetaskiwin in 1949. That building is shown under construction in the accompanying picture. Our children, Donald and Robert, were born in Wetaskiwin.

In 1951 we moved to Edmonton, John continuing his work as a carpenter. After some time we bought an acreage in the Winterburn area and made our home there for some years. We sold it, and in 1973 we moved to Hay Lakes and John built another home for us here.



Mr. and Mrs. John Luger. Elsie holding grandson Murray, John holding grandson Karl. Front Scott and Virginia — 1971.

Donald's interests are in things mechanical. After he finished High School he became a welder and heavy-duty mechanic. He was always interested in the geography of the world and in due time he went to Australia and worked as he moved about that continent. While there he had the opportunity to work in Papua New Guinea.

In Australia Donald met Valerie Everett, whom he married. They came home after some time and Valerie became a Canadian citizen. For a few years they lived in Blairmore where Don worked for Kaiser Resources in their Exploration field. In 1977 Don (and family) went to Papua, New Guinea to serve with the Canadian University Service Overseas as an instructor in the operation and maintenance of heavy machinery, and also of road and bridge building. When his time with the Canadian University Service Overseas expired he was offered work with the Papua New Guinea government as superintendent of the trade school in Madang. This led to an offer of more



Erna and Robert Luger 1968.

work there — this time to oversee man power for their area. He accepted, and they will be there for some time more. Donald and Valerie have two children, Virginia and Karl.

When Bob finished High School he decided to enter the field of education. While attending University he met and later married Erna Berendt. She also is a teacher. They have lived and taught in various schools in Alberta. Bob has been principal at Atikameg, Fort Chipewyan, Worsley, Jarvie, Grande Cache and Hay Lakes. They live in Peace River at the present time where Bob is Deputy Superintendent of schools in the Peace River division. Bob went to Grande Cache when the town was being established and helped to organize the schools there. When they left there he decided to go back to University for a term, and earned his Master's degree.

Aviation has always interested Bob. He became a pilot and does a considerable amount of flying. Bob and Erna have three children, Scott, Murray and Kristi Lynne.

Lund, Gus and Nellie

Gus and Nellie (Lingstad) Lund, came to the Hay Lakes District from B.C. to NE 28-21-48-W4, where they lived for two years, then rented NW 27-21-48-W4 for several years before moving into the Village for a period of time. They later moved to Vanderhoof, B.C.

They had four daughters, Agnes Jeanette, Mae Rosa, Ruth Vera, and Alma. Gus and Mae, are now deceased. Nellie now lives in the Vancouver B.C. area.

John E. Lyle

by John E. Lyle P. Eng.

"He told the truth, mainly. There was things which he stretched, but mainly he told the truth." This quotation by Huck Finn fits Johnnie Lyle reasonably well, as you shall see.

John Everett Lyle was born on May 30, 1912, in a four-roomed shack up along Thusa Street on the west side of Wetaskiwin, Alberta. He was registered as "Evert John Lyle" by his Father because John H. believed that legal people always wanted names given backwards just to complicate matters, and being a practical man going along with this idea, gave the name backwards completely, not the surname first then the Christian names in proper order. And "Evert" was the way he read "Everett" all his life. But that was just a minor difficulty that caused a certain amount of swearing later on in life.

From the very first, John E. was a problem. Ada Lorne Lyle wanted her second child to be a daughter and she was a determined woman. If the Good Lord

did not grant what she wanted, she would do her level best to fix that. All her life she tried to make John E. into a girl by treating him as a girl-child. Until four years old he was kept in dresses and wore his hair in long ringlets; at six he had to wear kid gloves; at eight he was given piano lessons; never was he permitted to milk cows or do heavy farm work, instead he was trained in house work such as cleaning and cooking, washing dishes, making beds, preparing meals, mending clothes, etcetera, and finally was sent to Normal School and trained as a teacher in order to avoid farm work. Ada, his mother called him "child" until he was fifty-five years old!

But that was not really the problem. When John E. was born, he was puny, weighed a mere three and a half pounds, was club-footed and had such a temper that he ruptured himself crying in protest at coming into a cruel, uncomfortable world. Many people expressed the opinion that he would not live and if he did, there was little hope of him ever amounting to anything much. Well, somehow he survived and on Sept. 1, 1918, he started school in Wetaskiwin, a wee mite of forty pounds, wearing a home-made wombat fur coat and hat, his tiny face with bright eyes peering out at a still unfriendly world. The kids in school nicknamed him "Pussy", a name that stuck right through school until he graduated from Grade twelve in June 1929. That "Pussy", however, was as close as John E. came to being a girl.

In September 1929, he entered the Camrose Normal School, the youngest and by far the smallest of the 425 students of whom only thirty-five were boys. There he learned about women, it being unavoidable, and came to realize that he was male, if not a man at that stage of the game. Starting in the fall of 1930 which was not a good time to start anything, John E. taught school for eleven years: two years at Bawlf, one year at New Sarepta Rural School, and eight years in the Village of Hay Lakes where he was principal during the last five years. Many people of the district may recall those happy days.

On Saturday September 7, 1935, in Camrose, John E. married Helen Swaré, who was number eight in a family of ten of Anton Swaré and Karen (Pederson) Swaré of Hay Lakes. Except for immediate families, their marriage was kept as an "open secret" until November 7, 1935, when a reception was held in the Hay Lakes hall and John and Helen set up house keeping in a two-roomed suite in the Hay Lakes Hotel. On August 2, 1936, Lorna Karen Lyle was born in Camrose and named for her two Grandmothers. She talked before she walked and at three years old was the proud owner and sole user of a pair of full-sized scissors with black handles.

Early in 1937, John and Helen moved into a four-

roomed house, called "the green house" because it was painted green, which was rented from Grandpa Grahn for the sum of \$9.00 a month. Here they lived for four years taking in school teachers, Doris Malmas and Christine Nelson in turn, as boarders, to help out with the \$100. per month that John was paid as principal. In addition to teaching, John studied for university, played soft ball and hockey, coached the school teams in sports, played the drums and managed a dance orchestra, acted as Scout Master, fought fires with the Hay Lakes Volunteer Fire Brigade, hunted upland game in season, learned to play bridge, raised gardens, repaired and maintained the place and in short led a very busy life.

On May 2, 1941, John E. enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and that night was sent to Manning Pool in Toronto. By the end of May, he was assigned to Radio School No. 4 at Guelph, Ontario, to be trained as a Radar Mechanic. Helen and Lorna moved to Guelph in June 1941 and lived in a house on the university campus from then until August 1945. Lorna started school there and Helen did war work with ladies' groups in the city of Guelph. At the end of Oct. 1941, John E. was shipped overseas to the British Isles where he was attached to the Royal Air Force given advanced training in Radar, and served on coastal stations for the duration of the war. In August 1945, he returned to Edmonton with the rank of Technical Sergeant and was discharged in Calgary during October. On January 3, 1946, John E. entered the University of Alberta as an engineering student and endured the long hectic grind of studying day and night, trying to live on the allowance of \$90. a month that was given war veterans in those days.

Nevertheless, June 19, 1947, was a very happy day for Helen and John E. because on that day Barbara June Annette was born in the University Hospital in Edmonton, and "everybody" was just fine. June 19 was also her Grandfather Anton Swaré's birthday, hence the name "Annette" in his honour. Lorna was pretty excited to have a little sister because she thought it would never happen. But it did and we all were happy about it.

On April 25, 1949, John E. graduating from the University with an Honors standing in a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and had a job lined up. His parents were somewhat disappointed that he had given up teaching because they did not appreciate "engineering". However, bright and early on April 26, 1949, John E. went to work for The Imperial Pipe Line Co. Ltd. and never once looked back.

On November 7, 1956, Helen (Swaré) Lyle died suddenly leaving John E. with two daughters to raise on his own. Now, all the early training in household tasks paid off as John E. flung himself into the never

ending work of running a house, raising a family and being Chief Engineer of a very active Pipe Line Co. The day-to-day living necessary to carry such a burden lasted eleven years and never would have been possible without the dedicated help of both daughters, a debt that never can be fully repaid but that continues to be fully appreciated.

On August 29, 1959, Lorna Karen, having graduated from the University of Alberta in Fine Arts, married Tom Jennings, a percussionist in the Royal Canadian Air Force Band (that is "drummer boy" to you) and wound up living in places to which Tom was posted, such as Edmonton, Zweibruken Germany, Winnipeg and Ottawa. Tom retired from the Armed Forces in November 1975. Since then he and Lorna have settled in Ottawa where Tom continues to find work in the musical line and Lorna goes all out with her art.

Meanwhile, Barbara June continued through school, took a business course, worked nine years or so for Alberta Social Services and learned to run a shop. On July 16, 1977, she married Mounir Charif, a graduate in Physical Training from the University of Damascus. They live in Edmonton. Barbara June has become a very successful fortune teller.

On January 14, 1967, John E. married Phyllis Kathleen (Lister) Janke and became an instant grandfather known as "Grandpa Johnnie" to eleven very fine grandchildren. By her first marriage, Phyllis had three daughters and a son. The daughters, Betty (Janke) Querengesser, Mabel (Janke) Simmons, and Barbara (Janke) Shaw, each have three children. John Janke has two sons.

Starting August 1, 1972, John E. spent five years in Calgary with Imperial Oil Limited as "Pipe Line Expert". His duties were many and varied, including the engineering work required by The Imperial Pipe Line Co., the trouble shooting, maintenance and extension of crude oil gathering systems owned and operated by Imperial Oil throughout Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

At the end of May 1977, John E. retired from work at the age of sixty-five years and returned to live in Edmonton in the house he had built himself during 1950-51. In 1979, John E. gained some recognition by being made a "Life Member" of the Professional Engineer's Association of Alberta and by being written up in "Who's Who in Alberta 1979".

Phyllis K. and John E. enjoy retirement very much. They keep busy doing things they have always wanted to do and going places they have always wanted to go. Their key to contentment is to learn or to do at least one new thing each day.

McLean, Charles and Alpha

Charles Alvin McLean, son of Roy and Lena

McLean was born in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1910. He came with his family to the Canard District at Hay Lakes at the age of six years. He received his education at Canard School. At the age of eighteen he started in the grain buying business at Hay Lakes for T. D. Hudson with the Searle Grain Company as assistant and relief agent. In 1935 he worked for the Gillespie Grain Co. in Deville, Alberta. On August 18, 1936 he married Alpha Welda, daughter of Jacob and Anna Welda of Hay Lakes. They made their home in Deville, Alberta, where he continued to work for Gillespie Grain Co. In 1937 the United Grain Growers asked him to come and work for them in Hay Lakes as they had a run-down business and hoped he could get it going. In two years he had the business built up to second on the market, competing with the Alberta Wheat Pool, Searle and Federal Grain Companies.

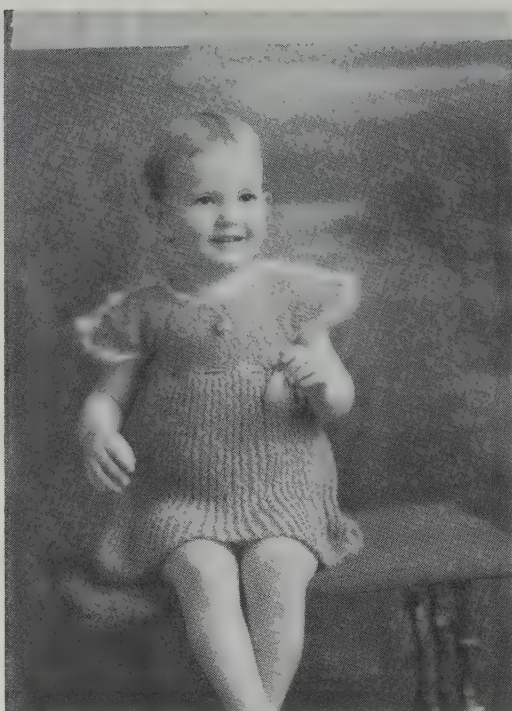
In 1940, he took on, along with the grain business, the shipping of livestock for the Alberta Livestock Co-op. The livestock was loaded into CNR cars and shipped to Edmonton on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week. Donald Miller assisted Charles in the livestock work, shipping two and three carloads per week.



Alpha and Charles McLean 1936.

On August 30, 1937, Charles and Alpha's first child was born, a daughter, Donna Joanne. In 1938, they built their first new home on lot 15, block 4, which they bought from Joe Gosnell for \$37.00. Total cost of construction for this house was \$155.00 paid to Ole Olafson for the complete work. The material and labor was less than \$900.00. Interesting to note; the Village taxes on this home in 1945 was \$13.93. Compare this to our taxes today.

On June 1, 1941, another member of the family arrived, a son Keith Elvin.



Donna Joanne McLean — 1937; Keith Elvin McLean — 1942; Dianne Lois McLean — 1949.

In 1948, the house was sold to Ed Tober and is now occupied by Robert Tober. That same year Charles and Alpha built a new and larger and more modern home on lot 16, block 4 where they still reside.

In 1949, on June 14, Dianne Lois joined the family.

In 1945, Charles resigned his job with the U.G.G. due to the grain dust and doctor's orders. That same year he built a store on lot 7, block 6 and with the help of his good wife Alpha, who had many years experience in clerking, they operated a successful business under the name of Mac's General Store. The store hours were from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday.

During the Second World War, ration books were required in order to obtain such items as soap, butter, and sugar as well as anything containing sugar such as jams and candies.

At closing time the display tables were covered with white cloths, then sweeping compound was sprinkled on the oiled wooden floors to help keep the dust down while the sweeping was being done.

In conjunction with the store they operated a feed business selling North West Feeds, bringing in car loads and trucking it out to farmers, often working throughout the night. Some of the clerks in Mac's General Store were Edna Moan, Anna Nore, Hertha Henschel, Eileen Hein, Sylvia Nasland, Carol Ledine, Georgia Webster and Evelyn Sickstrom.

In 1952, when the oil field opened up east of the Village, the McLeans sold their store to Nordin Bros.

It was later destroyed by fire. Charles immediately started working in the oil field as a battery operator for Petcal Co. of Calgary, later taking on the complete bookkeeping operating of their wells in the field. In 1963, he resigned and went to work for Pacific Petroleum as an operator. When automation came in he left the oil business.

Charles got a livestock dealer's license and for many years operated a hog buying and selling agency from his acreage near the Village.

Charles and Alpha have both retired and spend many of their winters in California and Arizona where it is warmer.

Donna married Arlo Johnson, in 1958, the son of Thor and Molly Johnson of Kingman, Alberta. They have three children — Jill, Ross and Jeffrey and make their home in Vernon, B.C.

Keith married Maureen Dunne, daughter of Frank and Cynthia Dunne of Edmonton in 1966. They live in Victoria, B.C.

Dianne married William Brockhoff, son of Herman and Ruth Brockhoff of Edberg in 1970. They have three children — Neal, Jay and Stacey and make their home in Edberg.

Mercy Flight

In March, 1951, following what was reported as one of the worst storms, in 15 years, Margaret McLeod called on Charles McLean, in his store to see if he could get her husband, Jim to the hospital because he was so very sick.

After checking for snow plows, some of which were themselves stuck in the snow banks and for

trains that couldn't run. Charles phoned the airport for a mercy flight from Hay Lakes to Camrose. Within a few minutes a plane was circling the McLeod home, where a group of men flagged it down. Jim was taken aboard on a stretcher and flown to Camrose where Hoveland's Ambulance was waiting at the golf course to take the patient to the hospital where it was found he had a ruptured appendix. The operation was successful and Jim was soon home again, thankful and happy.

**Masikewich, George and Mary, Nick,
Catherine and Richard
1938-1943**

George came to Canada from the Ukraine and purchased a farm at Edwand, Alberta in 1922 and married Mary Wolansky. Farming was difficult and George began to work with the Canadian National Railroad on railroad maintenance. Because of the seniority system with the railroad, George moved around the province quite a bit and assumed duties as

Section Foreman at Hay Lakes in 1938 and lived in the Canadian National Railroad residence opposite the hotel just west of the railroad station. The family left Hay Lakes in 1943 to go back to Edwand where George concluded his career with the Canadian National Railroad and retired to live on his farm. George and Mary eventually built a home in Smokey Lake.

Both, George and Mary were interested in community activities and were willing to help in any way they could. George was particularly interested in sporting functions, whereas Mary belonged to and enjoyed the Ladies Club. George passed away in 1980 at the age of eighty-one and Mary is presently in the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Edmonton.

Richard married Sylvia Yatecyshyn from Gronlied, Saskatchewan in 1965. Sylvia was teaching at St. Andrew's School in Edmonton at the time. They have two sons, Brian, born in 1966 and Terry, born in 1970. Richard is employed at the Juvenile Treatment Centre as a supervisor.

Katherine married Thomas Latto in Vancouver in



George Masikewich. You could set your watch at the starting of the speeder every morning at eight o'clock.



Mary Masikewich.

1955. They had one son, Stewart. Katherine passed away in January, 1965 and Thomas in September of the same year. Stewart who was six years old at the time came to live with his grandparents, George and Mary Masikewich at Edwand, Alberta. Stewart is now a waiter in a restaurant in Edmonton.

Nickolas married Shirley Phillips who was born in Bassano, Alberta, University of Calgary graduate in 1973 and who is presently teaching in Calgary. They have three sons, James, who is presently employed by International Drilling Fluids, Glenn, who is employed by Moco Petroleum Canada Limited and Brent, who is a third year apprentice in carpentry in Calgary.

Hay Lakes as I Remember It by Nick Masikewich

— hockey games against Sulitjelma, magazines for shin pads

— Boy Scouts with Johnny Lyle as scoutmaster, the newspaper, the “Haymaker”

— boxing cards in the hall

— school fastball and hockey and the intense rivalry with New Sarepta, but we always won

— biking to the Camrose Fair

— making hay for Mr. Kreamer

— threshing for the McLeods

— collecting beer bottles after a dance

— July First Sports days

— melting lead from old batteries with the Sikstrom boys

— hunting ducks at Kiels slough, Leckelt’s Lake (Reg Berry sold Meteor shotgun shells for five cents)

— gatherings at Charlie’s Cafe and almost always being kicked out

— milk deliveries by the Smith Boys

— playing on Rusty’s Fastball teams and peddling my bike ninety miles the day of a playoff game, you bet we won

— Camrose hockey tournament, and the bottle of Whitehorse which Dad promised if we won — we did

— the curling rink (one or two sheets of ice)

— flying huge kites

— turrent cigarettes five cents

— Jack’s pool room and having to clean his chicken coop to pay off my bill

— washing cream cans and building egg crates

— the War — let’s not remember

— Hallowe’en night — enough said

— penny anti-games

— pumping and carrying water from the Hotel and the rest of those hated chores

— our first two-volt batteries for radio with Hockey Night in Canada, Jimmy Allen (B.A.)

— Marv Perkins, Pepper Young’s Family,

Charley McCarthy — who can forget those great good times?

— Thanks for the memories!

Metzker, Adolph and Emily

Adolph and Emily Metzker were married in 1929 in Poland. They came across the ocean by ship in 1930.

Metzkers lived on the Jack Schurek farm, which now belongs to Marvin Groeller. After living there for two years, they moved to Hay Lakes. Adolph had his shop just across from the Hay Lakes Hardware, which is now the warehouse for the Hay Lakes Hardware. Adolph and Emily occupied the house just north of the warehouse. Adolph was an inventor. He made windmills for pumping water, also tanks and other things. He was also a carpenter. Some of his windmills can still be seen on some of the older farms.

In 1940, they moved to Edmonton where Adolph opened a new shop. Here he invented the hay stacker which made stacking hay much easier. His first stacker was a push stacker which rolled up with a cable to lift up. It worked well but was hard to steer. Adolph kept perfecting the stacker. Later he made a



L. to R.: Adolf Metzker, Chris Hein, Fred Henkelman, Otto Metzker.

hydraulic stacker which worked very well, and later he patented it. He sold the business and moved to Vancouver where he bought a hotel. He operated the hotel until his retirement.

Adolph and Emily have four children. The first daughter, Edith was born in 1933. Edith married to Chris Windt, a housing contractor. They have two girls, Janice and Sharon.

Richard was born in 1934. He married Doreen and they have four children. Betty was born in 1939, and she married Ray Coffin. They have three children. George was born in 1946, a bachelor. He is manager of an Apartment House which he owns.



Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Metzker.

Edith, Richard and Betty were all born when Adolph and Emily lived in Hay Lakes. George was born in Edmonton. Every member of Adolph's family are all living in Vancouver.

Mittelstadt, Adolf **by Ruth Mittelstadt**

Adolf Mittelstadt was born in Hay Lakes in 1910. His father, August Mittelstadt, was one of the early

pioneer homestead farmers in the Hay Lakes district. Adolf attended Canard and New Sarepta rural schools. Lack of teachers made it difficult to keep schools open at times. At age sixteen Adolf decided to try a new venture. He went to work at a Logging Camp at Greencourt. After a time there he got quite homesick and he missed the family. Not willing to admit this he wrote to his father and said if he would want him to come home and help with the farm work he would come back to Hay Lakes. His kind father said he should come back and Adolf did not waste any time in returning. He was very glad to be back home.

After his father's death in 1930, Adolf took over the farming of the home place for several years. He was always interested in selling and retail business.

Adolf left Hay Lakes again. This time he moved to Morinville selling "Watkin's Products". After a short while he moved to Bruderheim where Mr. Larson had opened a General Store. His brother Emil was running the store for Mr. Larson and Adolf started working for him. Mr. Larson's store in Hay Lakes was sold to Mr. Cohen.

Adolf married Ruth Behrendt while in Bruderheim. He and his wife, Ruth, moved to Edmonton in 1937, and in 1939 Adolf, Ruth, and daughter Audrey moved to Haylakes and started a General Store. Adolf purchased the building he had been renting from Mr. Pithouse. Mr. Pithouse was a farmer and business man in Hay Lakes in his younger years. Reins Mittelstadt rented a small area in Adolf's building for \$4.00 a month and started a Hardware store. In 1942 Adolf bought the General Store one block west. Mr. Cohen had sold the property and business to Mr. Hughes and Adolf bought it from Mr. Hughes. Reins bought the first building which had been enlarged several times and he ran a large successful Hardware business there.

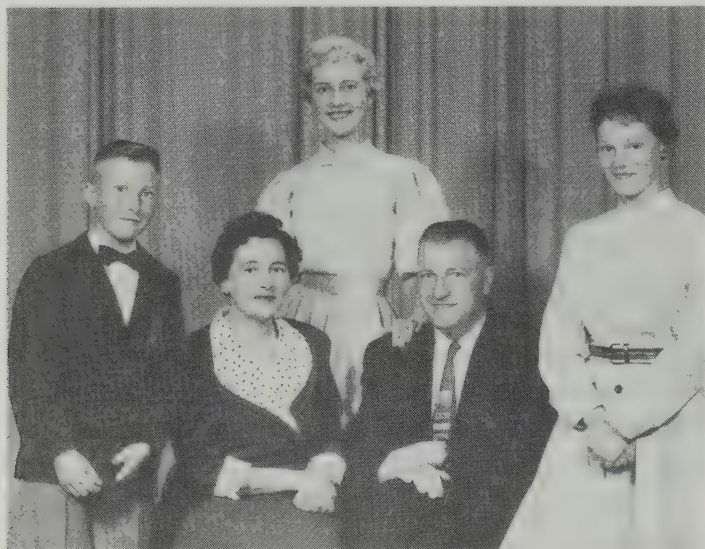
Adolph took over the store during the war years and coupons were required to buy such commodities as sugar, coffee, butter and jam. When Mr. Hughes sold the store he had left a supply of two to two and a half tons of sugar so Adolph was fortunate. The New Sarepta store had only about eight pounds on hand overnight when the coupons were issued and they had to almost make daily trips to Edmonton to get more sugar as the coupons were redeemed.

Once a month, a jam-day would be held in the store with all the jam being saved until this day. It would take about three hours to sell the supply and then it would be business as usual.

Some of the staff employed in Adolf Mittelstadt's General Store were: Henry Schaffrick, Ella (Lechelt) Halbach, Ed Fisher, two Hein girls, Annie (Tober)

Fipke, Gertie (Grams) These, Fred Wesenberg, Polly (Busenius) Henkelman and Irene Sych.

In 1946 illness forced Adolf to sell the business. He sold it to Joe Tober and Art Middlestead. Adolf and Ruth and their three children, Audrey, Shirley and Merlin lived in Hay Lakes for one more year. They moved to Edmonton on April 30, 1947. Adolf passed away in 1979. His family all reside in Edmonton.



Ruth and Adolph Mittelstadt. Children L. to R.: Merlin, Audrey, Shirley.

Ruth often said she was sad when she had to leave her nice modern home in Edmonton to make the move to Hay Lakes living in two rooms the first winter. But after living in the small town of Hay Lakes for eight years with so many kind and wonderful people, there was a closeness she would never forget. She was very sad again when they moved back to Edmonton and had to leave this nice community and town of Hay Lakes.

A few things I remember of the first years:

The first years in Hay Lakes were something to see. When it rained or during the spring thaw the gumbo soil was so sticky that children would get stuck when crossing the street, leaving their little boots behind. The mothers would go to their rescue and retrieve both children and boots.

A trip to Edmonton was cancelled if it rained or looked very threatening. A two-mile stretch of road from St. Joseph Lake to the highway which was called "The Aberhart Road" had such deep ditches and the soapy slippery surface made it impossible to assure a safe journey.

The Power Plant in town was shut down at midnight weekdays and at one a.m. on Saturdays. After that it was either gas or coal oil lamps or just retiring for the night.

One water well served quite a few homes in the town so water had to be carried quite a distance.

The old school was so cold the children wore their outer clothing and winter boots during class hours on cold winter days. The warm footwear consisted of heavy homeknit socks and rubbers with heavy felt insoles. A lot of children's rubber footwear was sold as the oiled school room floors would blister rubber soles in a couple of months.

The closest Doctor and Hospital was at Camrose about twenty-five miles from Hay Lakes.

Kiel's Hotel was the place where friends would meet for a ten-cent glass of beer and lively friendly talks.

A lot where farmers would tether their horses and wagons in the daytime was a great place for children to play in the daylight evening hours. Parents had to be real animal lovers to be able to stand the smell of the children after swinging and turning on the hitching poles for an hour. The wash tub was set up with haste and one child after the other hurried through a quick bath before bedtime.

If there was a runaway team on the way into town, the horses would turn into the lot and stop at the pole where they were used to being tied.

Mittelstadt, Arthur changed spelling of surname to MIDDLESTEAD in 1940)

I was born at home on the farm in April 1914. My sister Lydia, was two years older, but I was the oldest son of Karl Mittelstadt and Augusta Tober.

Actually there is very little I can remember of my pre-school years except that there were five of us — probably all shouting and screaming at the same time. What a burden that must have been for Mother during her thirteen months as a single parent.

I began attending school just about the time I became six years old. There is only one thing I can remember about my first teacher (Easter to June 30). I was standing in front of the blackboard and was asked to write down a "3" and a "2". Then I was told to write down the sum, but I didn't know sum. The teacher came up behind me, took hold of my ears with his hands and stomped me up and down a few times. I don't remember if it helped or not.

During my years at Canard School teachers never stayed longer than one year. In my Grade Seven year we had three — the first one stayed through the month of September. Then we had no school during October. In November we were able to get a lady teacher, the first one I had ever seen. She was married and her husband came along to live with her. She became pregnant and had to quit at Easter, so April

became another holiday month for us. Our third teacher finished out the term and then left also.

Some outstanding teachers I can remember at Canard: John Kulak — a young fellow who could really make you want to learn; H. B. Trout — the third teacher in my Grade Seven year. He was a Normal School instructor in Camrose, but he had been sick and had taken the rest of the year off. I don't think I ever knew a better teacher. Alice Perley — a small girl in her first year of teaching (all we tough boys fell in love with her . . . and behaved); Lou Grommers — he was my teacher in my Ninth Grade. Since I was the school janitor I had to sweep up after school. He told me stories of India, where he was born and spent his boyhood, stories of World War I, fighting the Turks at Gallipoli, marching into Jerusalem with General Allenby's victorious army; stories of fighting in the trenches in France, his capture by the Germans, his stay in a German prison camp where he learned to speak the German language. He stayed at Canard School for one year and went from here to Sulitjelma School where he taught for several years.

In my Grade Ten year I attended the Hay Lakes Village School where Mr. Kilpatrick taught the Grades Five to Ten, and Anne McCoy, the late Mrs. Wm. Sware, taught Grades One to Four in the building which later became Hay Lakes Hardware Store. For Grades Eleven and Twelve I had to go to school in Edmonton (Strathcona High School). These two years seemed endless — this country mouse was a very lonesome one. Later, when I attended Normal School in Edmonton, I enjoyed it more because so many of the other students were also from the country and we had more in common.

My first job (September, 1933) was as teacher of the Dahlgreen School, about six miles west of Leduc. While here I developed a skin condition (an aggravated acne type) which eventually made it impossible for me to shave. I left this school after my third year and came home to grow a beard and heal my face. It healed and I began teaching at Big Hay Lake School in September 1937.

In July 1940 I married Margaret Mallas, sister to Oscar Mallas. Margaret (Marge, I named her) was born in Saskatoon in January of 1922. In 1928 her family moved to the Sturgeon Valley district (west and north of Prince Albert) and began farming there. Her brother Oscar, came to the Hay Lakes district in the early thirties and in 1935 married my sister, Selma. They rented a farm southwest of Hay Lakes from H. C. Lechelt (now the Zenon Goclon farm) and this is where I met Marge, in 1939, when she came out to Oscar and Selma's place for the winter. By the summer of 1940 we decided we wanted to get married and did so, in July.



Art and Marge Middlestead — 1940.

That summer we left the Big Hay Lake School and moved to Crystal Springs. (Westerose P.O.) where I taught at the South Pigeon Lake School (now Lakedell School). It was there that our first daughter, Elaine, was born in 1941. We lived on the shore of "beautiful" Pigeon Lake for two years — then moved back to Hay Lakes.

Here I became principal of the two-roomed Canard School — only the higher room, where I taught Grades Seven to Eleven, was Bill Wesenberg's double garage, situated in the middle of his farmyard. (The second room for the school was built later). Mr. LeBlanc, the superintendent of Clover Bar School Division, then wanted me to take the principalship of the New Sarepta Village School. I didn't have three miles to go to school as I did at Canard. In the summers I usually worked for Eric Lofgren in Hay Lakes and in 1945 he persuaded me to quit teaching and work for him full time. We moved to Hay Lakes that summer, renting a house near the school from Nelvin Schmidt. This was the first of a half dozen houses we lived in while at Hay Lakes in the ten-year period until 1955.

In May, 1946, Joe Tober bought Adolph Mittelstadt's store (the old Red and White Store, also known as Hay Lakes Supply) and took me in as a partner. A second daughter, Joyce, was born to us in January, 1947. As of January 1, 1950, I sold our share of the store to Ed Fisher.

In 1949, my brother Reins and I started the Hay Lakes Theatre and when I left the store in 1950, I bought out my brother's share. Now I worked for Eric Lofgren again. I organized a theatre circuit (Edberg, New Norway, Ferintosh and Kingman) and

now had to run a show every week night. The theatre and circuit was quite successful until television arrived in 1954. After that we barely made expenses. The year 1954 was also a bad one for the machinery business, so Eric had to let me go. I worked that winter as a gas pump jockey and bookkeeper for Jack McEachern's Garage. By June I had made up my mind to go back to doing what I thought I could do best.

By the time we moved to my new teaching position in Carbon, near Drumheller, Elaine had completed Grade Nine and Joyce had completed Grade Two. Vern Nordin had a van and moved all our belongings down there. Here, after fifteen years of marriage, we finally lived in a modern house with all the facilities except natural gas. Naturally, the whole family enjoyed living in Carbon and we made many good friends there and in subsequent schools with whom we still keep in touch today.

I taught high school in Carbon for three years, 1955-1958, but right after the first year I found out that a teacher, no matter how effective, with only one year of training does not earn much money. You have to have a degree. To reach this goal I began attending Summer School in Edmonton in 1956 and each summer thereafter. I decided to hasten the process of earning the degree by moving close enough to Edmonton so that I could also attend night school classes at the University.

And so we moved to Fort Saskatchewan in 1958, and for several years I attended both night school and summer school classes until I obtained my Bachelor of Education degree in 1960. During our stay in Carbon, Marge had helped the family finances by working in Poxon's Store and she helped out again in the Fort by working in Hank Powell's store. It was also during this period that our older daughter, married Donald Rennich (his parents, Henry and Hilda, once operated the Cozy Cafe in Hay Lakes, and Donald was born there; Hilda was the daughter of John Leicht, a long-time resident of Hay Lakes).

However, I wanted to get into administration, so in 1961, we moved to Hussar where I had the position of Vice-Principal. The whole family (Marge, Joyce and myself) did not like the teacherage we lived in and the whole area. When in 1962, just one year later, the principal at the Fort Saskatchewan High School offered me the position of Social Studies teacher, I accepted eagerly and back we went. We couldn't find a house to rent so we had to buy one. We have the late Lorne and Inez Wensel to thank for the loan that made this possible. We held on to this house and are living in it today — in fact, having this house made it possible for me to retire five years earlier than I otherwise would have done.

But I still hadn't got administration out of my system. In 1964, we moved to Torrington (about halfway between Trochu and Olds) where I had the position of Principal. Here Joyce finished high school at the top of her class. But she also fell in love and got married there. In 1969 the high school grades were taken out of Torrington. I could have stayed on as principal but by this time I had had quite enough of administration, so I joined the Trochu High School staff as head of business education. Much as I appreciated and enjoyed the position I held at Trochu, the strain had begun to tell on me. In the late winter of 1974 I was compelled to go to the hospital with an ulcer condition. I stayed there for thirty days — and enjoyed it! This convinced me it was about time I left the classroom. Marge and I decided it was time for me to retire. So in October, 1974, we moved back to Fort Saskatchewan to the house we had bought twelve years before and that is where we live now.

Today we live a tranquil life. We love camping in provincial parks and in wilderness areas, where we play cards when we have friends with us, or horse-shoes (Marge has become a real whiz at this game). We now do most of our visiting by trailering around from one place to another all summer long.



1980 — The Arthur Middlestead Family: Elaine, Marge, Art, Joyce.

The Offspring:

Elaine, born 1941, married February 1960 to Don Rennich (Tru-Form Mfg. & Tru-Form Sales, of Edmonton); living on an acreage S.E. of Sherwood Park.

Their children: Perry — born October 1960; Edmonton; married April '80

Timothy — born Dec. 1962; still at home (mostly)

Brent — born Feb. 1968 enjoying himself on acreage

Tannis — born Sept. 1969; really enjoys country living.

Joyce, born January 1947; married Dec. 1965 to Ronald Scheurer (Yamaha Sports Centre in Red Deer).

Their children: Rhonda — born November 1966
Joelle — born April 1969

Mittelstadt, Reinhold and Irna

(Prepared by his brother Art and son Gerry)

Reins, as everybody called him, was born on September 13, 1916, so he was not quite two and a half years old at his father's death. There is nothing we really know to tell about his pre-school and early school years. Reins did not care very much for school, but he was popular and loved sports. As a young man he played on the Maroons Softball team.

One Sunday when he was around thirteen years of age, he went out shooting with his best friend and neighbor, Rudy Schultz. While climbing through a barbed wire fence, he must have handled his rifle, a .22 calibre, carelessly. The rifle accidentally discharged and ostensibly grazed the side under his left arm, leaving a deep gouge. (I mention this incident because it had unpleasant, lasting effects on him.) He was afraid to tell his stepfather about this because he was afraid of severe reprimands, and he couldn't tell Mother because he didn't want to put her in the position of having to defend him. After about a week of suffering, he finally showed it to me. Although it looked terrible, he had kept it clean and had applied antiseptics and salves. We were both relieved that it was healing cleanly and were grateful that it had not been more serious.

However, after this accident Reins suffered many attacks of pains and nervousness. He began going to the doctors and time and again they told him they could really find nothing wrong with him. It must have been at least fifteen years later when a doctor who had X-rayed him saw he had a bullet lodged inside his chest. The doctor operated and removed the bullet, but Reins never really recovered from the nervous condition that had plagued him for so long.

At an early age Reins showed real musical talent. At ten he joined the Church Band, but that was only the beginning of his varied musical experiences. There was a violin and a piano in the house. In no time he played both and played them well. When Dad brought home a set of drums, he became a drummer. When he had the loan of a clarinet, he learned to play that. In 1937 he was able to buy an accordion that was not only of excellent quality, but was also beautifully crafted. (In 1940 Gaby Haas spent some time in Hay Lakes and fell so in love with it he finally persuaded Reins to trade it for his and some cash.)

In early 1936 he went with Dave McCoy to Victoria where Dave visited his uncle, Art McCoy. In

Victoria he found some work and was able to stay on for a while. For some time he played the piano on a radio station — a request program. There were amateur programs staged on the Showboat (a stage on the water on the Inner Harbor in front of the Legislative Buildings) and he won a prize there.

But these were the "Dirty Thirties." There was nothing lasting or secure in the line of jobs, so Reins came back to Hay Lakes. At this time Irna Graunke was the teacher at the Canard School. Reins was by nature a shy young fellow, but since at this time Irna was boarding at the August Rose place, they soon got interested in each other and in time got married (July 1940).

Even before their marriage Irna had already, in the spring of 1940, helped Reins put a small stock of hardware in a corner (about 60 square feet) of Adolph Mittelstadt's store. After their marriage she continued teaching while Reins began building up his hardware business. It prospered and in 1943 they were able to buy the whole building from Adolph and they now moved into the living quarters above the store where they lived until they built their house in 1955. In July of 1945 their son, Gerald, was born.



Reinhold Mittelstadt Family: Reinhold, Irna and Gerry 1946.

The store was Reinhold's life. His guiding principle was "service" and people responded to that. I don't think any community was ever better served by a hardware store. For many years he employed only one man — Dan Schweitzer. Dan was completely reliable and completely loyal to Reins. He worked in the store as long as age would let him. Reins was fortunate in being able to hire other good employees. Robert Tober worked with him for many years and was still with him at the time of his death. Robert still works in the same store on a part-time basis for the new owner, Larry Piersdorff. For a time Bill Yoner and George Roper also work for him. Then Harold Leicht became his second assistant (Robert was always first). Lawrence Harke worked for him in special areas — plumbing, heating, etc. Ed Schacht and Paul Bittner did electric wiring. I think Pete Galenza also did some plumbing work for him. I hope I haven't missed anyone. I don't believe that any other person could have accomplished what Reins did with the store he started as a "pup" in 1940.

However, Reinhold's story does not lie only with the hardware store. His impact on the community was much farther-reaching. Musician as he was (although he had never had a formal lesson in his life), he bestowed this talent on the community — first as a director of church choirs, in St. Stephen's out west, and later in Our Saviour's in Hay Lakes village, and also as Community Band leader. He began the Community Band in 1955 with eight pieces. Through teaching youngsters (and others) to play and encouraging former band musicians to revive their talents, he had a very good band of close to thirty pieces in a relatively short time. My personal view has always been that it was too bad that the Camrose County Band insisted on absorbing the Hay Lakes Band. Too many, including Reins, lost interest in it after that.

On a less community-inspired scale — Reins was an outstanding dance band musician. On the piano he had a heavy bass and a wide reach with his right hand. With his natural sense of rhythm he could really make that piano communicate. But the accordion was his greatest love. Most of us who never played in a group with him found it easy to play when he was there. We played for next to nothing in the '30's but who cared? We enjoyed the experience. Over the years some of the people who played with him were: myself (Art), sister Martha, Otto Mallas (banjo), George Roper (guitar), Ervin Lechelt (guitar), Norman Welda (drums), Leo Werner (violin), Lawrence Sagert (trumpet), Martha Nordin (piano) and his son Gerry (guitar and bass).

Gerry also followed in his father's footsteps as far as music was concerned. Besides taking piano lessons when he was young, his father endeavoured to



L. to R.: George Roper, Martha Nordin, Reins Mittelstadt.

teach him to play the slide trombone. But alas, Gerry's arm could not stretch far enough to reach the lower notes, so he had to settle for playing the trumpet. The switch turned out to be a blessing, for Gerry, along with Gilbert Schultz, placed second overall in the northern Alberta Search for Talent finals in 1956. Music remained an integral part of Gerry's life as he later joined a dance band (Commanchero) and played various instruments including the guitar, piano and trumpet.

Gerry Mittelstadt took all his public school education in the Hay Lakes School and then attended Camrose College for one year. After this he attended the University of Alberta in Edmonton, having enrolled in the Faculty of Education, until he obtained the degree of Bachelor of Education. Since graduation he has been teaching in the Edmonton Public School System. He married Charlotte Geiger in 1972 and they now have two sons, Kelly Reinhold and Christopher Leonard. They now live in Sherwood Park. Gerry is a popular member of the Rollyview Fastball Team, and is an accomplished curler. He loved to play in the Hay Lakes Curling Club open bonspiel.

Reins was a lost soul when Gerry left home, but not for too long. In 1967 Helen (Henschel) McLaughlin and her daughter, Hollis, came to live with him. They came to enjoy taking out their trailer to go camping. Marge and I often joined them with our trailer. We played horseshoes, lawn darts, cards and loafed. I don't think Reins ever lasted two weeks out in the bush. The store pulled him home.

He was looking forward to retirement and had actually concluded the deal to sell the store at noon of the day of his sudden death. While upon the roof of his house, fixing the T.V. antenna, he suddenly collapsed and died almost instantly.

Irna by Gerry

Irna was born Irna Agnes Graunke on March 28,

1913. She received her early education at the Mill Creek School located in the Ellerslie District. It was at this time that one of her early teachers took a special interest in her and she became very involved in her own education.

It also became apparent, then, that her health was not that of a normal youngster. It is not known whether she was born with a heart condition or suffered rheumatic fever as a child, but she didn't participate in rough and tumble activities typical of children her own age.

Later she was confirmed into the Lutheran Church at Ellerslie and took an active part in the social and spiritual activities involving the young members of the church.

She then attended Strathcona High School and Alberta College in Edmonton. She finally graduated with a teaching certificate from the Provincial Normal School on the University of Alberta campus in the spring of 1932.

In the fall of that same year she acquired her first teaching job at a small one-room school southwest of Leduc called West Union. It was at this time that she received her "baptism of fire" so to speak into the teaching profession and almost suffered a nervous breakdown.

In 1934 she found her way to the Canard school west of Hay Lakes. Here circumstances became much more pleasant for her. During the first year she roomed at the Fred Wesenberg home but later moved to the August Rost home north of the school. Some very happy and memorable times were spent with the Mittelstadt and Rost family. Later when Reinhold Mittelstadt returned to the family, home from Victoria, a romance began which culminated in marriage on July 15, 1940.

Even though Reins began his hardware business in 1940, Irna continued to teach at Canard until 1942. It was a good thing too, because the business certainly didn't flourish in the early days and they depended heavily on Irna's meager teaching salary.

It was at this time that Irna showed her true mettle. It is said that she was a much better carpenter than Reins when it came to building shelves for the store out of old scrap lumber. She was also an accomplished driver who navigated the muddy roads between Hay Lakes and Canard with the skill and daring of a race driver.

Finally in 1943 she transferred to the Hay Lakes School where she taught for two years until the birth of her son, Gerry, on July 9, 1945. After his birth the poor condition of her heart became more apparent. It didn't seem to slow her down though. She was a very active member of the Circle S club and was its treasurer for many years. She also served as president

and secretary of the women's group of St. Luke's church in Hay Lakes. Additionally, she acted as superintendent of the Sunday School and taught as well.

Irna had many hobbies such as sewing and crocheting, but most of her time was reserved for her son Gerry. She spent many, many Saturday mornings driving him to music lessons in Camrose. She also encouraged him to participate in active sports such as baseball and hockey. Although her health was failing, you could always find her warming herself by a stove in a hockey rink where Gerry was playing.

Finally in the late 1950's her health became so poor that she spent much of her time in Edmonton. Many times she stayed in the basement suite of Adolf Mittelstadt, or was confined to the University Hospital. Through all this frustration she retained her happy and enthusiastic personality.

Irna passed away on April 23, 1960 and was sorrowfully missed by her family and the community.

Graunke, Emilia (1880-1957) **Lived in Hay Lakes from 1941-1957** **prepared by Gerry Mittelstadt.**

Mrs. Graunke was born Emilia Sommers on January 13, 1880. Her family had emigrated from Germany to Russia where she spent her early childhood.

In 1891 her family emigrated to Canada and settled in southern Manitoba. Their stay was short-lived though, and a move to the Leduc area occurred the following year.

A short time later Emilia found a job in Edmonton where she met Herman Graunke. Herman had been born in Germany and emigrated to Brazil with his family when he was twelve years old. At seventeen he left Brazil and moved to Minnesota. He eventually settled in the Edmonton area and married Emilia at Stony Plain in 1896. They then settled down to farming in the Ellerslie area (now Mill Woods). Their marriage produced five children: Charlie (Karl) (1898-), Albert (1900-1902), William (1903-), Elsie (1905-) and Irna (1913-1960).

Shortly after the death of her husband, Herman, on May 22, 1940, Emilia came to Hay Lakes to live with her daughter, Irna, and son-in-law Reinhold Mittelstadt. In 1952 Emilia moved to her own small house — close to where Reins later built his home in 1955.

Emilia enjoyed a variety of activities. She was noted as a great cook and often sewed clothing for her daughter and grandson, Gerry. She also could often

be found fussing about in her garden or entertaining young Gerry.

Emilia remained in her home in Hay Lakes until her death in 1957.

Mitro, John

Mitro, John's father, Stephen Mitro, arrived in Canada from Hungary in 1906. He was joined by his wife, Veronika, and family of three, Alex, Mary and Steve, in 1910 at Calgary. An older daughter, Elizabeth, went to the United States two years earlier.

In 1912, the family moved to a homestead south of Coronation where John was born in 1914. They moved to a farm west of Bentley in 1923. Stephen Mitro passed away in 1933 and John and his mother continued to farm until 1943 when John enlisted in the Army — the 31st Reconnaissance Regiment. He went overseas in 1944 and served in Western Europe. He met his wife, Dorothy Carey, in London, England. She served with the Women's Royal Air Force for three years. They were married at Godolming, Surrey, England in June, 1945. Two daughters, Carol and Jean, were born in England.

John returned to Canada in November, 1946, and went back to farming at Bentley. His wife and two daughters arrived in January, 1947. John did not have much success at farming so sold out and went to work on a cattle ranch in Blackfalds for three years. The next move took them to Dodds, Alberta where John worked in a coal mine for three years. Then they moved to Camrose and John worked at the Ness Dairy Farm. John joined the Canadian National Railways in 1957 and remained with this work until his retirement after twenty-one years of service. They moved to Hay Lakes in 1968 and continue to enjoy life here.



John Mitro Family. L. to R., Back: Gordon, Irene, Carol, Jean, Gary. Front: John, Dorothy, Valerie.

Dorothy and John raised six children: Carol and Jean; twin sons, Gordon and Gary, born at Bentley in 1947; Irene, born at Blackfalds in 1950, and Valerie, born at Kelsey in 1958. They have twenty grandchildren. Valerie graduated from Hay Lakes High School in 1976 and is presently employed in Edmonton.

John's mother passed away in 1961 at the age of ninety-one years.

Molden, Bill and Nelda

William Molden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Molden was born in August, 1910, in Dauphin, Manitoba. He moved with his family to Rocky Mountain House where he grew up and went to school. In 1928, he attended Barber School in Edmonton and took this trade with him wherever he went.

In 1930, he started work for the Canadian Pacific Railroad and remained with them until 1944, when he started buying grain for the United Grain Growers.

In 1937, Bill married Nelda Raisler of Compeer, Alberta, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Raisler. They made their home in Fusilier, Sask.



Bill and Nelda Molden, sons Kenneth and Bryan.

While with the United Grain Growers, Bill worked in Kerriemuir, Alterio and Lamerton before coming to Hay Lakes in 1949, where he bought grain for over thirty years.

Both Bill and Nelda were very active in community affairs and Bill was especially interested in getting the young people started in curling, always having a youngster or two on his team. He was caretaker of the curling rink for many years. Nelda was a good homemaker and very interested in hand-crafts of any kind.

Bill and Nelda have two sons, Kenneth William, born on May 16, 1942 and Bryan Richard, born on January 12, 1946. Both Ken and Bryan attended public school in Hay Lakes. Ken went on to Camrose Lutheran College and Bryan attended McTavish Business College in Edmonton. Ken is employed with the Federal Government in Edmonton. He married Faye Seymore and they have two boys. They live in Sherwood Park.

Bryan is employed as purchasing agent for the Education and Municipal County of Strathcona. He married Gloria Romanchuck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Romanchuck of St. Paul. They make their home in Sherwood Park.

Bill and Nelda sold their home here in Hay Lakes in November, 1980 to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edward and moved to their new home in Sherwood Park. They have retired and both enjoy good health.

History of Hay Lakes

Byron G. Moore

Hay Lakes! What a tremendous town! What unmatched community spirit. I cannot consider myself an old-timer or a pioneer as far as this history is concerned, but from January 4, 1954 until the spring of 1959, the Hay Lakes Canadian National Railroad station was our home, and the memories of close friends and good times will remain with us forever . . .

The first thing that comes to mind about Hay Lakes was the road system leading into town. No blacktop highway brought vehicles right to the town limits; instead, country roads always seemed to end up as dead-end trails into some oil well or battery. My relatives always claimed that they could see the town from every angle, but always had problems actually finding the right access. To complicate matters, folks leaving our place always took a wrong turn out of town, ending up in Bittern Lake or some such point, instead of going north.

The first day on the job, I met four agreeable individuals who manned the grain elevators across the tracks from the station — Basil Lind, Alberta Wheat Pool; Eli Vershagen, Searle Grain, Bill Mold-

en, the United Grain Growers, and Albert (Curly) Proudlove, the Alberta Pacific Grain. Fortunately, all of these crib players could watch their premises from the station, and I just wish that I had a dollar for every game played across the old wicket. It was interesting to hear that the week we moved to Whitecourt, some Canadian National official noted a lonely relief agent playing cards and immediately sent back a nasty note suggesting “no repetition of this type of action”. Ha!

From a Canadian National viewpoint, Hay Lakes was always considered a great place to work. The location was top-notch — business was good — the living quarters, while only a fourth class station, were comfortable.

Many agents worked in Hay Lakes through the years — names like Windy Donaldson, Tommy Sutherland, Earle Henderson, and Tony Steward came to mind. From the time the first agent moved into the town, the railroad played a vital part in the life of the Hay Lakes community.

Grain, livestock and hogs moved in a steady stream — with lumber, machinery, poles, oil-pipe and equipment being spotted regularly. Express encompassed everything from baby chicks to Christmas parcels, live bees, cream, butter, groceries, machine repairs, Eaton’s and Simpson’s parcels and merchandise of all kinds. With few trucks operating on unreliable roads, the railroad handled all goods into and out of town. And who could forget the postmaster, Norm Ogilvie with his two-wheeled cart, as he wheeled the mail back and forth in the years when mail service and delivery were top-notch and strikes in the postal service were unheard of.

The railroad through the years was also a communications’ centre as the old telegraph key with its clacking dots and dashes carried all the telegrams right to the time the station was closed in the early 1970’s.

Of interest to all Morse Code fans was the fact that shortly after the turn of the century, a telegraph line was strung across the prairies and at one time its most westerly station was a small building on the Blackfoot Trail only a short distance from the future townsite of Hay Lakes. At the present time, no trace of this old station remains.

In 1955, I was sitting in the old Hay Lakes Hotel Café having dinner when a sudden commotion resulted from smoke drifting through the building. Despite all efforts by Volunteer groups, the hotel burned to the ground and only the hard work of nearly everyone in town prevented the flames from spreading. I can remember well working with others on top of the old Hay Lakes Meat Market dumping pails of water on the hot spots as burning debris floated down from the swirling flames nearby.

In 1956, my holidays coincided with my plans to

marry Claudia Yuzwak from Mundare, but unfortunately, the honeymoon had to be delayed. The regular relief agent scheduled to come to Hay Lakes was called to Holden where the agent at that point suffered a sudden illness. The wedding went off in Edmonton on Friday evening and at eight o'clock on Saturday morning, I opened the station for business as usual. Claudia was welcomed to the community with a well-planned surprise party a few days after her arrival and I am certain that the warmth and friendliness of all whom she met, more than made up for the delayed honeymoon.



Claudia Moore and son John 1959.

Claudia would likely recall the first week there when the Canadian National "extra gang" lost a man from the top of a car as the "extra gang" was en route to Looma to a derailment. I had been called out and had to stay away a couple of days — the poor Portuguese chap was killed so the crew just stretched him out in the freight shed and left him for the undertaker to come the next day. Claudia stood it for an hour or so then gave in and fled to Smiths to spend the night.

Hay Lakes years were never dull; always something was going on. And we were privileged to be part of the action.

What a great bunch of ball players we had. What great rivalry in hockey games on the old outdoor natural ice arena; and, of course, curling became a way of life from the first cold spell in the fall until springtime.

Well I recall one fine summer day when the

Millet Junior Baseball Club contacted us to request a practice game as they were making a bid for the provincial playoffs. Everyone took a dim view of the term "practice game" as though we were a bush league team so we made plans well in advance. Every day I had young Bill Sware come down to the station platform where a pitching square of string was hung from the Semaphore Tower. Bill had tremendous potential as a pitcher and I often wished that he could have had the coaching to progress along the baseball trail. But he needed to be really worked to be sharp, and sharp he was as he mowed down the Millet batters one after the other. Meanwhile, team regulars like Scotty Jack, Ernie Wahl, Willie Rost, Ken and Art Forsen, Rudy Fuernkranz and others had a hitting field day. Funny thing — Millet never did invite us back!

Hay Lakes had a nucleus of two good baseball teams and, for quite a number of years, the Juniors competed with such dedicated old timers as George Roper, Carl, Rudy and Vern Nordin, Walter Bittner, Elmer Grams, Art Rost and many others that I should recall.

From the ball diamond, most of the same teams moved on to the hockey arena. My scrapbook still carries the Camrose paper accounts of the Hay Lakes team winning the District Hockey Tournament in March, 1957, and again in 1958. We never seemed to need a coach as the boys all worked together in tremendous team fashion. One cold night in Calmar we were playing one of our toughest opposition with whom we had carried on a running feud. Through the first two periods, I kept insisting, "Now remember — No fighting". But after two periods, we were down 4-0. Guess who ended up in the penalty box following a brawl at the start of the third period? However, the boys seemed to catch fire and won a hard fought game 5-4. Never was I allowed to live that one down. All the way home and many times since, we heard those famous words — "Remember — No fighting".

Now the curling rink was a place where one could curl, visit, drink gallons of coffee and socialize during the whole winter. When I was in school at my home town of Delia, no one my age was allowed near a curling rink so it has always pleased me to see nearly every member of the family throwing rocks up and down the ice at Hay Lakes.

Being gregarious by nature, I often kibitze during a curling game and I still recall the night we were curling against the Sware rink. A great bunch of curlers was led by William, Senior, who even curled a whole year left-handed when his right hand was injured. When we finally got ahead in the game, my chatter must have irked as I heard Patsy remark,

“Some people could curl better if some other people did not make so much noise on the ice”. (And you know, SHE WAS RIGHT!) Actually, around our station we curled all summer as well, as “Bullet Bill” Molden would replay (and replay) those close ones during ten o’clock coffee.

There were many fine curlers in Hay Lakes and I can recall driving to Camrose during their ’spiel to support Oscar Grahn, Carl Nordin, Bill Molden and Scotty Jack as they won their event in real tough competition.

The Royal Canadian Legion played a prominent role in the town affairs while we lived in Hay Lakes. For years, a two-day carnival complete with entertainment, Queen pageant and dances, highlighted each year’s activities. The Legion also supported Sports’ teams, held annual bean-supper for the Scouts, and paraded for Armistice Day. This was the first legion that I had an opportunity of joining (since I moved around so often) and membership was a most rewarding experience. The recipe for the bean-supper was a closely guarded secret — but they were simply great!!

Claudia joined the Circle S. What can I say about this organization that has not already been said? With members of every ethnic background, various denominations, and all ages, the Circle S through the years we were in town, led the way in service work, helping the needy, carrying out many a canvass for funds, putting on plays and bazaars, and through them all, the ladies managed to have many thoroughly enjoyable evenings.

I used to go hunting where ducks and geese were plentiful around Big and Little Hay Lakes. Of course, I never seemed to match the dozens of birds brought home by local nimrods — Oscar Grahn, Mauritz Aspell and Ed Schlender.

On a bus tour to California a few years ago, I heard Jack McLeod relating a story of a noted stock buyer in Hay Lakes (who shall remain nameless). Jack, when a boy in Hay Lakes, used to roam to the stock yards along with a number of oldtimers to take in the days’ loading of livestock. The way Jack tells it — the weather was bitter cold, the train was late, and when loading finally did commence, a couple of pigs on the bottom of the pile in the shelter had smothered. Not to be shortchanged, this nameless stock buyer and his helper grabbed each pig by an ear and a leg and with the odd kick along the way to make it look authentic, hoisted the dead animals into the car!

Just as they were preparing to close the car door, an old-timer leaning over the fence removed his pipe and called out in a thin but piercing voice, “Say-y-y, How come you loaded them dead pigs?”

The Hay Lakes band was just getting started

when we left Hay Lakes — but for years after we pointed with pride to the accomplishments of the young and old musicians led by Reins Mittelstadt. What a character was Mittelstadt — a gentleman, an avid booster of his community and a real friend to all.

How could a history of Hay Lakes be written without mentioning the great Alberta Fiftieth Birthday Party in 1955. Not a community that size in Alberta could match that outstanding day of celebration.

Nearly everyone in town was entered in the parade. A rocket to the moon (Hay Lakes Hotel); beautiful grain elevator models built on car tops; a huge old steam engine bearing the name Movold and Pearson; an exact replica of a beautiful country church; a creamery float completed with cow, milking machines, churns and personnel; a beautiful one-hoss shay pulled by a smartly groomed white horse; a Sports’ float featuring Gus Wahl’s boxcars, the ball and hockey players; colorfully dressed riders; the flag bedecked Legion float; even my Canadian National telegraph float with an Indian sending Morse Code in smoke signals! Church organizations, ladies groups, old-time fiddlers, all were represented. The day featured ball games with old timers like Mr. Roper displaying mid-season form. Displays, a program of ethnic singing, and a great dance rounded out one of the finest days in the Hay Lakes history.

I think any history of Hay Lakes during this period would not be complete without mentioning one individual who played a vital role in so many groups in Hay Lakes, Anne Sware — teacher, mother, organizer supreme. She was the listener for the confused, the word of advice to the faltering, the staunch supporter of not only her own family but every person in the community. I know the town must have missed her when she and Bill moved to Drayton Valley.

The oil and service people left quite an imprint on the community — folks like the McEacherns, the Lockwoods, the Bowtells, Geo and Olga Grieve, Lorne and Gerry Drynnan, Grant and Doris Skippen, all found themselves quickly drawn into the community.

For ourselves, Claudia and I will never forget the night we arrived home with our chosen son, John, ten days old. Vern Nordin, awaiting the arrival of the passenger train, simply shook his head when he saw all the blankets on one small infant in the June heat. Soon Doris, Rosemary Jack, Marg Smith and many others came to see the new arrival and never was one small infant so royally welcomed to his new home. Since leaving Hay Lakes we have added three more children to our family. They are Melody, Robert and Tracy.

Yes — the memories flood in when we take time to reminisce. Ernie Wahl riding a real live smelly goat at his stag party, the entire junior ball game piling into an old-time convertible and wheeling around town in style, a soap-box derby on a flat field with pushers and riders changing places every lap, great talent shows in the old community hall — these are some remembrances. Claudia and I are just as involved in our present community of Vermilion but Hay Lakes will always be a part of our lives.

Moser, Norman

by Lydia Moser

We are not old timers of the Hay Lakes area, however we did contribute fourteen and one-half years of our lives to the community.

Norman and I moved to Hay Lakes from Calmar in October 1961, to an acreage just south of town. The house belonged to Ewalt Miller. The community needed a barber very badly and we decided that we would make Hay Lakes our home. Our decision became easy, because Norman's brother Camille and his family lived there as well.

We lived in the E. Miller house for about one year. There wasn't any indoor plumbing, and the house was very cold in winter.

We then moved into the Vern Nordin house in town. We weren't even settled when the house burned down. At this time I was away helping our oldest daughter, Yvonne and her family, move to Swan Hills. We heard the news of the fire on the car radio somewhere north of Edmonton when they were taking me back home. The towns people were just wonderful. They saved almost everything out of the house. The community spirit will never be forgotten. We stayed at Norman's brother's place for about five days after that until the Jim Selin house became vacant. We then moved into that house until we left Hay Lakes on June 1st, 1976.

Norman started barbering in Jim Jim's building and later on he moved his shop into the Pool Room which was owned by Carl Stalmaker. The Pool Room was then bought from Mr. Stalmaker by my brother Art Holtz in 1963 or '64. Art ran the business for about one year and then we bought it from him. The total package consisted of Pool Room, house and two lots. Norman and I were really busy from then on. Norman had the barber shop and I looked after the pool room and concession area. We had a very good business. By this time Norman had really built up his occupation and the young people kept me busy from early morn until late at night. We kept up this steady pace for five years until I had a very serious operation. I was admitted to the Camrose hospital from July 8 to Sept. 16, 1970.

Norman tried to carry on with both businesses but found it very difficult. We finally closed down the pool room shortly after I entered hospital.

It was sad for all concerned. We missed the young people and they in turn had no place to gather and spend their time.

We made a lot of friends in Hay Lakes, and life was very good to us. We usually left on week-ends to visit our daughters Yvonne and Eileen and their families, when they lived in Cynthia, Eckville and Swan Hills.



Lydia and Norman.

Norman became very ill in February of 1976, when he had a heart attack. Then our children made immediate plans to have us move to Caroline where we could all be close together. We bought a house in the Village and moved there on June 1st, 1976. We sold our property to the Hay Lakes recreation board for a Drop-In Center.

Before we left, the Hay Lakes community made a farewell party for us, and gave us their warmest wishes for a long and happy life in Caroline.

Presently it is almost five years since we've moved here. We are both enjoying very good health and keeping busy with the children and grand-children as grandparents always do. We are presently preparing for two weddings in June of this year. Yvonne's oldest daughter Jo-Ann, and Eileen's oldest daughter Janet.

Mund, Rusty (William F.)

by J. E. Lyle

Everyone knew him as "Rusty" because of his great thatch of thick dark auburn hair which he kept combed straight back in a pompadour. Few people in

Hay Lakes knew his real name which was William Frank Mund. Not that he tried to hide his identity, it was just one of those things about him that he was happy to go by the nickname of "Rusty".

Rusty Mund was born in the State of Washington somewhere near Seattle around the turn of the century. He was a pioneer of the Peace River Country long before he came to Hay Lakes to buy grain. As a lad, in his teens, he came with his family to homestead in the Grande Prairie area and travelled from Edmonton by team and wagon over the old "Edson Trail" to get there. The Edson Trail was notorious for its axel-deep mud, rough corduroy over muskegs, the large swift rivers to be crossed, the swarms of mosquitoes, the pesky black flies, the vicious deer flies and the large number of horses that died while trying to make the journey in summertime. Rusty never forgot the suffering and hardship of that trip but was enchanted and fascinated forever by the beautiful Grande Prairie country once it was reached.



Rusty Mund 1970.

As a young man Rusty "went out working". At various times he worked on farms, on land surveyor's crews and as a freighter over the Edson Trail. In those days, before the advent of railroads in the Peace River country, most freighting was done by horse and sleigh in wintertime when travellers along the Edson Trail had to contend only with stormy weather, deep snow and intense cold such as fifty degrees below zero Fahrenheit. It was during those unsettled and impressionable years that Rusty developed an easy-going outlook on life, his kindly helpfulness and friendly sense of humour. Later on Rusty took up a homestead of his own, thought to have been near Wanham, and there made his home. As grain elevators were erected in the towns along the recently built railways of the Peace River country, Rusty became interested in the grain business and eventually became a grain buyer there. Towards the end of the 1920's Rusty was transferred to Kingman as an "elevator man". There he became manager of the Kingman baseball team. In the early days of the "dirty thirties," Rusty Mund came to Hay Lakes to buy grain for the United Grain Growers. This he did for ten years or so, living all the while in the office of United Grain Growers elevators alone and suffering considerably from arthritis. Once a day he came across the railroad tracks to the Hay Lakes Hotel for a hot meal. During times of sickness, Rusty was cared for by his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel, who took it upon themselves to watch out for him. Towards the end of World War II, Rusty returned to the Peace River Country to buy grain for the United Grain Growers at Eaglesham and then finally at Wanham.

Rusty retired from Wanham at age sixty-five to The Pioneer Lodge in the City of Grande Prairie where he spent his twilight years. Several of his friends from Hay Lakes visited Rusty in the Lodge and these he was delighted to receive and exchange news of mutual acquaintances. Rusty Mund passed away on November 18, 1976 and was buried in the Grande Prairie Cemetery in the land he loved above all other.

Rusty suffered many years from arthritis though he rarely complained and never felt sorry for himself. He was a confirmed bachelor, never having married, a sincere friend appreciative of anything done for him, and a generous helpful neighbour. He was not able to participate actively in athletic sports due to his illness but he was an enthusiastic spectator and supporter of the Hay Lakes baseball and hockey teams. Everybody in Hay Lakes knew Rusty Mund and liked him.

Murphy, Dennis and Family

Dennis was born and raised near Bawlf where he

began his teaching career in 1954. Myrtle Ruthven was born at Lacombe, Alberta, attended school at Botha, and completed High School at Bawlf. Dennis and Myrtle were married in 1956 and settled at Bawlf, where their first son, Gregory, was born.

One year later Dennis was appointed vice-principal of the Hay Lakes school. During the six years we resided there our family grew to include three daughters, Colleen, Shannon and Lorraine, and two more sons, Michael and Daniel. Besides teaching and administrative duties, Dennis became active in the curling club and the hockey program. Myrtle was also involved in the curling club and Circle "S" Club, serving as their secretary for one term. Many fond memories are still with us of the good times we had and the friends we made in this community.

In 1963, Dennis accepted the position of principal of Ponoka Roman Catholic school. Here we spent the next five years and added one son to our family, Grant, born in 1965. After many years of evening classes and summer school, Dennis obtained his Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Alberta in 1966.

In 1968 we made the "big move" to the city of Calgary. Here our children have received their education in the Separate School system and have continued into chosen fields of work.



L. to R., Back Row: Brian, Greg, Lorlea, Michael, Grant, Colleen, David, Daniel. Seated: Lorraine, Dennis, Myrtle, Shannon.

Gregory married Lorlea Doyle in 1977, Colleen married David Schnell in 1978, and Lorraine plans to be married in 1982. They all reside in Calgary except Daniel who lives in Edmonton.

Dennis's teaching career has continued with the Calgary Separate School Board.

Nomeland, Einar

Einar Torjusson Nomeland was born October 15, 1906 in Valle, Norway. He came to the Dinant district in 1928 where he visited with his uncle, Sam Olson. Shortly after he came to Sam Olson's he got a farm

job at Olaus Olson's, being just a few miles north of Dinant. Sam and Olaus were not related at all.

In April 1942, Einar decided to join the Royal Canadian Engineers where he repaired shoes and did carpentry work as a trade.

After the war was over, he went back to Norway in 1945, visiting his family for the first time since 1928. He then came back to Olson's to work again — but decided to try working as a section man on the Canadian National Railroad at Dinant in February, 1946. Later he transferred to Hay Lakes, working there until he retired in 1970.



Einar Nomeland 1928.

Einar made three trips to Valle, Norway and Olso, Norway after he retired.

Einar was a member of the Hay Lakes Branch of the Canadian Legion. He was a friendly, quiet man who enjoyed wood carving as a hobby, loved violin music, and read good books.

In September, 1978, he became very ill. He was in St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose and then was brought to the University Hospital in Edmonton, where he passed away on December 29, 1978.

Nordin, Carl and Martha

I, Carl, was born on November 19, 1915, the son of Erik and Sigrid Nordin. Most of the families in our area were large and ours was no exception as I was the second youngest in a family of seven boys and one girl.

In 1918 my parents began building a modern new home. It was wired for electricity even though we did not have power until 1928 when Dad bought a Delco

light plant. I guess I was interested in carpentry even at that early age since I can remember the carpenter, Ole Olafson, booting me out of the house because I was forever in his way by trying to help or else taking his tools.

In 1921 I joined my brothers on the daily trek to the Sulitjelma school where my first teacher was Oleana Hendrickson. I remember an incident that happened a few years later. I was so interested in a story I was reading that I unknowingly began reading aloud. I disrupted the entire classroom so for punishment I had to go and sit with a girl who happened to be Annie Abritschkovitsch. In those days that was the ultimate punishment for a boy to have to sit in the same desk with a girl. How times have changed! Our grade eleven class consisted of six girls and myself. One day the girls were in a hurry to go to a party and wanted to leave early so they coaxed me into turning the hands of the clock ahead. I accidentally moved the clock and, as a result, it stopped and Mr. Gromers immediately knew it had been tampered with. He asked who was guilty and all six heads turned and looked at me. Consequently, I spent a few extra hours in my desk after school.

How well I remember my first trip to Edmonton with Dad in 1925 in our Model-T Ford. We shopped at Sheldons in North Edmonton and how proud we three boys were with our new moccasins and red mackinaws! The Highlight of that trip, however, was eating at the American Dairy Lunch. We were fascinated by the goldfish in the large waterfall fountain and the many gargoyles on pillars in the restaurant.

On our way home from school one day in December, 1929, we met Elida and Oscar Grahn. He was driving his Model-T Ford which he had modified so that the wheels would fit the sleigh tracks. We asked Elida where she was going and she told us she was going to change her name. That was the first we knew that they were getting married. Now mother had lost her helper which meant that we boys had to help. Our parents spent the winter months of 1927, 1928 and 1929 in Vancouver so we had to batch. There was no problem with the outside chores but none of us wanted to do the cooking and housework.

After completing my High school I helped on the farm for a few years and then went to work for Ole Olafson and also Henry Danielson by doing carpentry. I also helped Mr. Kiel install plumbing in the hotel as well as the septic tank and field for the sewage system.

In 1942, I joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and was discharged in January, 1946.

On June 5, 1946 Martha (Kiel) and I were married and I took over the management of the Hay Lakes Hotel. Many changes were made over the next

ten years. In 1946 we purchased a traction steam engine, dismantled it, and used the boiler to install a steam heating system in the hotel with the help of Findlater and Johnson from Camrose. We completed the job in January, 1947. A coal stoker was purchased to fire the boiler, and because we needed 24-hour power service, we also purchased our own Lister D.C. light plant.

We decided the hotel was not a good place to raise a family so on October 2, 1946 we had Peter Maruschak dig the basement for our new house located just north of the hotel and hired Walter Seipert as carpenter. Both heat and water were piped in from the hotel and power was supplied by our light plant.

Various other improvements were made to the hotel over the years: all the rooms upstairs were remodelled and running water was installed in each, doors and transoms were replaced by solid doors, an addition was built to the beverage room, and the entire hotel exterior stuccoed. The dining room was converted into a coffee shop, and new furnishings were provided for all the rooms, both upstairs and down.

Then disaster struck. We were just getting ready to go on a fishing trip with Reins and Erna Mittelstadt on May 26, 1956, when smoke was discovered and within an hour the entire hotel was engulfed in flames and destroyed.

After much deliberation we decided to rebuild the hotel and hired Albert Hansen to put up the main structure and the finishing work was completed by myself. We re-opened for business on December 15, 1956 with Martha operating the coffee shop and I the bar. Beer was still selling at ten cents a glass and bottled beer at twenty-five cents. Meals averaged about seventy-five cents, coffee five cents and rooms were \$2.00 per night.

On April 1, 1961 we sold the hotel to Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Roer.

I then went into construction work. I worked with Harrel Construction on the Hay Lakes School addition, also with Morris Aspell and Johnny Wentland, and later on individual projects.

On February 9, 1965 Mr. Ogilvie retired from the Hay Lakes Post Office and I became his successor. In 1966, I built a new Post Office building and remained as postmaster until my retirement in 1980.

The year 1966 was a special one as Rudolph and I were able to go to Sweden and visit the birthplace of our parents and also meet some of our relatives.

In 1966 we built a new house adjacent to our old one which was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Spurrell and their daughter, Gwen Robb.

I was always very active and enjoyed sports. I played both baseball and hockey for the Sulitjelma

team for several years before joining the Hay Lakes team. I also enjoyed curling, and big game hunting trips each fall which were always looked forward to with great anticipation.

Big Hay Lakes was a very popular duck and goose-hunting area. One year an early frost partly froze the lake but we were told there were still lots of ducks in the center of the lake. Morris and I decided to put on our skates and go duck hunting. He had a lot of explaining to do the following day when he arrived at work with his foot in a cast.

I was on the village Council for eighteen years, ten years as Mayor of Hay Lakes and eight years as Councilman. I also was involved with the Recreation Association from the time of its formation, acting as volunteer caretaker and maintenance of the hall for many years. One thing which I inherited from my dad and have enjoyed doing over the years, to the amazement of many, is dowsing — or more commonly known as water witching.

I was an active member and helped in the construction of the Legion Hall, Curling Rink, Community Hall, Sports Grounds and also of Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

Ill health has changed all this. Over the years we have made countless friends and enjoyed many memorable experiences.



Carl Nordin Family. L. to R.: Conny, Dale, Martha, Carl.

I, Martha, was the only child of Emil and Jenny Kiel. I was born on July 30, 1918 at Hay Lakes, Alberta.

Because the roads were impassible at times, the

winters were very severe, and the school was a distance of three miles, my parents sent me to Edmonton to live with the Ed Kiel family and start my first year of school. I often think of that poor teacher, who had this little country girl who couldn't speak or understand a word of English. At that age one learns quickly and I was able to pass into Grade two at the end of the term. For my second year I was back home on the farm and at the New Sarepta Rural School but only until Christmas time when my parents bought the hotel and we moved into Hay Lakes on January 1, 1927.

I was confirmed in St. Stephens Church by Rev. Schreiber. My mother and Mrs. Schlender arranged for us to go to Edmonton by car and truck to have our photos taken at Sigerst Studio. Many of the confirmands had never been to Edmonton and what an experience that was, not only for them, but also for the chaperones. Seventeen excited and eager youngsters suddenly let loose in a big city!

In 1929, Dad bought a piano — not an ordinary piano but one that anyone could play. You inserted special rolls, peddled hard and lo — music! Many a happy hour was spent at that piano as the young people would gather for a sing-song or to dance. I don't think our musical renditions were always appreciated as one of our boarders once suggested we "give the calf more rope." I also learned to play the piano by taking lessons from Mrs. Braun who came from Edmonton every Saturday.

One of our favorite winter pastimes as youngsters was to hitch our sleighs behind the farmer's team and ride as far as the railroad crossing, then we walked back to town and caught the next team going out. Skating was also a favorite sport and on many occasions we would have to chop wood and start a fire in the old stove in the skating shack so we could get warm. In the summer there was often extra volunteer help in the kitchen so that I could join the others sooner to play ball, basketball or tennis.

The Chautauqua was a memorable event. It operated on a travelling circuit basis and presented programs twice daily for a week on a serious, musical or dramatic presentation. The puppet shows, magicians, and midgets, were always a big hit with the children and I well recall persuading Dad to erect our huge tent so that we youngsters could put on our own performances.

In 1930, I, and all other twelve-year-olds, became the proud owners of Kodak box cameras, promotional gifts from the Eastman Kodak Company. For the next few years the sale of films certainly increased!

After completing my High school education in Hay Lakes I again went to live with the Ed Kiel

family in Edmonton for two years and completed a three-year business course at McDougall Commercial School. I then returned home to help my parents operate the business as my dad was not well.

After the sudden death of my father in 1944 I became the manager of the hotel and together with my mother operated it until 1946. Those were difficult years as during the war so many items were rationed and it was practically impossible to hire competent help. We were fortunate to have good friends like Norm Ogilvie and Morris Aspell who were always willing to help whenever needed.

My first long plane trip was on a Stratacruiser when we flew to Ontario in 1952 to pick up a new car. What a contrast to the airplane ride over Hay Lakes in a two-seater plane that had landed on Kreamer's meadow in the early thirties and took up passengers. That trip was both thrilling and scary.

I was always active in community work. As a member of the Home and School Association, I was elected to assist Louise Nordin in 1956 to establish a Municipal Library, then in 1965 I took a Library Custodian course and was the Librarian for several years. I was Secretary-Treasurer for the Village from 1941 to 1944; Secretary at the Hay Lakes School 1971 to 1981; and Treasurer for the Recreation Association 1968 to January, 1978. I was also Secretary for the Boy Scouts Association for several years and an Honorary member of the Circle S Club. We are members of Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

I have always enjoyed travelling. Some of the more memorable times are my trips to Holland in 1969 to visit Riek Paquette and when together we holidayed in Germany and also visited Andy and Conny Brook in England. Trips to Mexico, Hawaii, various parts of the United States and Canada all have cherished memories for us.

Many enjoyable evenings were spent with Reins Mittelstadt playing the accordion, George Roper the guitar, and I the piano. We also played for various dances, weddings, farewells, and other community functions.

We have two children. Dale was born on May 25, 1948. He was active in sports and also became a Queen Scout under the capable leadership of Walter Busenius. He was also a member of the Hay Lakes Band which was conducted by Reins Mittelstadt. After completing his High school at Hay Lakes he attended the University of Alberta where he received his degrees in both Engineering and Geology. He worked in Fort McMurray and Edmonton for Great Canadian Oil Sands which is now known as Suncor. In October, 1976, he married Gloria Frick and they are living in Edmonton where Dale is employed with Orenstein and Koppel.

Conny was born on November 11, 1952 and after completing her Grade twelve at Hay Lakes she attended Camrose Lutheran College for her first year of University. She then went to the University of Alberta where she received her Bachelor of Arts in 1972. She was a Personnel Officer for Unemployment Insurance Commission in Edmonton, Ontario and British Columbia for seven years. In 1980, she married Ron Kimball of Oakland, California. After living in Oakland for a short while they moved to Vancouver where Conny is a Personnel Officer for the Government of British Columbia.



L. to R.: Gloria, Conny and Ron Kimball, Dale — 1980.

Vern Nordin Family

I'm the youngest son of Eric and Sigrid Nordin and was born in 1918. My parents immigrated to Canada from Sweden. I worked on the family farm and attended Sulitjelma School up to Grade ten. In 1935 I went to work for Mr. D. F. Hughes in a General Store in Hay Lakes until 1940 when I enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy. I served in the navy until November, 1945.

On March 29, 1945 I married Doris Rogness (born 1921) formerly of Kingman, Alberta.

On discharge from the R.C.N.V.R. I went to work for Campbell's Furniture in Edmonton. I was employed there until 1951 when I went into partnership in Vern's General Store, Hay Lakes. This store was destroyed by fire February 16, 1963. In 1965 my family and I moved to Leduc where I was employed by the County of Leduc as Maintenance Supervisor for Schools. In 1968 we moved to Camrose where I was employed by the County of Camrose in the same type of work and still remain in this position.

Our days in Hay Lakes hold many happy memories. Both Doris and myself were quite active in various community activities. Our boys will never forget playing ball and hockey, plus rafting in sloughs around and in Hay Lakes every spring. The boys were both very active in the Scouting Movement also. Our girls both belonged to Brownies and the Girl Guides — building tree houses behind the Drynan residence (in Fuernkranz's land) were things they said they will never forget.

I belonged to the Royal Canadian Legion and held office as president and also as secretary. I was active in the Curling Club and also for some years coached Little League Baseball. A few years later I did some umpiring for fastball games.

Doris belonged to the Circle "S" Club. She held the position of Brown Owl in the Brownies and for a few years taught Sunday School. Curling was a past time she loved also.



L. to R.: Debby, Gary, Colleen, Warren. Seated: Vern and Doris — 1970.

We have four children, — Gary born in 1947; a geologist for Bema Industries Ltd., Langley, B.C. He and his wife, the former Bergitte Tandy, have a small daughter.

Warren, born in 1950, is with Calgary Power. He and his wife, the former Judy Asp, and two youngsters live at Whitecourt.

Debby, born in 1953, is employed by Andreassen, Ziebart and Olson — Law firm in Camrose. She and her young daughter live at Dried Meat Lake.

Colleen, born in 1957, is working for "Olivers" in Calgary. On May 23, 1981 she married Tim Schumaker.

Nordmoe, Jostein

"Jostein Nordmoe, lithe and active son of Norway, is thirty-five years of age, having been born at Tronso, Northern Norway, on January 23rd, 1895. Shortly after his marriage he came to Canada with his bride in 1924, making his first acquaintance with the land of his adoption at Granum, Alberta. He came to Camrose in 1925 just before the annual ski tournament of that year and entered the various events, carrying practically everything before him. Since that time Mr. Nordmoe has been a successful competitor every year at Camrose, Jasper Park and Banff.

"Before leaving his native land, Mr. Nordmoe established an enviable reputation in skiing circles. He held the long distance and jumping championship for Northern Norway and also held the record for covering the most racing mileage in any one season. Of medals, Mr. Nordmoe has over a couple of dozen and is the holder of twelve cups or trophies, not including those won at Montreal this year. It is not to be supposed that Mr. Nordmoe's laurels gained at Banff and Montreal were earned without effort. Despite the fact that lack of snow precluded him from training on skis, Mr. Nordmoe put himself through a most rigid course of training, hiking over the local cross country course, day after day. While in training he suffered a badly twisted knee, which compelled him to lay off training for several weeks, although he ignored his medical advisor's instructions to remain in bed for two weeks. Mr. Nordmoe is a non-smoker and the intoxicating beverages he consumes would not drown a fly.

"Jostein's wife, Mimi, was also a skier and won an award at the Banff Ski Tournament.

Mr. and Mrs. Nordmoe moved to Hay Lakes in 1930 where Jostein was manager of the Manning Sutherland Lumber Company. In the living room of the Nordmoe home, shelves on two walls were filled with silver cups and trophies, as well as other awards. As Mimi once said, "If Jostein brings them home I'll polish them."

Justin Nordmoe and his wife, Mimi, came to Canada from Norway in 1920. Justin's sister lived in Granum and he worked on the railroad there before moving to Camrose where he got a job in the Chris Gotaas Garage. He lived in Hay Lakes for seven years and was employed by the Manning Lumber Company. Justin was famous for his skiing. In 1925-'26 he competed in Camrose for a championship, which he won and then went to receive his Dominion championship in Ottawa in 1928. He also won the "Nordig Combine" which is the highest award one can win, according to his pal, Paul Gotaas, who also competed. In 1929 he also won the Western

Championship for jumping. In 1932 Justin competed in the Olympics at Lake Placid.

While the Nordmoe's lived in Hay Lakes they encouraged young people to ski and a ski scaffold was built on a corner of William Wilson's land. Justin Nordmoe and Johnny Johnson were the engineers. The Welda and Wilson boys cut long poles and hauled them to the site. The Johnson and Nordmoe team then came bringing spikes and other necessary supplies which allowed them to erect the scaffold in a single day. This scaffold remained a landmark for several years.

Mimi was a good seamstress and willingly helped anyone who was hard up and needed clothes.

Justin and Mimi went back to Norway in 1937 for a visit but the war broke out so they were unable to return to Canada. They had a son, Norman, who was seven years old when they left Hay Lakes.

Justin died several years later as a result of a ski mishap in the mountains.



Mr. and Mrs. Justin Nordmoe and Norman.



Located on William Wilson's farm east of Hay Lakes was this ski scaffold built by Justin Nordmoe and Johnny Johnson with the help of the local boys. Posing on top of it is Alpha and Helen Welda.



Late 1920's — L. to R.: Ted Lorraine, Johnny Johnson, Norman, Gordon, Helen, Alpha Welda, Rudolph Schmidt, Ole Olson, Kenny and Herman Bradke.

Noullett, Barbara Rose

Barbara Rose Noullett was born in Camrose, Alberta. She resided with her parents, Jacob and Ruth, and her two younger sisters on a farm nine miles north of Bawlf.

All her schooling, Grades one to twelve, was taken at the Bawlf School. During her High School years, she participated in all sports and held office on the Students' Council. She then took two years of Education at the Camrose Lutheran College. The next year she transferred to the University of Alberta for one year before accepting a teaching position at Ferintosh School in 1971. Here she taught Grades Three and Four for four years. Due to the declining enrolment Ferintosh School was forced to close. She transferred to Hay Lakes School in 1975 where she still is presently teaching Grade Five. During her first couple of years at Hay Lakes School, she coached Junior High School Girls' basketball. She was also a

Beaver Leader. Finally after going through night classes and summer school at the University of Alberta, she received her Bachelor of Education Degree in November, 1979.

Because it was very difficult for her parents to foot the cost of going to university for both Barb and her sister, Barb interned during May and June at Bawlf School for three years. During the summer months, she was employed at the Burger King in Camrose.

In her free time Barb enjoys crocheting and reading. She has also travelled to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Hawaii, and Mazatlan. In the winter, she enjoys snowmobiling.

O'Dwyer, Kevin and Bernice

Kevin and Bernice were married in Camrose on August 8, 1981 and took up residence in the Village of Hay Lakes where they recently built a new home.

Kevin is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O'Dwyer of New Sarepta. He is employed in the oil fields of Alberta.

Bernice was born in Edmonton in 1956, the first child of Lloyd and Audrey Yurkoski. She attended Hay Lakes School from Grades eight to twelve, graduating in 1974. Her two brothers, Kelly and Kevin, also attended school at Hay Lakes. Kelly is presently residing in Camrose. Kevin died tragically in a highway accident in 1977 at the age of twelve years. He is interred at Our Saviour Lutheran Cemetery.



Kevin and Bernice O'Dwyer. Bernice's parents, Lloyd and Audrey Yurkoski.

Bernice has been employed at the Royal Bank in Camrose for the past six years. She has served as a treasurer of Hay Lakes and District Recreation Association for one term and is member of the Hay Lakes Ceramic Club.

Kevin and Bernice both enjoy hockey. Kevin serves as a minor hockey referee at the New Sarepta Arena.

Ogilvie, Norman and Lily

Norman and Lily Ogilvie, with two small children, Juanita and Glenn, arrived in Hay Lakes on a summer day in 1926. After working in several creameries in Alberta over a period of five years, they were to remain here for thirty-nine years.



Norm and Lil Ogilvie.

Their first home was the Hay Lakes Hotel run at that time by Pearsons. Then they moved into a small house on a corner near the creamery. A few years later they settled three houses away on the same street. Two more children, Vernon and Betty, were added to the family.

Norman remained Creamery Manager for about five years, when he changed jobs to become

Postmaster, a position he held for thirty-four years. There were sidelines to this job, one of which was Justice of the Peace. He was in charge of the Long Distance telephone from 1931 until the automatic system was installed. He also took an interest in fire-fighting and was Fire Chief for a number of years. When he retired, he was presented with a toy red fire truck in memory of those fire-fighting days.

In the earlier years of his stay in Hay Lakes, Norman took an interest in the Community Hall — helping visitors who came with movies, dances, Chautauqua, etcetra. He was also on the School Board for some years. He was defenceman on the hockey team that brought home the cup one year.

Lily Ogilvie joined with the Ladies' Aid and later in Ladies Circle. She also spent time relieving in the Post Office.

On several occasions they joined the community in dressing up for various occasions, such as on July first and the masquerade dances.

The four children left one by one in their teen years. Although they left Hay Lakes at early ages, they all remained Albertans.

Olafson, Elias Walter (Ole)

"Ole" was born in Sweden on January 29, 1886 and came to Canada at the age of eighteen years. He first homesteaded at Sexsmith, Alberta, later moving to Hay Lakes. Ole was a carpenter and a plasterer and built many of the homes and farm buildings in the Hay Lakes district as well as numerous buildings in the village. His specialty was building round roof barns and with these Olaf left his mark in the district as a large number of the barns are still standing and in good condition.

He was an active member of the Vasa Lodge and loved to dance.

In 1917, Ole married Gelina Olianna Movold who had been born in Minnesota on February 12, 1892. They had three children: Grace Olive who passed away at Kamloops, British Columbia in 1935; James Theophilous, born on June 5, 1918, and another son, Billy, who was born in 1925 but died before reaching his first birthday.

Ole died on September 5, 1950 (Labour Day) at the age of sixty-four years. Gelina passed away on December 26, 1967. Both are interred at the St. Joseph Lutheran Cemetery.

Their son, James, joined the Armed Services in 1939, and in 1942 he went overseas with the First Canadian Army Survey Regiment. He saw active duty in Italy, North Africa and the mainland of Europe. He returned to Canada on August 14, 1945. James was later with the Canadian Peacetime forces



Lena (Movold) Olafson.



Ole Olafson.

for four years, and from 1953-1960 was a radar controller with the Airforce. He is presently making his home in Edmonton and is employed in the steel business.

Olson, Philip Terrance

Philip Terrance (Terry) Olson and his wife, Jeanne Hilda, moved to the Hay Lakes District in July, 1971. They moved into the McLeod house which they added to and renovated over the years to meet their needs.

In October, 1971, their son, Philip Wesley, was born and in December, 1975, their family was made complete by the birth of their daughter, Leona Jeanne.

For the first few years, Terry commuted to Edmonton for work, but in the fall of 1975 he purchased the Maple Leaf garage building from Mr. Herb Leicht and began his own Machine Shop business. Before long the business was growing and several employees were hired. In July, 1981, Terry moved his business to Camrose because it had outgrown the small facility. Then in December 1981, the family moved to Camrose for the convenience of being near their new business location.

The family members have a special warm place in their hearts for the community which was their home for almost eleven years and for the friends gained during that time.

Paquette, James and Hendriekje

Jim (James) was born on June 2, 1907 in Centralio, Ontario. After having worked in Saskatchewan for a while he came to Alberta and worked in the Hay Lakes area until he enlisted in the Canadian Army during World War II. While serving in Holland he met a little Dutch girl, "Riek"; they were married on January 8, 1946.



Wedding of Riek and Jim Paquette and members of her family. Holland 1946.

Riek (Hendriekje) was born on October 19, 1913, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Teunis Eilander of Wapenveld, Holland. She was the fourth born in a family of five girls and four boys.

Jim returned to Canada in March, 1946 and after being discharged from the army, again made his home in Hay Lakes. In August, Riek, together with other Canadian brides, left for Canada by boat. She arrived in Hay Lakes on September 11, 1946.

They bought a house in the Village and for a short while worked on the farm for Mrs. Herman Lechelt before being employed at the Hay Lakes Hotel. Jim worked in the bar and Riek in the dining room and later the coffee shop. The English language was a bit of a problem at first, having difficulty with the "h" and "sh" ("h" was silent and "sh" became "s"). Once when "baked hash" was on the menu it was quite hilarious as a couple of the travellers couldn't understand what Riek meant. Each time they returned afterwards they would tease her about the "baked ass".



Rita Deelman, Jerry Koopman and Riek Paquette — 1955.

One day when Riek was using some rather vulgar swear words she was told they weren't very nice. She admitted not knowing what they meant but had frequently heard some of the men using them and thought they were merely common slang expressions. Her good nature and friendliness endeared her to everyone, old and young alike. She loved music and her accompaniment with the "bones" was most entertaining.

In 1952, James and Riek purchased a theatre circuit from Art Mittelstadt which they operated until July 22, 1953 when Jim suffered a heart attack and passed away at the age of forty-six. Riek sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Hankel and also sold her house to Einar Nomeland. She then worked for Alfred Arnston and at the Hotel while living with Birdy and Basil Lind.

In 1957, she returned to Holland to visit her dad and other members of her family. A "Bon-Voyage" party was held in her honor at which time Louise Nordin wrote the following poem:

To Riek

Wherein does her beauty lie?

A joyous spirit soaring high,
Sunny smile, "tho' clouds be nigh-
Our Riek.

Slight of build, tall of stature,

And placed inside by generous nature
A heart of gold.

Our heartfelt wishes do attend

All your journeys, treasured friend —
And so to Holland we but lend,
Our Riek!

After her return she again worked at the hotel until 1960 when she moved to Edmonton to work for her cousin, Tom Olthius, who owned the Dutch Queen Bakery.

In 1964, she decided to return to Holland and re-join her family. We were all sorry to see her leave; she left many cherished memories and friends.

She again visited Hay Lakes in July, 1970 accompanied by a niece, Riekje Volkers.

In October, 1979 word was received that she had cancer. She was progressing quite well after her operations but on October 27 she passed away, the victim of a cerebral hemorrhage, at the age of sixty-six years.

Parno, Karl

Karl was born in 1860 in Russia and his wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1877. In 1903 they decided to leave Russia and immigrated to Canada with their young family. They lived in Saskatchewan and British Columbia before coming to Alberta in 1908. They rented NW 30-48-21-W4 for several years.

Their oldest son, Emil, remained in Saskatchewan where he farmed. Their three daughters all met and married local young men in the Hay Lakes area.

Anna married William Henschell, and they farmed south of the village. Emilie married Ferdinand Henschell, who was a local blacksmith. Martha married Emil Rosenthal, a farmer west of the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Parno and their other three children, Reinhold, August and Ida returned to Saskatchewan. Later they moved to Portland, Oregon where they retired and Karl passed away in 1946 and Elizabeth in 1957.

Paul, Emanuel and Mary

Emanuel and Mary Paul came to Hay Lakes with their eldest daughter, Doreen, in the summer of 1939. Shortly after arriving in Hay Lakes, Emanuel started a shoe and harness shop which he operated for approximately three years.

He joined the Searle Grain Company in 1942, staying with that company until 1945, when the family moved to Chipman for only ten months. Emanuel started working for the Alberta Wheat Pool. After their short stay in Chipman, he was transferred back to Hay Lakes, staying there until 1950. They then moved to Lloydminster. It was during their stay in Hay Lakes that three more children were born, Eileen in 1940, Alvina in 1943, and Irwin in 1944. In Hay Lakes the family worshipped at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.



Emanuel Paul Family. L. to R., Back: Eileen, Emanuel, Doreen, Alvina. Sitting: Mary and Irvin. Taken 1946.

In Lloydminster, Emanuel worked for Canadian Propane. In 1955, he was sent to Provost, Alberta where he later started his own heating business. He stayed there until the time of his death in 1974 at the age of sixty-three years. Mary still lives in Provost where she works at a dry-goods store.

Doreen married Al Christensen. They have a son, David and a daughter, Janis. They live in Edmonton.

Eileen married Bob Walters. They are the parents of two boys, Tim and Mick. They reside in Red Deer.

Alvina married Dale Schoffler. They live in Manning, Alberta with their two children, Patrick and Alison.

Irvin married Marlene Doetzel. They and their two children, Stacey and Brett, live in Camrose.

Paul, Randy and Rhonda

Randy Paul (the youngest son of William and Alma Paul) was born and raised in the Hay Lakes area, and attended school from Grades one to twelve. After graduating he apprenticed in the sheet metal trade. He is now a journeyman sheet metal mechanic.

Rhonda Paul (nee Amy) was born in Grenfell, Sask. Her family moved to Edmonton when her father passed away. There her mother met and married Elmer Grams (a local farmer), who moved the family to the Hay Lakes area.

Randy and Rhonda met in school, then married in August of 1975. They have two sons, Robert and Philip. They have resided in the village since their marriage, first renting, then purchasing their own home.

Pearson, Anton

Antonius Pearson was born in Västerbotten, Sweden on February 12, 1878. He came to the Hay Lakes district in 1905, where he homesteaded.

He lost his first wife, the mother of Evert, Bill and Mary. On July 15, 1912 he married Theadora Christina (Matson?) in Camrose. They farmed for many years on SE 10-49-21-W4 and SW 11-49-21-W4. Thea boarded the teachers for the Swan Hill school, which was a short distance from their place.

In 1916, Anton had a sawmill operation near Miquelon Lake where he custom-sawed lumber for the farmers of the district. In 1919 he purchased a well-drilling outfit for \$1,275.00, a lot of money in those days. Anton built the first hotel in Hay Lakes in 1921.

In Sweden, Anton and his brother Amandus (Manie) had been involved in forestry work and log driving on the rivers. Another brother lost his life in this dangerous work. In 1927 while on a moose-hunting trip to the Breton area, the brothers discovered a beautiful stand of spruce forest. This be-



Anton Pearson Family. L. to R., Back: Evert, Mary, Bill. Front: Thea, Anton.



Maureen (Pearson) Flundra.

came the first Pearson Brothers sawmill in 1928. Also involved in the lumbering business were Anton's son, Bill, and Manie's son, Henry. In 1933 Henry and Alvin Pearson purchased Anton's share of the operation.

Anton Pearson was a member of the Vasa Lodge and received a certificate for special performance and good work in 1945-46.

After he sold his farm in 1951, Anton, Thea and their daughter, Maureen, moved to Camrose into a house he had built. In Camrose he was again involved in carpentry.

In 1953 they retired to North Surrey, British Columbia where he built his last home. While in Surrey they made a six-week trip to their homeland, Sweden.

Thea and Anton celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1962. An interesting footnote to the occasion was a letter found by the Eliasons who had purchased their farm. They found it while remodelling the house. The letter was from Thea's mother in Sweden, congratulating her on her marriage, and it had gone through many post offices before reaching its destination.

In 1968, Anton and Thea returned to Camrose as residents of the Bethany Home and Hospital. Anton passed away on November 28, 1970 in his ninety-second year. Theadora Christina passed away March 29, 1972 at the age of eighty-three. William (Bill) Pearson passed away November 16, 1976, at seventy-six years of age. Evert died a little over a month later, on December 26, 1976, when he seventy-five years. Mary (Pearson) Sjolie, who was predeceased by her husband, George, died on April 27, 1981, when she was seventy-six years. She leaves two sons, Ed and Randy. Maureen (Pearson) Flundra resides at Armstrong, British Columbia. She has twin daughters, Kathy and Laris, and two sons, Daryl and Dan.

Perkin, Lowell and Family

Lowell Perkin and his family moved to Hay Lakes in June, 1977. Lowell was raised in the Wetaskiwin area and his wife Susan (nee Beauclaire) was raised in Mississauga, Ontario.

Lowell and Susan were married in Winnipeg, Manitoba, moving back to Alberta in September, 1971.

Their first child, Bruce, was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on March 14, 1970. Bruce's interests are Hockey, Baseball, Swimming and Scouts. Millicent was born in Calgary, Alberta, on April 8, 1974. Her interests are Brownies, Figure Skating, Ballet and Swimming.

Lowell Perkin is a truck driver, travelling around much of the province. Susan Perkin is the Municipal Administrator for the Village of Hay Lakes (January, 1981).

Peters, Theodore A. and Anna

Ted was born in Groessen, Gelderland, Holland on June 18, 1936, the sixth child of a family of nine, born to John and Everdianna Peters.

The three older brothers emigrated to Canada in 1950. When Ted was sixteen years old, he and the remainder of his family emigrated to Canada. They settled on a farm at Lampman, Saskatchewan in 1954.

Ted started work on a farm soon after his arrival in Canada, first at Benson, Sask. In 1955 Ted's parents moved to Torquay, Sask., renting a farm there.

In 1956 Ted moved back home to help on the farm, and stayed until 1959, when his parents bought a farm at Athabasca, Alberta. Ted helped the family move, but stayed in Saskatchewan to work for a large mixed-farming operation for two and a half years.

In the fall of 1961, Ted moved to Athabasca, to work for the Federal Government in Health and Animals Division, blood testing cattle. He worked at this until 1963.

Ted then moved to Edmonton to work for Hayward Lumber Yard for a few months, then changed jobs to work for McCabe Seeds, which is now Cargil Seeds, he was with them until the fall of 1964, when he went to work for Searle Grain Co. in Camrose. He was transferred to New Sarepta in 1965 to become elevator manager there.

Ted met Anna in New Sarepta at the annual sports day in 1966 through friends, Nick and Mary Tomchuk. Ted and Anna were married November 4, 1967 in the Santa Maria Grottie Church in Edmonton.

Anna was born in Southern Italy, January 19, 1944, the second daughter of Alfonso and Maria Marrazzo. Anna's father emigrated to Canada in 1949, coming to Edmonton to work. The family followed in 1952, settling in Edmonton.

Anna started her second year of school in St. Pat's in Edmonton. She attended Alberta College for a year to complete her education. Anna worked in Edmonton for seven years before she met Ted Peters in New Sarepta.

The same year of their marriage, the Searle Grain Co. was taken over by Federal Grain and Ted stayed on as manager. Their first child, Dianna, was born in 1970, and the second daughter, Angela, in 1971.

In 1972 the Wheat Pool took over the Federal elevator, and Ted stayed on as manager there.

Their third daughter, Sandra, was born, May 28, 1974 while they were living in New Sarepta.

The Alberta Wheat Pool closed the doors of the New Sarepta elevator on August 1st of that year, and Ted was asked to manage the four elevators in Hay Lakes. Ted and Anna became residents of Hay Lakes in January of 1975.

On a clear, full-moon night of February 21, 1977, their son Robert John was born. In 1978 the Wheat Pool built a new house, and the Peters family moved during Easter of that year.

Ted is at present, still manager of the Wheat Pool in Hay Lakes, and is a member of the volunteer fire department.

Anna is very active in the Brownie Organization and the Hay Lakes Play school.

Pfrimmer, L. and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Pfrimmer and their daughter, Grace, came to the village in the spring of 1921 from Winnipeg. Mr. Pfrimmer became the first telegraph operator and station agent for the village.

To pass time, Mr. Pfrimmer used to play checkers over the wires with the operator in Tofield. They had their boards numbered and would tap out the moves.

He was an excellent operator and moved to an office job in Edmonton after the station burned in February, 1924.

After Mr. Pfrimmer's death of Hodgkin's disease, Mrs. Pfrimmer and Grace moved to Vancouver.



Businessmen on Main Street 1923. L. to R.: Mr. Pfrimmer the station agent, Mr. Gosnell of the Lumber yard and Mr. Larsen of the general store.

company in Wetaskiwin for a short time and then moved to Edmonton where she was employed by the University of Alberta for some fifteen years in the Faculty of Extension, Dean of Medicine's Office, Provincial Laboratory of Public Health and the Department of Geology.



Larry and Jean Piersdorff; Jody and Todd.

Piersdorff, Larry and Family

Larry was born in Edmonton on October 6, 1941. He attended Spruce Avenue Elementary School and Victoria Composite High School. He was employed by the City of Edmonton Fire Department for five years, owned a construction company for a few years and worked for a heavy equipment company as Parts Manager prior to moving to Hay Lakes.

Jean was born in Wetaskiwin on November 12, 1942. She attended Bigstone School (twelve miles west of Wetaskiwin) and later Wetaskiwin Composite High School. Her maiden name was Westendorf. She lived on a farm twelve miles west of Westaskiwin with her parents, Charles and Hilda Westendorf. Her mother, Hilda, was the daughter of Otto and Christina Schneck of Wetaskiwin. (Hilda passed away on August 31, 1978.) After High school completion, Jean went to McTavish Business College in Edmonton. Following graduation she worked for an equipment

Larry and Jean were married in St. John's Lutheran Church at Pleasant Prairie, located four miles west of Wetaskiwin, on August 23, 1969 by Rev. O'Connor.

The Piersdorffs have two children. Their daughter, Jody, was born on March 10, 1971 and their son, Todd, was born on May 8, 1974.

Jody belonged to Brownies from 1979-1981. She is in her fifth year of jazz dancing and is presently enrolled in the Camrose School of Tap and Jazz. She also takes piano lessons from Mrs. Gola Berry. Her interests are also in swimming, roller skating and ice skating.

Todd is in his second year of Beavers. He plays hockey in New Sarepta with the Mighty Mites. He takes piano lessons from Mrs. Gola Berry also. Todd enjoys swimming and roller skating too.

On August 1, 1978 Larry and Jean took over the

Hay Lakes Hardware which was previously owned by Mr. Reins Mittelstadt for many years.

The Piersdorff family lived in a mobile home behind the hardware store from October 1978 to January 1980 at which time they built a house on a lot directly south of Art Schaffrick's property.

Larry served on the Village Council for a portion of a term and is presently Fire Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department. Also he is Equipment Manager and General Manager of his son's hockey team.

Jean worked at Alberta Agriculture in Camrose for a few months before making the Hardware a full time job. She was secretary of the kindergarten in the 1979-80 term. She was also involved in Brownies when her daughter belonged.

Larry and Jean enjoy curling in Hay Lakes and the whole family enjoys cross-country skiing.

Priebe, Emil

Emil came from the Leduc area and married Mary Kartz, daughter of Carl Kartz of the New Sarepta district. They came to Hay Lakes about 1927 and operated the pool room and barber shop. They had four children, Edith, Elsie, Margaret and Leona. After the pool room burned in 1931 the Priebe's moved to Edmonton where Emil bought a Barber College which he operated until his death in 1936.

Mary's father and brothers also spent some time in the Village. Carl helped with the pool room, Art did odd jobs and Eddie helped in the Drug Store. In 1932, Eddie attended a barber school and returned to Hay Lakes to set up a shop in Charlie's Café for a while. After the death of his brother-in-law he returned to Edmonton where he helped Mary operate a hairdressing salon and barber shop.

Querengesser, Pastor A.

Having received a call to serve the St. Luke and St. Stephen congregations at Hay Lakes, Alberta, Pastor and Mrs. Querengesser and family arrived in Hay Lakes in July, 1957.

We will always remember the friendly and warm welcome with which we were received at the town hall in the village and were presented with a Sunbeam Mixmaster as a welcoming gift.

A pattern of services in both English and German for both congregations offered opportunities to serve both young and old.

Soon we were in the swing of things and enjoying the work in its many aspects: Youth Work, Confirmation Classes, Lutheran Church Women, Sunday Schools, Vacation Church School, and all the other duties which belong to the whole work of the church.

A good community spirit was evident in the village and surrounding district of Hay Lakes. There being only the two Lutheran congregations in the district we had the privilege of ministering to all in various ways. The special mission and Christian Family programs presented by the Lutheran Church Women of the parish were always well attended and appreciated. Every year in December the Lutheran Church Women also presented a German Christmas program to honor the Senior citizens. This Ladies' group met regularly every month for Bible study and discussions of interesting topics which broadened our understanding and helped deepen the spiritual life.

An amusing incident in Sunday School was when one girl insisted that the King James version is the only right Bible and a classmate said, "Oh my, we don't speak like that anymore! Hast thou no brains in thy head?"

Every year we had the Sunday School children use "Thank Offering" boxes during Advent to gather their gift for Jesus and then bring it to the church altar on Christmas eve to be used for World Missions. One little boy said "I have saved some money to buy a gift for my sister but I put it into my Thank Offering box because I think others need it more". This was truly heart warming to hear and rewarding.

Cub and Scout troops were organized with Walter Busenius as Scout Master and Grant Skippen and Edwin Schoenknecht as assistants.

Both of us were involved in the Home and School meetings. I was Program Chairman, working together with the President, Louise Nordin. We tried to involve as many parents as possible in worthwhile programs.

In October, 1960 the congregation celebrated our silver wedding anniversary and presented us with a Westinghouse fridge, which is still serving us very well to-day.

Our children were with us at Hay Lakes for awhile but later attended Camrose Lutheran College and the University of Alberta.

At present our son Arthur teaches choral singing in seven Edmonton schools, sings on Canada's National Bible Hour over CFRN, is a member of the Da Camera Singers and directed the Sr. Choir at St. Luke's Lutheran Church. He is married and has three daughters.

Heidi, after spending three years as teacher and art director for the Lutheran Mission Press in New Guinea, returned in 1967 and worked with the Edmonton Correspondence School until she got married October, 1968. She has one daughter and is also taking care of two Vietnamese boys.

Marilyn, while attending Camrose Lutheran Col-



L. to R., Back Row: Arthur, Pastor Querengesser. Front Row: Mrs. Querengesser, Heidi, Marilyn — 1964.

lege, had the privilege of going to the New York World Fair and singing there as a College choir member. While attending the N.A.I.T. School of Photography she had the opportunity to work in the gift shop at Jasper during holidays. She graduated from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1968. Now she is very busy at home taking care of her six children.

Although Hay Lakes was a small place, we had many good friends there and we still enjoy visiting with them whenever there is an opportunity to do so.

In June 1961 Pastor Querengesser accepted a call to Grace Lutheran church at Ponoka to continue his ministry there.

Pastor Querengesser retired in August, 1978. Now we are members of Ascension Lutheran Church in Edmonton, where several of our former Hay Lakes members also have their membership. We are involved in the work of the church and try to be of help wherever we can.

Radke, Carl

Carl Radke was born on September 16, 1886 in Poland and Emilie Radke was born on August 24, 1891 in Poland. The nearest big town was Wladimir. This couple was married on September 8, 1908 and

immigrated to Canada in 1911, settling first in Steinbach, Manitoba.

The family moved to Alberta in 1931 and lived in Leduc for several years prior to moving to Hay Lakes. Dad travelled all over Alberta and finally chose Hay Lakes as the place to build a shoe-and-harness repair shop. While the family continued living in Leduc, Dad commuted back and forth on weekends, built the shop, and then the house. That trip, which is insignificant nowadays, was a considerable challenge in those days of very muddy roads. I remember many a trip of grinding through the smeary clay mud, trying to keep going and staying on the road too. We always knew things were getting bad when Dad said, "Take my hat off" and then began to hum. I recall one foggy trip too, when the only way we could keep going was for Mother to walk in front of the car, guiding Dad.



Lucy, Dale, Mother, Frieda, Nora, Dad, Amanda 1943 or '44.

In 1935, the house was ready to move into, although it was just two-by-fours and bare boards, and the family moved to Hay Lakes. The house gradually got finished over the years. At that time, the three oldest girls were already out working. Dale (Adele) was twenty-four, Manda (Amanda) was nineteen, and Lucy (Elizabeth) was seventeen. Frieda was fifteen and attended Hay Lakes school for several years, and Nora (Eleonora) started Grade one that year.

Dad was interned as an "enemy alien" for nine months during the war, although he had become a Canadian citizen in 1914. This was a serious emotional blow to him because he considered himself to be a Canadian in every sense of the word, and felt he had been betrayed by the country he thought was his own. Although the prisoners of war were well-treated, he never quite got over this event.

Dad carried on his business until the shop burned

down about 1962. He died of a stroke in the Camrose hospital in July, 1965. It was the first time he had been to a hospital or under a doctor's care. Always quick with a joke, the last words I ever heard him say was that he wanted to watch Dr. Ben Casey, a popular television show at that time.

Mother then moved to Dawson Creek, British Columbia, where Frieda was living and working for the British Columbia Telephone Company. When Frieda was transferred to Kamloops, mother went along of course, and died in her sleep there in April, 1973.

Dale is married to John Kastan, a miner with Inco, and they live in Sudbury, Ontario.

Lucy is married to Carl Miller, a retired miner, and they live in Atikokan, Ontario. They have five sons, Richard, Martin, Ted, Alf, and Kurt. All but Kurt are married and there are several grandchildren. They all live in Ontario.

Manda lives in Kamloops, working as a cook. For part of the year, during January, February, and March until spring, she cooks in an oil-patch camp, usually in the Fort Nelson, Fort St. John, or Grande Prairie areas. In August, September and part of October, depending on the season, she cooks in a hunting and guide camp at Blue Sheep Lake in Northeastern British Columbia.

Frieda lives in Kamloops also, and works for British Columbia Telephone Company.

Nora lives in Fort St. John, is married to Ed Bitner, a welder, and they have six children. Paul, is married to Leslie Neurohr of Fort St. John, and is living in Fort St. John. David is living in Keremeos. Mark is living in Grande Prairie, Teresa is in Fort St. John. Susy and Richard are still at home and going to school. Nora works at Northern Lights College in Fort. St. John.

Dennis Allan Radtke

Dennis was born in Camrose on May 8, 1948, the eldest child of Gary and Erna Radtke. He attended school in Hay Lakes finishing Grade ten and then completed Grades eleven and twelve at Camrose Composite High School. Following this he apprenticed for an electrician at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, receiving his journeyman certificate in 1971. He is presently employed at Strathcona Refinery as of April 1981.

In 1975, Dennis was united in marriage to Edna Halseide, originally of Donalda. She is a Mental Deficiency Nurse graduate from Mitchener Centre in Red Deer and has been employed at the Eric Cormack Centre in Edmonton since 1972.

Dennis and Edna moved to Hay Lakes in 1975



Dennis and Edna Radke; Jay and Jamie.

where Dennis is an active member of the church, town council and curling club. They have two children, Jay born September, 1979 and Jamie born in September 1981.

Renes, Henry

Henry was born in Wetaskiwin, Alberta, in July, 1915, to Henry and Bertha Renes. He was the youngest of nine children. His mother died when he was only four years old so he was raised by his father and older brothers and sisters.

Henry obtained all his schooling at the Brightview School. He tried his luck at farming for a number of years and also spent eighteen years with the County of Leduc road construction crew.

He moved to Hay Lakes in 1970 and worked at the Hay Lakes Hotel for two and a half years. (It was then operated by Frank Herring.) He then worked for the County of Camrose as a heavy duty equipment operator, retiring three years ago.

Henry purchased the former Carl Radke home in 1972. He later sold this home and in 1979 purchased the residence of the late Einar Nomeland where he lives at present.

Rennich, Henry **by Elaine Rennich**

The parents of Henry Rennich emigrated to the Veteran, Alberta area from Bessarabia, Poland in 1911. Henry was born on a farm at Wiste, Alberta, near Consort, in 1913. He grew up there and eventually married Hilda Leicht, the daughter of neighbour John Leicht, in November of 1934.

The young couple farmed in the Consort area. In October of 1936 a son, George, was born to them. Grasshoppers invaded the area during those years, eating every growing plant in sight. The combination of the "hopper" invasion and drought made it impos-

sible to take off a crop. Finally, in desperation, the small family moved to Hay Lakes in October of 1938. Hilda's family, Mr. and Mrs. John Leicht, and their children, Herbert (married to Emma Paul), John Jr., Helen, Hertha, and Herman, were already living in Hay Lakes.

Henry and Hilda bought and operated the Cozy Cafe. A son, Don, was born to them in May of 1939. They sold the cafe to Mr. Ferdinand Busenius in May of 1940 and began to farm in the Rollyview area. A third son, Bill, was born in July of 1944. In April, 1945 they moved to a farm near Edmonton. While there, two daughters were born, Geri in May of 1946 and Carol in June of 1952.

In March of 1960 they left the farm and moved into Edmonton. They continued farming from the city for two years. Henry then bought and operated a Pool Hall until 1965. Together with his sons, he then formed a company, Tru-Form Metals. He worked there until he retired in 1974.

Henry and Hilda are now living in the Argyll area of Edmonton. Although retired, they lead very busy lives with their involvement in Senior Citizens activities, enjoyment of camping, and the whole of their large family living near them.



Henry Rennich Family. L. to R., Back: George, Bill, Henry, Don, Geri. Front: Carol, Hilda.

Their son George married Genevieve Hurum of Holden. They have three daughters, Arlene (Mrs. Marty MacDonald), Crystal, and Janet. Don is married to Elaine Middlestead, formerly of Hay Lakes. They have four children, Perry, married to Shelby Payne (and soon to make Henry and Hilda great-grandparents) Tim, Brent and Tannis. Bill, married to Marilynn Petterson of Edmonton, has two daughters, Leanne and Lynn. George, Don and Bill own and operate Tru-Form Metals. Geri is married to

Dick Buxton of Edmonton, Vice-president of Union Tractor. They have two children, Dawn and Jim. Carol is married to Larry Lynch of Edmonton, an electrician who owns Double L. Electric. They have two daughters, Kelly and Lee. The whole family lives in Edmonton except for Don and Bill who live on acreages near Sherwood Park.

Rosychuk, Ronald

Ron, the eldest child of Tom and Mary Rosychuk, was born on May 19, 1946 in a district south of Vilna called Sunny Knoll. There he attended school for two years before the family moved to Warspite in 1954. The rest of his schooling was at Warspite. Gloria, the youngest child of Nancy and Peter Melnyk was born January 18, 1949 in the Warspite district. She also attended school at Warspite. Ron and Gloria were married June 29, 1968.

During our first two years of marriage we resided in Edmonton where we continued our University training.

We then moved to Lac La Biche where we resided for four years. I taught Grade five at the Vera M. Welsh School. Ron taught at the J. A. Williams Senior High School for three years and was Instructional Material Coordinator for all the schools in the division for a year.

During this time our two children were born. Our daughter, Rhonda Jean, was born on September 6, 1970 and our son, Jason Peter Thomas, was born August 4, 1973.



Ron Rosychuk Family: Rhonda, Jason, Gloria and Ron.

Our next move was to Edmonton for a year, followed by a move to Alder Flats, where we resided for two years. I taught Grade one at the Buck Lake School, while Ron was Vice Principal at the Alder Flats School.

In 1977 we moved to Hay Lakes. I am presently teaching Grade three at the Hay Lakes School. Ron

was elected to the Hay Lakes Town Council in 1980 and is presently teaching at the New Sarepta School.

Rousell, Darrell Family

Darrell was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on June 8, 1951. He lived in many towns and cities throughout Saskatchewan until he moved to Edmonton in 1973. There he met his wife, Debra Ann, the second oldest of Bruno and Doris These of the Hay Lakes district. They were married August 30, 1975.

They resided in Camrose for about ten months, then bought a house from the County of Camrose in Hay Lakes.



Kara and Justin Rousell.

They had two children, Kara Dawn, three years old and Justin Eric, ten months old.

Darrell commutes to Edmonton daily where he is employed as a chief draftsman at T.W.S. Engineering, an electrical consulting firm. Debbie spends her days enjoying their children at home. Debbie is also involved in teaching ceramics at the Hay Lakes Recreation Center.

Darrell and Debbie have recently sold their home and are presently renting until their new home is finished in the fall.

Saby, Augusta

Augusta was the fourth child born to John and Vendla Grahn. Her two sisters, Esther and Emmy, and five brothers, Hilmer, Bill, Thor, Oscar and Otto were all at one time or another associated with the Hay Lakes community. This association started in 1902 when John and Vendla took a homestead on NW 36-49-22-W4.

Augusta was born August 3, 1888 in Lycksele, Sweden, and spent her early years in the village of Kroksjö (meaning crooked lake), Sweden. Her father's farm was small and not very productive, which was one of the reasons for the family's decision to come to Canada in 1902. Augusta and an older sister, Esther, stayed behind until they could earn passage money to join the rest of the family.

A few years after her arrival in Canada, Augusta married Tom Saby of Bawlf, (July 2, 1909). After a few years in Bawlf they moved (1914) to Tom's homestead northwest of Bawlf.

To this marriage were born five children, three boys and two girls. Irwin, the eldest, left farming in Alberta during the depression to spend many years working in the nickle mines at Sudbury, Ontario. Melvin, the second son, farmed his Dad's homestead until 1974 when he retired from farming to live on an acreage (kept back from his farm sale). He passed away in the spring of 1977. Dorothy, her first daughter, married a Kamloops Business man, Gene Cavazzi, and is presently residing in that British Columbia city. Her third son, Milo, died in 1933 at the age of fifteen. A second daughter, Helen, died in infancy in 1917.

August left Alberta in 1923 and moved to Armstrong, in the Okanagan Valley. "Strong Arms Hill" was the name she gave the house she purchased in Armstrong; one that was to be her home for the next thirty years. Shortly after selling her house on the hill in Armstrong, Augusta moved a few miles south down the Okanagan to Vernon. Today this resourceful lady still tends to her own needs at the Kewanis Village in Vernon, British Columbia.

Schaffrick, Arthur and Family

Arthur Schaffrick (one of nine children) was born on August 14, 1919, the son of Ephrozina Schaffrick. Mrs. Schaffrick homesteaded in the Brightview (Usona) district, west of Wetaskiwin. She had stayed on the farm after the death of her husband, trying to keep the family together. She then married Daniel Schweitzer (two children were born from this marriage, Paul and Margaret), and they moved to Edmonton in 1925 staying there only a short time. For another brief period they lived at New Sarepta, and in March, 1927 they settled at Hay Lakes.

Mrs. Schweitzer did laundry for the school for \$1.50 per month from about 1923 to the late 1930's. They raised chickens for many years to supplement their income and give a meat supply. She also practised midwifery for many years. The last baby she delivered was her granddaughter, Joan Schaffrick (daughter of Henry and Olga) on January 16, 1942.

Art began his schooling in rural New Sarepta and



Art and Reva's first house in 1946.

finished the remainder of school in Hay Lakes. During his teen years Art worked at various jobs in the Hay Lakes area, for the Lofgren brothers — truck driving, for Gus Hein — truck driving, for Otto Pawloske — farming, and for Carl Fuernkranz also in farm work.

At the age of twenty-one (1940) Art joined the Army and went overseas and was in the Canadian Forces of World War II. He landed with the troops off the barges on the shore of Normandy. From there he went through France, Belgium, Holland and into Nuremberg, Germany. When the war ended on May 8, 1945, he returned to Hay Lakes in December, 1945. Art received his discharge in January, 1946 at Calgary, Alberta. During his war career he earned six medals.

On May 1, 1946 Art bought a draying business in Hay Lakes from Herbert Grams. He operated the business for several years; then he sold it to Gus Weisner of New Sarepta. Art then started a grain and stock-hauling business which he operated until August 18, 1981, when he was forced to retire due to ill health.

Reva Isaman (born in Consort, Alberta on September 5, 1926) came to Camrose in September, 1943 where she took a business course. On May 1, 1944 she pursued her career with the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool in Hay Lakes until June 13, 1947.

On October 24, 1946 Arthur Schaffrick and Reva Isaman were united in marriage in Edmonton, Alberta. To this union five children were born. They took up residence in Hay Lakes, where they still live. In 1955, Art bought an acreage from Gola Berry and built a new house on the southwest corner of the quarter.

Dwayne was born on December 8, 1947 and married Corinne Thompson of New Sarepta on June 24, 1973. They have three girls: Denise, Dawn and Erin. They bought the former Clarence Sware farm about nine miles from Hay Lakes and that's where they make their home. Dwayne took over his father's

trucking business in December, 1981, which he is operating from the original home place and his place.

The cloakroom from the Old Miquelon Lake School (about two miles East of the Paulson Store) is situated on Dwayne's farm.



Arthur Schaffrick Family. Back, L. to R.: Bonnie, Dwayne, Elaine. Front: Joyce, Reva, Art, June.

Elaine was born on April 30, 1949 and married Henry Dittmer of the Golden Spike district on May 10, 1968. They have one son, Sheldon. They resided in Golden Spike until June, 1972 when Henry accepted a job overseas in Nigeria with an oil company. Elaine and Sheldon joined Henry in August, 1972. They returned to Hay Lakes on June 1, 1973 where they took up residence in the Village until April, 1979. Then they moved to Innisfail where they still reside. Henry works in the oil fields.

Bonnie (born on January 5, 1954) married Everett Reimer of Camrose on October 9, 1971. They have two children: a girl, Tina, and one boy, Chad. They first resided in Edmonton before they moved to Hay Lakes in 1974, when they purchased the former Gus Hein home. Everett drives for the Edmonton Transit system while Bonnie has her hands full as a school custodian.

Joyce was born on September 30, 1961 and married Chuck Carty from Ottawa on October 24, 1981. Joyce had joined the Canadian Air Force and left for Cornwallis, Nova Scotia on July 18, 1980. She took her basic training there and was fortunate enough to get a transfer back to Edmonton on January 23, 1981.

At this time she chose her career in the Airforce at Griesbach, Edmonton. They live on the base at Griesbach.

June was born on September 30, 1961. She came back to Hay Lakes and worked with Bonnie as an assistant while she completed her Grade 12 in 1980. June now is living in Camrose and works at the Royal Canadian Legion. She is engaged to Terry Saitz of Camrose. They will exchange vows on August 14, 1982 on her father's sixty-third birthday.

Scheinias, Arthur and Erna by Erna (Froelich) Scheinas

I (Erna) was born in Germany in 1923 and came to Canada in 1927 with my mother and father (Juliana and Henry Froelich), also two sisters, Gertrude (Johannsen) born in Germany in 1920 and Edith (Frick) born in Brazil in 1926. I was only four years old at the time. We settled at Carlsbourg, Saskatchewan and later Windthorst, Saskatchewan where I attended the Coronation School at age eight. It was a one-room school of thirty pupils, grades ranging from one to ten. I had to stay home quite a lot to help, so I only got to Grade six. I was confirmed at Windthorst in the Zion's Lutheran Church by Pastor P. G. Becker.

I left home in 1939 as an "alien" as Dad was no British subject yet, and when the war started they denied him his papers. I moved to Serath, Saskatchewan (sixty-five miles north of Regina) where I met my husband, Arthur Scheinas. Art's folks, Jacob and Caroline Scheinas, came to Canada in 1912 from Austria/Germany with four children, and three more were born in Canada (including Arthur, born in 1915). Art had his schooling in Southey until Grade eight, and was confirmed in North Southey Zion's Lutheran Church by Pastor Adolf G. Schwab in 1931.

We were married on the third day of August, 1941 at Zion's Lutheran Church in Southey, Saskatchewan by Pastor Mann. At that time, when you married a Canadian citizen you also became a Canadian citizen automatically.

Our first job was as a married couple in Govan, Saskatchewan for a farmer for \$45.00 a month. Our first child (Leonard) was born in 1942 and died of pneumonia when four and a half months old. The roads were bad and we couldn't take him to a doctor. We moved to Semans, Saskatchewan (district of) and worked for \$50 a month, then moved to the Serath district in 1944. In 1944 our son, Lloyd, was born at Philip Boehmer's farm (Art's sister's place), with only a midwife present as the doctor came an hour late. We then moved to a two-room sod house. We tried to farm on rented land but the land got sold so we moved again. I stayed at Art's parents' place with

Lloyd while Art was working on the municipal roads. By November he got laid off, so we moved back to Serath into my parents' house (they had left for Alberta that spring). Our eldest daughter Adeline (Dolly) was born in the Lestock, Saskatchewan hospital in 1947 (that was the closest hospital, the doctor was from Punnichy, Sask.). Dolly was very sick when six weeks old with bronchitis and pneumonia and we got her to the hospital just in time. We used team horses to get to the train at Raymore and made the trip to the hospital by midnight. She was there thirteen days, then we brought her home.

Art worked on the roads again in the spring of 1948 and in November we moved to Alberta. We came with a 1928 Chevrolet and a two-wheeled trailer (heavily loaded). The roads were bad, dirt roads with no gravel. We travelled all day with two small children (Lloyd and Dolly). The car radiator was the bottle warmer for milk on the way. The first day we made it to Sasatoon at midnight, there the trailer broke down so we stayed in the hotel. The next day we started out, but had to leave the trailer behind. The third day we arrived at Rolly View, close to midnight at my parent's dairy farm.



Art and Erna Scheinas and Family 1974.

Our first job that winter was managing a dairy farm for Henry Knellers. My transportation to the store, many a time, was by horse and stone boat. Henry Kneller sold the farm the following spring, so we moved again, to August Schlender's cattle ranch. There we took care of cattle, land and hay. Our boy had to start school at age seven and it was four miles to the Cloverlawn School (The teacher was Gertrude Handke of New Sarepta). Art took him to school in the morning but at night he had to walk home.

In 1953 we moved to the Hay Lakes district and lived in deserted houses. Art worked at the railway, and pipeline with Clarence (Sonny) Richards as the foreman. In his spare time he worked at the garage

for Johnston and Culbertson. I had a garden, few chickens, ducks and couple of pigs as livestock. I did painting and stooking for the neighbours and also made homemade soap. Our stove and heater at that time was wood-burning. I remember baking twelve or thirteen angel food cakes for my brother's and his wife's wedding in October by wood stove. You tested the oven by hand to see if it was hot enough for baking. The mixer I used for making the cake was a hand egg-beater. Our source of light was coal-oil lamps.

Hay Lakes at that time wasn't very big. It had two grocery stores, butcher shop and lockers, a couple of garages, hardware store, hotel and cafe, and a hall. Dolly, our eldest daughter, started school in Hay Lakes in 1954 and travelled by bus.

In May, 1955 we finally made our last move to Leduc where we bought a small home. Our move to Leduc was fruitful as in January 1956 (after nine years) another daughter, Julie, was born in the Wetaskiwin hospital as there was no hospital in Leduc at that time. Our doctor was John Smyth who is still our doctor. In October of 1956 we had a real house warming as our house caught fire and we got burned out quite badly. Julie and I barely escaped; even our marriage certificate burned (The kids teased us about living common-law till we had a duplicate sent from Saskatchewan.) Art at the time was working on the pipeline and at Hutchison Construction in Leduc.

We finally got back on our feet after the fire. In November of 1958, another mouth to feed came along. Our youngest daughter, Janet, was born in the Royal Alexandra Hospital (Edmonton).

In 1959 Art got working for the town of Leduc, Recreation then afterwards Public Works. He held the position till August of 1980 when he retired after twenty-one years with the town.

Our children: Lloyd, is a manager in the liquor store at McLennan, Alberta; Adeline "Dolly" (married to Dallas Tews, formerly from Leduc district) lives near Tofield, Alberta. They work in the city and have a son (Brian), our only grandchild, aged three years. Julie lives in Leduc and works at the University of Alberta (campus) in Edmonton. Janet (married to Jim Deters, from Sedley, Saskatchewan) lives in Leduc and they both work in Edmonton.

My father, Henry Froelich passed on two years ago, at the age of eighty-four. My mother Julianna Froelich is still living at the Leduc Salem Manor Nursing Home in Leduc, at the age of eighty-two.

The Ed Schlender Family and Descendants

The Schlender family moved to Hay Lake when Ed Schlender bought the old hotel, also known as the rooming house, from Gus Edvald. He remodelled the building and made it into a butcher shop and home.

Ed, his wife Olga and their children, Lawrence Arthur (born October 12, 1918) and Frieda Teresa (born July 28, 1920) moved to Hay Lake from New Sarepta in the winter of 1921-1922.



Ed and Olga Schlender in their orchard 1945.

Ed butchered the meat for his shop on the farm where he bought the livestock. He farm-butchered meat until he could move his slaughter house from New Sarepta to Hay Lake in the summer of 1922 by horses. Ed also operated a livestock buying business and shipped livestock to Montreal, St. Paul and Vancouver. In 1934 he was an agent for Swift Canadian.

In 1929 Ed bought a house (lot 11) from John Grahn, and the family moved from the butcher shop into the house and resided there. The house is still in the family, owned by Gladys, the youngest child.

Ed had the meat market until February 1936 when it caught fire and burned down. When another butcher shop opened he closed his shop but retained the livestock and feedstock businesses. These were situated a quarter of a mile south-east of Hay Lake on the east side of the railway track.

Ed's and Olga's other children were Richard Edward, born July 26, 1927, the third child and their first to be born in Hay Lake. The fourth child is Gladys Mildred, born June 23, 1929.

Ed Schlender participated in other activities besides the butchering business. He managed and supported the baseball and hockey team. In the Fall of 1926 Ed had bought the first brand new livestock truck — a Model A Ford from Oscar Grahn. It was the biggest of the trucks built by Ford at that time. This truck along with the use of transporting live-



Ed Schlender children. L. to R., Back: Frieda, Lawrence. Front: Richard, Gladys.

stock also transported the baseball team and a band of which John Lovis was bandmaster. Ed supported and transported the band which ran approximately three years till the band dispersed.

Ed always enjoyed owning cars but he bought his pride and joy in the fall of 1927. This car was a 1927 Chevrolet, and had glass windows (the previous cars had curtained windows). When the car was brought to town, Lydia Schaffrick, a neighbor girl of the Schlender's had told a group of people where Frieda (the oldest daughter) was sitting that: "Mr. Schlender's got a glass car!" Frieda wondered what a glass car was and went home to investigate.

In the summer of 1935 Ed and Olga went to visit Olga's brother. Upon their return Ed had his first pet, a black bear cub. The cub's name was Bruno and he lived behind the butcher shop. With the bear's presence there were no attempts of vandalism to the butcher shop. In the fall a hole was dug behind the shop; this acted as a den for the cub to hibernate in. Bruno's sleep was rudely interrupted when young Oscar Grahn backed an old steel-wheeled tractor



Harold Sikstrom and Richard Schlender playing cops and robbers — 1939.

over his den. Quickly Bruno emerged from his den and wandered aimlessly for a couple of hours and then went back to sleep till March. The bear was kept until the fall of 1937. Attempts were made to find him a decent home but because of his size and viciousness he was destroyed.

Lawrence is known as Butch to all his friends. Ed and Olga insisted that their children were to be called by their proper names, yet Lawrence's nickname arose when Fred Hustad decided to shock Ed and called his son Butch. And so this nickname remains to this day.

The youngest son, Richard, passed away at the age of twelve years on May 24, 1940. Olga passed away in January 1946, after a lengthy illness, at the age of forty-seven. In 1971 at the age of eighty years Ed passed away. All are buried in the Hay Lake Cemetery.

Lawrence (Butch) was married to Evelyn Charlotte Johnson from Kingman on December 18, 1941. Shortly after, Butch was drafted into the army. After the war they settled on a farm at Riley. They were blessed with four daughters: Joyce Lorraine, Judy Marie (Pace), Lois Elaine (Abel), and Maxine (Antypowich).

Due to Butch's occupation in the oil fields they were required to move many times. They are now residing in Valleyview, Alberta.

Frieda married John Lofgren, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lofgren of East Hay Lake. They have five children: Joanne Eve(Huebner), Edward John, Donald Ken, Jane Adeline (Feduk), and Theresa Alexcis.

John was in business partnership with his brother, Eric, until 1943 when John, Frieda, Joanne and Eddie

moved from Hay Lake and took over the farm from John's parents.

Gladys was married to Arden Dixon on February 6, 1952. They have three sons, Richard, Greg and Jamie.

Schmidt, Ludwig

by Olga Schultz

Ludwig and Emilie (nee Scholm) Schmidt were married on March 3, 1904 in Wadimir, Wolynia, Russia.

In 1907, they decided to emigrate to Canada, Ludwig coming in the spring but Emilie and two small children did not arrive until October of that same year.

They took up a homestead south of Jansen, Saskatchewan, in an area where an uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich Scholm and son, Robert, had already settled in 1906.

Their only mode of transportation were oxen, which were also used for field work and haying. In 1910, Ludwig bought a team of horses, but the oxen were still used for plowing and the binder.

The Jansen area was made up of mostly new settlers at the time, so buildings had to be erected, houses especially. Therefore Ludwig was able to get quite a lot of carpenter work to help with his income.

When he was away, Mother (Emilie) would even do some of the field work with the oxen, besides looking after the stock and children. Firewood had to be gathered and hauled for miles.



Ludwig Schmidt — 1913.



Emilie (Schalm) Schmidt, 1913.

In 1912, word was received by letter from another uncle, Christof Scholm, that the winters were not as "long and cold" in Alberta and as the Saskatchewan weather was harsh and prairie fires frequent, the family decided to start up a "home" again somewhere else.

In 1913, they sold the homestead, and together with five children, moved to Wetaskiwin, Alberta. They stayed there only until 1914, when they moved to the Hay Lakes area.

During the time that they farmed in this area, Ludwig still kept doing carpentry work. He built several houses in the district, also helped build the Ukrainian Catholic Church (southwest of Hay Lakes), and he and Mr. Charlie Holmberg built the Sulitjelma School.

Ludwig left Canada for the U.S.A. in 1923 and remained there until his passing on December 21, 1965. After he left, Emilie and the children lived in various places in the New Sarepta and Hay Lakes area until 1927 when she moved to the village of Hay Lakes. She remained there until April, 1972 when she went to the Bethany Nursing Home in Camrose, Alberta. She resided there until her passing on May 6, 1978.

There were ten children in the Schmidt family and all were living until World War II. Four of the sons were in the war service, Arthur, Walter, Paul, and Carl. Arthur and Paul died in action. Paul was killed in April, 1945 and buried in Holland. He was single. Art was married to Edith Fisher who passed away in 1940, leaving two daughters, Rita and Joan. Edith's sister, Olga Fisher looked after the girls and in 1942, she married Art. He was killed in Italy in 1944.

The family has scattered, Olga being the only one left in Hay Lakes. The rest all live in various other locations.

Rudolph and Hedwig (nee Gruntman) live in Westbank, British Columbia. Their children are Alva, Elwood, Lois and Delores.

Robert and Mildred (nee Dittberner) live in Prince George, British Columbia. Albert and Verna (nee Hodgkins) live in Vancouver, British Columbia. Walter and Velma (nee Kubnert) are in Kelowna, British Columbia. Carl and Katherine (Kay) (nee Johnson) live in Edmonton, Alta. Martha Fester, (nee Schmidt) lives in Edmonton, Alta. Nelvin and Marion (nee Sollanych) live in Edmonton, Alta.

Up to the present time, 1981, there are in the family twenty-six grandchildren, thirty-four great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Schultz, George

by Olga (Schmidt) Schultz

George and Olga (nee Schmidt) were married May 6, 1927, in the former St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, by Pastor E. G. Goos.

At the time George was employed at the Hay Lakes Hotel, which was then owned and operated by his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kiel and their daughter Martha. Olga worked for Mr. L. Larson, in the store, where she had already worked for several years, prior to her marriage.

In 1928, George started to work for the Canadian National Railroad, on the section and in 1929 was transferred to Camrose, Alberta, so they sold the small house they had started to build and moved to Camrose.

Since during the depression George was able to get only seasonal work on the section, they moved back to Hay Lakes in 1938. Mr. D. F. Hughes had asked Olga, if she would come and work in the store, as Anne Brandt who had worked for Mr. Hughes until then was preparing to leave for Philadelphia, U.S.A. to enter Deaconess School.

In the summer of 1944 they bought the farm, then owned by Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Stelmaker, and moved out to the farm in November, 1944. George continued working on the section until the spring of 1946.

While living on the farm the family was also active in community affairs, such as the Farmers' Union of Alberta and the Rural Telephone Company of which George was lineman for several years, taking over from Henry Zucht. George also was a member of St. Stephen's church board for many years, besides being a member of the Hay Lakes Community band (as bass drummer) together with his sons, Raymond and Gilbert.



L. to R.: Raymond, Gilbert, Doris, Donovan, Olga and George seated — 1957.

In 1965 the family sold the farm to Mr. and Mrs. Bernhard Lumpe and moved back to the village of Hay Lakes.

George passed away on February 20th, 1970.

There are four children in the family: Doris of Burnaby, B.C., Donovan of Hay Lakes, Raymond and Laila (nee Walseth) in Edmonton, Alberta, and Gilbert and Frances (nee Tucker) in Calgary, Alberta. There are also six grandchildren in the family, most of them teenagers now in 1981.

Olga still lives in the house they bought from Mr. and Mrs. Gus Lachman, which was the former Bill Sware home.



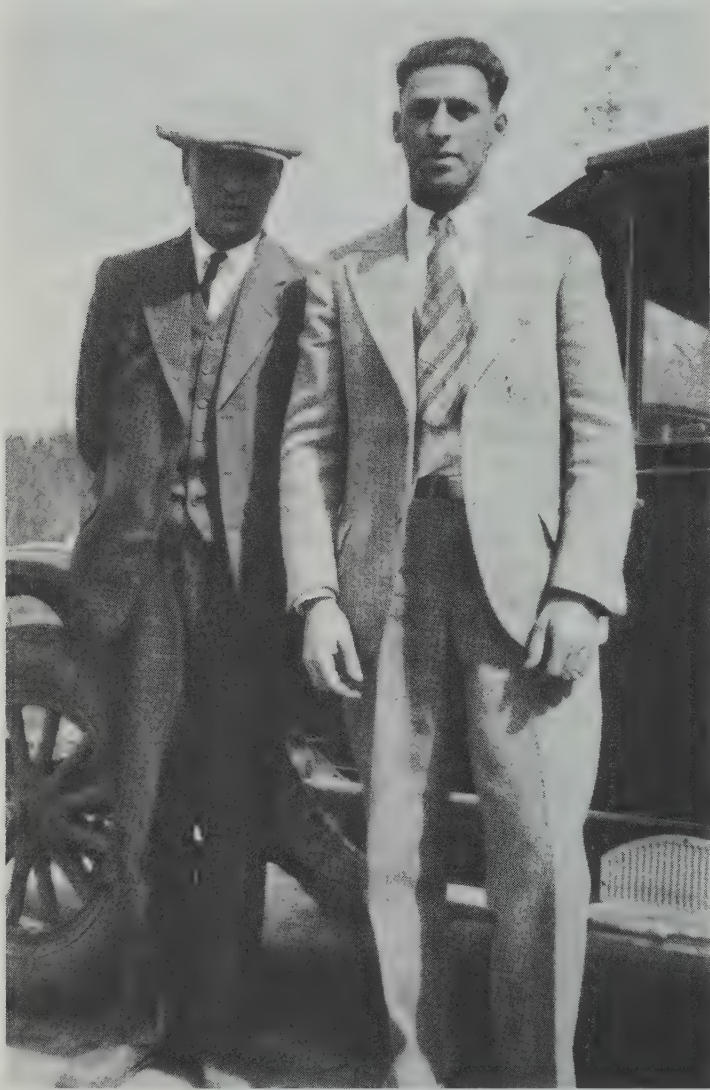
Reidun Feragen, Hazel Seeber, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Grommers and their two children. (Sulitjelma teacher).

Seeber, Alfred

Alfred Seeber, druggist clerk, came to Hay Lakes in May, 1927. He worked for the Cook Drug Company, then for James Carberry who took over the drug store.

On July 12, 1928 Alfred married Hazel Pickard, of Bellingham, Washington. They made their home in Hay Lakes until 1930, when they moved to Edmonton. They have one son, Alfred Otto.

The Seebers now reside in Victoria, B.C., where they enjoy retirement, and their five grandchildren.



L. to R.: Jim Ford grain buyer. Marcus Bloom store keeper — 1928.

The Yngve Sikstrom Family by Clifford Sikstrom

On the first day of summer, in 1896, near Lycksele, Sweden, Yngve Sikstrom was born to Karl Petter and Johanna Sikstrom, the youngest of eight sons.

In January of 1902 Karl and Johanna, with their eight boys, ranging in age from six to sixteen arrived in Hay Lakes. Until they could put up the log build-



Yngve Sikstrom.

ings on the homestead they stayed with the John Grahns, who had homesteaded three miles southwest of the hamlet earlier — Mrs. J. Grahns being a sister of Mr. Sikstrom. The Sikstrom place was a mile further west.

In April of that year Mrs. Sikstrom gave birth to a daughter, Astrid, a girl at last, after eight boys in a row. She was then forty-seven years of age.

Yngve grew up on the homestead, and as there were no schools in the district, had very little formal education, four months to be exact.

In 1918 the War was on. Yngve went to England with the Canadian Army and was stationed at Rhyl, Wales. The War over, he returned to Hay Lakes in 1919, and in August 1920 married Alice Latchford, whom he had met while in Wales. They lived on the farm until 1921, when Yngve went to work for the

CNR as a sectionman; a job that was to last forty-one years, thirty-one of them on the Hay Lakes section.

In 1922 a son Clifford was born, then Harold in 1923, Fred in 1927 and a daughter Evelyn in 1930. All were raised and educated in Hay Lakes. After finishing with school, Clifford worked at the Holte Garage for about a year and a half, and then the Hay Lakes Garage, which was operated by Oscar Grahn, for about the same period of time. In 1941 Clifford joined the R.C.A.F. and served until 1945. Harold joined the Army in 1942, returning to Hay Lakes after the war and working for a time at the Hay Lakes Creamery. Cliff went to Edmonton to work.

In September, 1947 Evelyn married a Hay Lakes boy, Henry Gruntman, and went to British Columbia to live, where Henry worked in the mills at Trail, Ocean Falls and Powell River. They had two sons, Duane and Jerry. Jerry died in a car accident in 1973; his dad died the following year. Duane and his wife Connie have three children and reside in Powell River. Evelyn has recently remarried and is now Mrs. Gordon Bates and they live in Powell River.

In 1948 Clifford married Margaret Nore, daughter of the section foreman on the CNR at Hay Lakes during the 1940's. They took up residence in Edmonton. Cliff and Margaret have three daughters and one son, Valli, Wendy, Sari and Dana Clifford. They all work and live in Edmonton.

Harold and Fred went to Calgary to work and in July 1950, Fred married Elaine Belore. Her parents, Ernie and Min, ran the pool hall and barber shop during the 1940's in Hay Lakes. Fred and Elaine have two sons, Mark and Grant. Mark is married to Judy and they both work for the CBC and live in Calgary. Grant is with the Alberta Government Telephones and lives in Edmonton.

In August 1950 Harold married Norma Holte, whose parents, Henry and Loretta, had a garage in Hay Lakes during the 1930's and early 1940's. They have two sons, Calvin and Brian. Calvin and his wife Patti and two children reside in Calgary. Brian and wife Ann, work and live in Victoria, B.C.

In 1952 Yngve and Alice moved to Edmonton, where Yngve was to work in the CNR yards until his retirement in 1961. He passed away November 12, 1978, aged eighty-two years. Alice still resides in Edmonton and is in fair health in 1981.

Grant and Doris Skippen

Grant Skippen moved to Hay Lakes in the fall of 1956 as a single man employed by Calgary Power. He boarded with Birdie and Basil Lind until June, 1957 when he married Doris Douglas, a registered nurse.

Grant remembers the week-end he left to be mar-

ried very well. There were many pranksters in Hay Lakes. Grant arrived at the station a few minutes before train time only to have Basil Lind, Byron Moore the station agent, and a few others, take him out of town for a ride. They returned him exactly at train time. He boarded the train with his Safeway shopping bag suitcase one third full of grain, and holes punched in the bottom. Needless to say he was very embarrassed as grain spewed down the aisle of the train.

Grant and Doris resided in Hay Lakes until December, 1959. Their two children, Karen and Douglas, were both born while they lived there. There were no more children after leaving Hay Lakes and Grant still accuses the Swede next door.

We made our own entertainment in those days and everyone was very sociable. The work bees at Joseph Lake, the Halloween and card parties are best remembered.

It was with sadness that the family left Hay Lakes to move to Camrose. Karen is now married and living in Drayton Valley. Douglas is employed by Trans Alta in Edmonton. Grant is still with Trans Alta in Camrose, having moved back to Camrose on three different occasions.

Sonnenberg, Wilhelm and Bertha

Wilhelm was born in Werdenland, Germany on September 6, 1921. At the age of three years he came to Canada with his parents and older brother, Walter, arriving at St. John, New Brunswick on December 1st, 1924. They settled in Golden Prairie, Saskatchewan.

Bertha Vowles was born and raised at Whitewood Lake, Saskatchewan where she received her schooling. Bertha and Bill met in North Battleford, Saskatchewan and were married in June, 1945 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

They moved to Alberta in 1949 and came to the Camrose district in 1957. They took up residence in Hay Lakes in 1976, at which time Bill was the Canadian National Railway section foreman at New Sarepta. Bill was employed with the Canadian National Railroad since 1948 and retired in 1979.

Bertha and Bill have four children. Ina, the eldest, is married to Laurie Nelson of Terrace, British Columbia and they have three children; David has two children and lives at Spences Bridge, British Columbia; Sylvia married Bruce Dahl and they live at Eckville with their three children; Malvin is married with three children and lives at New Norway.

Bertha is known for her lovely crochet work and her interest in doing jig-saw puzzles.

During the summer of 1981, Bill and Bertha enjoyed a three and a half months motor trip which took



Bill Sonnenberg Family. L. to R., Back: Bertha, Bill. Front: Ina, Sylvia, David, Malvin.

them to the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, Northern British Columbia and on to Vancouver Island.

Spurrell, Arthur Walter Stanley

Born in Gunnislake, Cornwall, England, Art, the second child in a family of eight children, came to Canada in 1914 with his family. They purchased a farm at Looma. Mr. Spurrell married his childhood sweetheart, Leta Lewis, in December, 1920. This union was blessed with three children: Eric, in Edmonton, Gwen Robb of Hay Lakes, and Leta Spurrell, who passed away in December, 1943.

Mr. Spurrell, throughout his life, maintained an interest in farming, sheep in particular. He won many honors with his sheep. Following his retirement from the Engineers Department of the City of Edmonton, Art rented the Robert Prier farm at New Sarepta in 1960 and enjoyed much success with his retirement hobby, raising sheep. Ill health forced him to retire

from farming and he purchased the old Carl Nordin house in Hay Lakes and spent many happy years there, gardening being his pride and joy. Mr. Spurrell passed away in October, 1977, at the age of eighty-two, having been predeceased by his dear wife, Leta, in 1972.

Robb, Gwen

Gwen was born in Edmonton in 1923, the daughter of Arthur and Leta Spurrell. Gwen farmed with her father and mother during the war years. She married Ken Robb from Troy, Ontario, in 1944. They had two children, Carla and Rose-Marie. Carla married Dan Tauber, son of Lea Tauber of Looma, and they have two children, Robert and Kathrine. Rose-Marie married Hugh Lundy of New Sarepta, son of Ian and Myrtle Lundy. Marie has two children, Tara and Troy, and lives in Kelowna, British Columbia.

Gwen has been employed at the International Airport, working for Pacific Western Airlines catering, now owned by Eagle Flight catering. March, 1982, will mark her fourth year of work there.

Stang, Elizabeth

As the twelfth child born (1938) to John and Paulina Stang, and baptized Anne Elizabeth, I doubt very much my arrival created much of a stir, except perhaps, within the family. When I was five the family moved from Saskatchewan to Alberta. My first three years of grade school were spent in one-room schools. Then bussing made it possible for my brothers, sisters and I to attend the larger school in Rosalind, Alberta, where I spent the next nine years of education.

After completing a one-year Junior E program at University in preparation for teaching, I was assigned a Grade seven teaching position in Hay Lakes. I owe much to the William Sware family (where I had found lodging) for their moral support and the close 'family-friend' relationship that sustained me through the first year. Because of them, I took part in a variety of community events. This made it possible for me to meet many more people than I would otherwise have done. They, being avid curlers, got me involved in curling and I curled for the three years I lived in Hay Lakes.

Probably my most memorable experience while in Hay Lakes was coaching the Junior High School girls' softball team. I learned much from the girls of whom I was in charge. To say I was their chaperon would have been a far more appropriate title. To give credit where credit is due, the girls won their games without much help from me. The honors they won for the Hay Lakes School were their honors! None-

the-less, it was a great experience and one I truly cherish.

In the fifteen years immediately after leaving Hay Lakes, I moved several times. It was also during these years that I went back to University and earned a General Arts degree.

In 1976 I moved to British Columbia. Unable to get a teaching position, I took a job working in a meat market. When that closed the following June, I was again in need of work. My sister Romi and I then decided to venture into self-employment. We opened a picture framing shop near Trail that November. That is where you will find me should you ever visit the West Kootenay region of British Columbia.

Stefiuk, Pete and Tillie

Pete Stefiuk was born in Vilna, Alberta. He worked for Poole Construction for many years, most of the time in the North West Territories, as well as points in Alberta and British Columbia.

Tillie Hlus was born in Innisfree, Alberta. She moved to Vegreville where she was employed in the Vegreville Hospital for seventeen years.

It was in Vegreville that Pete and Tillie met. There is a family of eight children, one son and seven daughters.



Tillie and Pete Stefiuk.

Son, Nester, is a dentist in Sherwood Park.

Daughters, Genevieve Belanco makes her home in Beverly, Alberta; Joanne Grey, a hairdresser, lives in Oregon; Eileen Nordstrom resides in Leduc; Jean Dyck, Registered Nurse, is with the Forestry Department in Fort Smith; Evelyn Fedorek teaches at the school for the blind in South Edmonton; Pat lives in Winnipeg where she is a surgeon; and Marlene Williams makes her home in Calgary.

Pete and Tillie came to Hay Lakes in 1975 where they purchased a home and are now retired.

Sware, William

William Sware was born at Hay Lakes in 1911, the son of early Norwegian pioneers Anton and Karen Sware. Bill together with three brothers and six sisters grew up on the family farm five miles northeast of the Village of Hay Lakes. Together with neighborhood kids from far and near he was part of the 'jam-can lunch brigade' that obtained their schooling at the Sulitjelma school and their religious instruction and confirmation at St. Josephs Lutheran Church. As a young man Bill shared the responsibility and work of the family farm operation. He participated actively in community sports and social life, and like many young people of the day he became a very good dancer, an ability that gave him much enjoyment. A keen hunter, he spent many enjoyable hours hunting birds with friends and relatives who marvelled at his keen eye-sight and spotting ability. The local sloughs also provided an abundance of muskrat pelts for a sharp marksman with a yearning for an income supplement. Bill's early pride and joy was a 1933 Maroon Dodge Roadster — brand shiny new and the envy of many young locals. Bill helped work the farm until 1938 when as a young husband and father, he took up residence in the Village of Hay Lakes.

Born in 1908 in Gleichen, Alberta, where her father was a store keeper, Anna (McCoy) Sware was the eldest child of Joseph and Hattie McCoy. While she was still very young the family moved to Victoria and Port Alberni, British Columbia. They returned to Edmonton in 1917 where Anna and her four brothers and one sister grew up and attended Parkdale and King Edward schools. She was an active member of Westminster Presbyterian, and later Knox Presbyterian churches, attending and teaching Sunday School, and participating in the Canadian Girls in Training program. She graduated from Strathcona High School in 1925 and took teacher training at Camrose Normal School, graduating in 1926. Her first teaching assignment was at Angle Lake just north of Vermilion. She also taught in Thorhild and then in Hay Lakes from 1927 to 1932. She quickly became involved in the life of this active, growing

community. In the summer of 1933 she married James Carberry, a druggist and business man in Hay Lakes, who died suddenly shortly after their marriage. She continued to live and work in Hay Lakes where her fondness of the community and her active involvement endeared her to many people, not the least of whom was a stylish young rake by the name of William Sware. Ann and Bill were married in 1936. It was during the 'depression years' but young love, and some extra cash from the muskrat skins, made the future seem bright and a wedding band within reason.

Bill and Ann spent the first couple years of married life living and working on the family farm. Following the birth of Patricia Anne in 1937 they moved to the village of Hay Lakes where Bill worked as an elevator agent for the Alberta Wheat Pool. Their first home belonged to the grain company and they moved in as the former agent and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, moved out. Rather than transport their belongings to their new home in Dawson Creek, the Hamiltons simply moved out. At the time it may have seemed like a lot of money, but for \$800.00 Ann and Bill bought lock, stock and barrel, not to mention dishes, bedding, tea-towels and the works. Instant homemaking! During their next twenty-five years residence in Hay Lakes the remaining Sware family arrived; William LeVerne in 1939, Anton Jon in 1941, Sharon Jean in 1943, and a red headed finalé, Judith Gail in 1945. There seemed to be some kind of two-year cycle in effect which broke down shortly after the tough war years. At any rate the five kids proved sufficient to provide all the joys, frustrations, trials, tribulations and moments of pride that any family needs and deserves.

An active growing family soon ensures involvement in many community affairs and this was certainly true of the Swares. Bill and Ann contributed much through their efforts in community services, as members and officers in the church, the Home and School Association, the Curling Club, and as willing volunteers on the one hundred and one committees and organizations that are part of every healthy, thriving community. Bill served many years as a council member and mayor working to better the village and community. The sewage system was installed during his years as mayor, and this proved to be a hotly debated issue at the time. With five children pulling in all directions, Ann's family duties kept her hopping. However, like most ladies in the community for free time was not always her own. An active founding member of the Ladies Circle S Club, the Home and School Association, and Library, she spent many hours in the pursuit of their objectives. She taught school and Sunday School as well. For many years

Ann served as the local correspondent for the Camrose Canadian. Her dedication, and her flair for making the local news informative, enjoyable humorous and interesting reading, won her many new acquaintances and many commendations. The Sware home was a welcome spot for all. Nieces and nephews spent their summer holidays and their "Mom is having a baby so I'm staying with Auntie" times in Hay Lakes. The oil boom of the 50's also brought with it a large number of young working men, many of whom found welcome home-style living with the Sware family.



L. to R.: Pat, Gail, Bill, Sharon, Anne, Billy, Anton.

After leaving the grain elevator, Bill operated a trucking business and in 1940 he and Morris Aspell opened Hay Lakes Meats and Lockers which proved to be a great asset to the business community. In 1949 they sold the business and Bill went to work as a battery operator with Imperial Oil in the Joarcam field. A slow down in production meant a transfer to Drayton Valley in 1962. This was a very difficult move for the family, particularly for Bill who had spent his lifetime in the Hay Lakes district. However, they soon adjusted to their new home and took on community activities with the same enthusiasm that had made them a valued part of their former community. Ann continued her teaching career and Bill took up golfing which soon became a new love. As avid campers and berry-pickers, Drayton Valley brought them closer to the super blueberry patches that Bill loved to brag about, — and brag and tease he certainly could! Many nights at supper the family heard and re-heard about what the going restaurant price would be for a bowl of hand picked blueberries or strawberries floating in a dish of real farm fresh cream! Sound familiar?

Retirement brought Bill and Ann back to

Camrose and closer to their earlier surroundings and friends. Unfortunately ill health prevented them from fully enjoying their well earned retirement years. Bill died in Camrose in 1977 and Ann in 1980, leaving a wealth of happy, cherished memories of their contributions to their family and community.

Patricia (Patsy) Rost, her husband Willie and their children Rory (1960), Brent (1962) and Rhonda (1963) farm just south of Hay Lakes. William (Bill), his wife MaryAnn and children Pamela (Mrs. Ron Parker) (1960), Tracy (1965) and Sterling (1971) live in St. Albert, Bill being employed by the City of Edmonton Electrical Department. Anton (Tony), his wife Judith and children Michelle (1969) and Derek (1971) live in St. Albert where Tony has been employed by the Protestant Separate School District since 1962. Sharon, her husband Garry Crane and their children Christopher (1970) and Kiersten (1973) are also living in St. Albert. Garry is working for Alberta Groceries. Gail and her husband Ken Likens live in Peace River where Gail has opened and operates a restaurant business and Ken is employed in administration at the Peace River Correctional Institute.

Sych, Michael and Margaret

Mike was born on October 9, 1919, the eldest son of Mary and Harry Sych. He attended the Big Hay Lake School until the time of his father's illness, then Mike quit school to help out on the farm, farming until the time he was married. The farm was purchased in 1944. Willy and Alfred Schnee cleared the land of trees and also broke up the soil.

On June 24, 1955, Mike married Margaret Grams of the Gwynne District. They moved to Drayton Valley, Alberta, where Mike worked for Charles Manning on the oil fields. After two months, they returned to Hay Lakes where they still reside. Working for Ralph Hickey as an apprenticing welder, he also took a second job working for Imperial Oil as a grader operator. Then, after a few years, he started working for the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool, in Hay Lakes, as a cream tester, and with Howard Construction.

Presently employed with the County of Camrose as a welder, he also used to operate the grader and work on the construction as a foreman.

Mike is a member of the Hay Lakes Town Council, and a counsellor for the St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

Mike and Margaret have five children. The eldest daughter, Debra, born in 1956, is married to Frank Walther, and they live in Ardrossan. Clinton, born in 1957, lives at home. Cheryl, born 1960, married John Ward from Saskatchewan in 1981, and they reside in



Mike Sych Family. L. to R., Back: Clinton, Margaret, Mike, Terry. Front: Debbie and her husband Frank, Shelly, Cheryl and her husband John.

Edmonton. Terrence, born in 1962, and Shelley, born in 1966 (the youngest), are both still going to school.

On June 24, 1980 Mike and Margaret celebrated their twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary. Many friends and relatives joined in the happy occasion.

Tober, Joe by Olga Tober

Joe Tober was born on March 19, 1898. He was six months old when the Tober family came from Volhynia, Russia to seek a better life in Canada. They settled in the Ellerslie district.

Joe's father farmed in Ellerslie until 1920 at which time he decided to sell out and go to Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. On account of the loss in exchange of money they remained in Canada and bought farms in the Leduc area. Here Joe farmed for twenty-five years.

I, Olga Hartman, born December 24, 1906, was fourteen years old when I came with my parents to Canada from Russia. My parents settled on a farm in the Calmar district.

In 1925 I married Joe Tober. Our two daughters, Inez and Evelyn, were born and grew up during the time we lived on the farm in Leduc.

Joe was a successful farmer, but as years went by farm help was very hard to get. Because we were unable to do all the farm work ourselves, Joe looked for some other business.

In May 1946 we bought Hay Lake Supply from Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Mittelstadt, and Joe took Art Mittelstadt as partner.

At this time our eldest daughter had married Ben Herster and they lived on the family farm. Evelyn

came with us and helped in the business. Later, she went to Edmonton to work. When we purchased Hay Lake Supply, Joe, Art, Alice Gruntman, Ed Fischer and Pauline Vereshagen worked in the store. The family living quarters were above the store and all members helped in the business.

Being a general store a variety of items were stocked, groceries, clothing besides other dry goods, also, over the counter medical aids were in supply. Store hours were from eight o'clock in the morning until six p.m. On Wednesdays the store was open from eight a.m. until twelve o'clock noon and on Sunday we were closed. We served town and farm people alike and Joe enjoyed his store very much. Joe's desire was to have a good, honest business. Being active church members we were well acquainted with people in the surrounding area.

On January 1, 1950 Ed Fischer took over Art Mittelstadt's share in the store and became Joe Tober's partner.

In 1951, because of health reasons, and also, because oil was discovered on the Leduc farm, we moved to Edmonton. We left Ed Fischer managing the store with Joe as silent partner.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tober — 1968.

Joe Tober was a down-to-earth man and believed in speaking the truth. He enjoyed his work in the store to the utmost and was saddened to leave all the friends we had made and move to the city. However, until his death we made regular trips to Hay Lakes. If possible we went once a week to visit our friends, and Joe's brother Bill, and sisters, Mrs. Gussy Rost and Emma Mittelstadt. We always enjoyed good neighbors on the farm, in Hay Lakes and Edmonton.

The five years as an active part of the Hay Lakes community were full happy ones. After moving to Edmonton life was quiet and we travelled to many parts of the world: Mexico, the Holy Land, Japan and Germany. We also travelled by car through U.S.A. to Alaska. Almost every year we enjoyed a trip to the mountains.

In the forty-nine years of married life Joe bought thirty-four new cars and one Model T. Ford. He enjoyed driving. I have many beautiful memories of all the travelling we did all over the world and about 6000 slides taken on our travels.

In 1969 Joe suffered a slight stroke and then sold his half share of Hay Lakes Supply to Elmer Grams. Ed Fischer sold his share to Mr. Grams also.

Joe was very close to his family and loved them all very much. His family, grandchildren, great grandchildren, brother and sisters were continually enjoyed.

My life with Joe was always in high gear. He did everything quickly, and we, as his family had to do everything to fit into the fast pace of his nature. Even his passing was quick and unexpected. Joe died at home on December 11, 1974.

I continue to live in Edmonton in the house we bought when we left Hay Lakes.

Our daughter, Inez, and husband, Ben, still operate the "homefarm" in Leduc. Their family consists of three boys, Wayne, David and Gregory. They also have two grandchildren.

Evelyn is now living in Edmonton with her three children, Sheryl, Timothy and Cindy Ann. One daughter passed away at the age of two and a half years.

Joe and I also adopted two girls in the Mission Fields, in Taiwan, China. Through our church we raised them from childhood.

Tober, Robert

Robert was born July 28, 1922, the fourth child of Edward and Ottelia Tober. He attended Canard school, was confirmed in St. Stephens Lutheran Church by Pastor Lenz and now is a member of Our Savior in Hay Lakes.

Robert spent his early years working on the family farm. He continued to farm the land when his

parents retired to Hay Lakes. After his father passed away, his mother decided to sell the farm and Robert went to live in Hay Lakes with her. When his mother passed away in 1964 he bought their home and continues to reside there.

With the exception of a year spent working in Dawson Creek, Robert had worked at the Hay Lakes Hardware for Reins Mittelstadt for twenty-eight years, as a devoted employee, friend and right-hand man, until Reins passed away suddenly in 1978. Robert still works part-time for the present owner Larry Piersdorff.

Along with being involved in community activities — with always a helping hand — he was an ardent curler. He had also been the caretaker of the curling rink and local skating rink for about twenty-five years.

Robert still likes to get out on the land — seeding and harvesting — for the Buob family, on the original Kopf homestead, every year.

Robert continues to be a bachelor.

Tober, William

“Bill” Tober was born in Volhynia, Russia. Along with his parents, Samuel and Rosalie Tober, and a sister and brother, he emigrated to Canada. Manitoba was their home for about two years, then they proceeded to Alberta and the Ellerslie district which became their permanent home. Bill took all his schooling there, and worked in the area as a young man. Always interested in music, he played in the Ellerslie Brass Band.



Bill and Violet on their front lawn 1962.

Bill married Rosalie Lidtke, and four children were born to this union. Unfortunately their marriage broke up in divorce. Bill worked for several years in Ontario, finally returning to Hay Lakes in the early '50s. He lived with Gus Mittelstadts for a year before moving into Hay Lakes where he purchased his own home. Bill had joined the local Brass Band as soon as he returned and enjoyed several years playing with it.

Laronde, Violet (Manning)

Violet came from North Bay, Ontario to Saskatchewan to be with an ailing aunt in 1956. Following the death of her aunt, she came to Hay Lakes to visit with friends. In 1959, she joined Bill Tober and together they built a comfortable home with beautiful grounds which won them the Centennial Award. Bill was caretaker for the Hay Lakes School for several years, and together they created great respect for their work in that institution. Bill passed away in 1976. Violet still resides in her home here in Hay Lakes.

Jerry and Ardy Trepmpner

Jerry was the youngest of three sons born to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Trepmpner of New Sarepta. He received his schooling in New Sarepta.

In January of 1966 Jerry bought the bulk agency equipment from Imperial Oil Ltd. and began his independent business as an agent. That same year in April he married Ardy Swanson from the Camrose district. To this union three daughters were born, Tracy in March 1967, Terri in September 1969 and Kyla in August 1972.

In 1968 Jerry bought Pete Wegner's water truck and contracts. As the oilfield business grew, it became too demanding to try and operate both businesses, so the bulk agency was sold to Evan Seedhouse of Leduc. As the years passed and the trucking increased, it was more than evident that it was time to either go larger or sell Trepmpner's Tank Truck Service. In October of 1980 the company was sold and at present Jerry is employed as a car salesman for Wetaskiwin Motors and the family still live on their acreage west of the village of Hay Lakes.

During the past seven years Ardy has been active with the Brownie and Girl Guide organization. Tracy, Terri and Kyla have all belonged to the various groups. Ardy has also coached several Hay Lakes school girls County fastball teams. In 1981 Carol Skaret and Ardy coached the Hay Lakes Pee-wee girls fastball team that won the County championship.

Truman, Douglas and Patricia

Douglas and Patricia Truman are originally from the Estevan, Saskatchewan area. They moved to Edmonton in October, 1971 immediately following their marriage. In 1976, they made the move to Hay Lakes where they built a house in the village the following year.

Douglas is a carpenter in the Edmonton area. He has in the past been involved in the Scout movement. Patricia served on the County of Camrose School Board for nearly two years and as president of the Kindergarten for the 1980-'81 term.

They have three sons: Derek, nine years; Aaron, seven years; and David, five years old. The Trumans attend church at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

The Tullis' Hay Lakes Saga

I don't think I will ever forget the first evening I landed at Hay Lakes — June 1st, 1945. After being discharged from the Royal Canadian Air Force in April, 1945, I began looking for a job and was offered the position of elevator agent at Hay Lakes with the United Grain Growers. The evening I got off the Canadian National Railroad train from Calgary the weather was cool and rainy. The streets were nothing but mud and I felt that every one out on the streets was wearing high rubber boots. If there had been a train going south I believe I'd have jumped on it and never returned. However, after a warm and friendly welcome at the hotel and when the next morning dawned bright and clear — the leaves were on the trees — the birds were singing — the world looked bright and beautiful. I have never regretted in any way our sojourn in the town of Hay Lakes.

For the month of June I was second man to Charlie McLean, who had been grain agent for the United Grain Growers for a number of years but had decided to go into the store business. On July 1st I took over as grain buyer for the Company. Being married and having one child, Sharon, I was very anxious to have the family with me — but there was no Company house although they had promised to build one as soon as possible.

A very kind Mrs. McLeod offered to rent her house to us until ours was built — she was moving out to live with her son, Jack. In September, 1945, my wife Kathie and daughter, Sharon, moved to Hay Lakes.

Early in October the building crew arrived to build our new home and, believe it or not, we were able to move in about December 15th.

We could not afford a car in those early days, so if any of the family took ill it meant a hurried call to Reg Berry who always stood ready and willing to see

that we got to Doctor Mac. Smith in Camrose. These acts of kindness and neighborliness are things we shall never forget.

Craig, our only son, was born while we were at Hay Lakes. Brenda, our youngest daughter, was born several years after we left.



Wally Tullis Family. L. to R.: Sharon, Kathie, Wally, Craig.

The pay at the elevator left a lot to be desired so I had to supplement our income by shipping stock for the Alberta Livestock Co-Op, selling insurance, farm supplies and coal. It meant many extra hours of work — many late nights waiting on the train to pick up the stock — but it was worth it.

There were plenty social activities in town — Kathie joined the local Red Cross Club and later the Circle "S" Club. She was an active member of the Ladies' section of the Curling Club as well and for a year or so I was on the Curling Club executive. I helped to start the local Legion and became a charter member. I was not good enough to be a member of the Hay Lakes Baseball team but did make a small contribution by umpiring many of the League games. I must admit that the verbal abuse I took in this job often made me wonder if it was worth it — still it was lots of fun.

Art Rochue and myself were determined to make a few extra bucks so we bought the corner lot opposite the Hotel and built a British-American Service Station on it. Before it was actually completed we sold out — glad to get out of that type of business.

In December, 1949 we were transferred to Edmonton where I worked in the United Grain Growers office in the Macleod building. In 1954, we were moved to Calgary where I was director of Field Services for the Western Region. In 1970, we were transferred to the Head Office of the United Grain Growers in Winnipeg where I was Director of Field Services for the Eastern Region. In 1975, I retired out

of Winnipeg to move back to Calgary. Kathie and I have enjoyed our retirement very much. Our family lives in Calgary. Craig is married and has two children — Robbie and Sara. Brenda is married and lives in Calgary. Sharon is single and has worked for Xerox for the last ten years.

The years have been good to us and as we look back on the four years at Hay Lakes we have many pleasant memories of the friends we made and the things we did while there.

Wall, Byron

Byron was born in Camrose on July 12, 1941 to Fred and Clara Wall (nee Bakken). Clara passed away in January, 1945. Byron took his first two years of schooling at Sulitjelma School, which was located on Fred Miller's property. The remainder of his schooling was taken at Hay Lakes School and also in Jasper Park.

In 1953, Byron's father married Edith Spiedel and they moved to a farm at Ohaton. Byron remained at this farm until 1961 when he left to go out working.

On August 12, 1967, Byron married Doreen Johnson, daughter of Elsie and Percy Johnson of Camrose.



Children of Byron and Doreen Wall. L. to R., Back: Carol, Danny, Penny. Front: Clara, Michael.

Byron and Doreen built a home in the Village of Hay Lakes. They have five children, Danny — thirteen years old, Carol — eleven, Penny — nine, Clara — five and Michael — four years of age. The children attend Hay Lakes School.

Byron is employed in Edmonton as an Interior Systems Mechanic. Doreen enjoys cooking and spends as much time as possible with their children.

Walter, Rienold and Lota

Rienold Walter, his wife Lota and their daughter, Trudy, came to Canada from Bainsbeck, West Germany, landing at an aunt's (Mrs. Knull) in Leduc, Alberta. They moved to Hay Lakes in 1951 and stayed with Carl Radke, then they lived in a house owned by Gus Keil.

Rienold was a butcher and worked for Morris Aspell and Bill Sware in the Locker Plant. Rienold was known for all the different sausages he made.

They lived in Hay Lakes until 1952, then they moved to Edmonton, where he worked at a butcher shop.

In 1956, they moved back to Germany and then he had his own butcher shop at Bainsbeck. Lota helped as a sales person. They had two more children, a girl born in 1959 and a boy born in 1963. Trudy, always liked Canada and got married to Erwin Sowder of Kelowna, British Columbia. Trudy and Erwin Sowder have one son.

Rienold and Lota came for a visit to Canada in the summer of 1979. When they visited Hay Lakes, they did not know too many people and there was a trailer on their house site. Rienold is retired now in Bainsbeck, West Germany.

Werkman Family

Henk Werkman was born in Leeward, Holland in 1946. He came to Canada with his parents and ten brothers and sisters in 1952. Henk married Gayle Hewko of Edmonton in 1969.

The Werkman family, Henk, Gayle and two children, Sheryl and Lisa, came to Hay Lakes in April of 1976.

Edmonton had been home, but for some years we were in Prince Rupert, and Dawson Creek, B.C. (for five years), then moved to Camrose, Alberta for one year, and now Hay Lakes is our home.

Henk had been with British Columbia Telephones, then with Alberta Government Telephones in Camrose and now in Edmonton.

The winter of 1978, January 28th, we had our last child, Crysall Gail; that's when we were sure we would make Hay Lakes our home.

The Werkman family are community-minded;



Gayle and Henk Werkman. Sheryl, Lisa at back, Crystal in front.

Henk is one of our volunteer Firemen and is also Vice President of the Lions Club. Gayle is President of Brownies and Guides and was one of five who put together the Hay Lakes seventy-fifth Anniversary celebration, held on August 31, 1980.

Our daughter Sheryl is in Guides and Lisa is in Brownies.

Gayle, who is a hairdresser, decided to open a beauty salon, and called it Gayle's House of Beauty. Since she had been doing hair in her home for four or five years she decided a business in Hay Lakes would be great. So after thirteen years of hairdressing, it was a dream to have my own Salon.

Hay Lakes has been good to us and we have good friends and neighbors, and we expect this will continue for years to come.

Werner, William

William Werner was born in Hay Lakes, April 6, 1906, the eldest son of John and Emilge Werner.

In the early twenty's, I worked in the Hay Lakes district for Herman Wesenberg.

In 1922, I was employed by Nick Miller, a cattle dealer, chasing cattle on horseback to Gainer's Stockyards. I'll never forget our first trip. We had about forty head which we chased about twenty miles the first day to the railroad tracks in the Looma area. There we tied our horses and bedded down for the night. I had no sooner got to sleep than Nick would yell at me, "Get up", the cattle are coming! We had to keep them together on this side of the track. Next morning, we started out again, chasing the cattle through the city, across the low-level bridge to the stockyards, located approximately six miles north of Edmonton. On our next trip, we had over 150 head. There were six of us: Nick Miller, Art Movald, Bill Movald, Ernest Fredrick, Reinhart Tober and me.



Bill and Gertie Werner — 1928.

Farmers and ranchers brought their cattle to Hay Lakes and put them in C.N.R. yard overnight, and at dawn we started our drive. For the two-day trip to the city, and one day return, we were paid six dollars.

In 1927, I worked on the dray wagon.

I married Gertie Drebert, March 6, 1928. We have one daughter, Muriel, born on March 4, 1929. She married Hugh Linton and has one son, Leslie Glenn, and one daughter, Billy Lee.

We left the Hay Lakes district in 1928 and moved to British Columbia. Most of our years were spent in construction and logging in British Columbia. From 1949 to 1954, we were in Washington, California. Now we are retired and residing in White Rock, B.C.

Wolter, Edward

I was born on the twenty-seventh of November, 1900, the youngest son of seven children. My parents, Johan and Justina Wolter (nee Krucjer), lived in

Lublin province, Poland, Chelin County, in the village of Cicaw.

My parents had the usual farm, about twelve acres of land, one horse, two cows, two pigs and a few chickens. At six years of age, as there were no fences, I herded the livestock to pasture.

My father taught me to read and write German and I started school at age ten. We attended school only from November to April (six months). There we studied German, Russian, and Polish. My father passed away in December, 1912 and from then on I did the farm work in the summer time and attended school in the winter months. I was confirmed in the spring of 1915 but my school days suddenly ended.

Orders came from the Russian Government requiring that all men and boys must go to the front lines to dig trenches. The Russians retreated after a German attack and we were allowed to return to our homes.

At home I learned that we were being displaced to Russia. On the fifteenth of July, 1915, I, Mother, my sister Eva, her husband and family of five children left in a covered wagon. We took with us some oats, bread, flour and smoked meat. One horse was pulling the wagon. Each family had one cow tied behind. With tears in our eyes, we left the crop ready to cut and all our possessions. The Polish people would stay and take everything.

After five weeks our horse played out. We sold the horse and wagon and the Government placed us with three hundred others in boxcars and sent us to Suparezchker, in the Province of Samara about two hundred miles from the Ural mountains.

We got some Government relief but we needed clothing. By February I had contracted influenza and typhoid fever. By summer I recovered enough so that I could fix shoes and make wooden soles for the Russian people.

The Bolshevik Revolution was going strong everywhere. By Easter time, 1918, we displaced people rented eleven boxcars to return home to Poland. When we reached the German-occupied border in White Russia we were made free of lice and vaccinated.

After our six-weeks' journey home we arrived just before Pentecost Day and we found our home and buildings had been used up for firewood. Stanislaw Garboski was living in my brother's house. The land had not been cultivated and there was nothing we could expect from a one-third crop share.

Mother went to Martinoski, an old Polish friend. He gave us seed potatoes, and one bushel of mixed buckwheat and rapeseed in exchange for work. I worked three days by hand for one day's use of the horse and plow. Mother and I worked out part-time

all summer. I got ten pounds of rye for fall seeding and four meals per day for working from sunrise until sunset. By fall we had our own potatoes, ten bushels of buckwheat for flour and sixty pounds of rapeseed. We pressed the rapeseed for oil for cooking. We dug turf from the meadow for fuel.

I had typhoid fever again and when I was called up for military service. The doctor sent me for an examination and later I was told I could return home. After a long walk home, stopping at farms to ask for bread and water, I arrived to find Mother sick with typhoid fever. I borrowed money to buy a cow as Mother, sixty-nine now, needed milk to recover. By February I got my uniform and rifle, and after some hurried training I went with the Seventh Regiment to fight the Bolsheviks.

In the Third Division we experienced the many hardships of war with many attacks, counter attacks, retreats, bombardment, hunger, extreme exhaustion and some great losses of comrades. By the end of October the Bolsheviks were surrendering. We were near the Latvian border during the winter of



Edward and Olga Wolter — 1924.

1920-'21. I was given a promotion, three weeks leave, and then took Instructor's training to train corporals. In the fall of 1922 we were discharged and I was a free man again.

That was the happiest day of my life but on top of it a sad day — no parents, no home, so I went to brother Wilhelm's place for the winter.

In the spring my cow had a calf and my sister, Eva Redel, milked the cow during the summer and I ate at her place and made a settlement with the family about the estate.

It was no good to be single in Poland, so on February 24, 1924, I married Miss Olga Belke from Mickelsdorf — the youngest daughter of Fredrich and Matilda Belke. We lived at my sister's place until we put up buildings on my place. In 1927, we had a chance to emigrate to Canada. We sold half my land to my sister and half to a neighbor. We packed and said goodbye to relatives and friends and left for Canada on May 15, 1927.

A month later we arrived in Hay Lakes. Pastor Ernst Goos met us at the station and told us that Sam Berkholtz would take us to his place.

We worked for him — I got one dollar and twenty-five cents a day. My wife got seventy-five cents a day and free room and board. We worked for Mr. Berkholtz six weeks. My wife was expecting a child in September. So we moved away and rented an old house together with another family. I bought two cows so we had milk and butter. From there we moved to Terrous' place where Adolph was born on September 13, 1927. In February, 1928 we moved to our own farm, which we had bought from Wilhelm Henschel. There was a shack on it, twelve by twenty-four feet, and a field granary, twelve by fourteen feet, thirteen acres of land and the rest was bush with some meadow for pasture. Our down payment was seven hundred dollars and the balance of \$2500.00 was to be paid within five years. We had three cows and no horses or machinery.

I started to cut some brush so I could break some new land. In the spring I took on seventeen acres of brush to clear for Gus Henschel at ten dollars per acre. With that money I paid for the horses, bought two fresh cows, a plow, harrows and a buggy. All the machinery was second-hand. I had to borrow a drill from the neighbors to seed my crop. After the crop was seeded I cut some more brush and my wife piled it into bunches. I took on ten acres of brush to clear for Gus Mittelstadt so I could pay for the two cows and the cream separator. My wife took the cream into the creamery when the cream can was full. Then I brushed nineteen acres at home and my wife did the piling. Mr. Emil Mittelstadt came with five horses and broke nineteen acres. That was a great help for us.



Edward Wolter Family. L. to R., Back: Verri and Emma Robertson, Adolph, Alvin and Elsie Haine, Elmer and Ida Neuman, Mike and Martha Iskiw. Front: Mr. and Mrs. Wolter and grandchildren.

On January 25, 1929, Emma was born. In that summer I cleared thirty-six acres. Mr. Trevor Roper broke it with the tractor. In the fall of 1929 I threshed six hundred bushels of wheat. The price of wheat was \$1.20 a bushel. In 1930, Ida was born. In the spring of 1930 the depression started; wheat went down to twenty-five cents a bushel, barley twelve cents, oats eight cents, an eight-gallon can of cream was two dollars, eggs were six cents a dozen, turkeys ten cents a pound dressed, and steers two and a half cents a pound, live.

In 1934, Martha was born. In 1935 the crops froze on August 15. There was no seed grain in this part of the country. The government had to bring seed grain from Athabaska. In 1937, I bought the farm from Adolph Plante for \$1,220.00. In 1938, Elsie was born. In 1939, we built a new house with seven rooms and a full basement.

In 1943, we bought our first car, a 1939 Chevrolet, from Mr. Henkelman. In 1943, I was elected to the school committee for three years. In 1947, I was elected to the St. Stephen's Church board for three years. I bought the farm from Mrs. Tober for \$4,000.00 and a 1530-International tractor on steel wheels for \$600.00.

With sixty head of livestock and three farms to look after I found the work was too hard so we decided to retire and we built a house in Hay Lakes. In February, 1963 we left the farm and moved into our new home. I sold one farm to Reinhold Ortlieb, and our son, Adolf, bought one and rented the other.

In September of 1965 we went to the West and East zones of Germany for a visit.

My wife was in poor health since October, 1966

when she suffered a slight stroke. She was still able to do the cooking and I helped with the housework and looked after the garden.

I was elected to the village council in Hay Lakes in 1968. I served as Mayor for three years. In 1970, I was elected to the school committee to represent the village of Hay Lakes in the County of Camrose for a period of seven years.

On March 23, 1980 my wife passed away in St. Mary's Hospital from cancer. Thank God, her suffering was over.

I am spending my retirement here in the village of Hay Lakes, enjoying our Senior Citizens' Centre.

Yoner, William and Ruby

Bill

My parents, John and Rose Yoner, farmed near Estevan and raised twelve children out on the bald prairie of southern Saskatchewan. I, the fourth child was born in June, 1930. The depression times made it equally hard for the parents when money was scarce. My mother was extremely resourceful with the main food staples. There was more than enough farm work for each member. One of my chores was to haul our drinking water with a team of horses from a neighbouring farm. My schooling days were spent at Brown School.

After I left home to make my own living in 1948, I worked in Estevan and Regina before moving to Edmonton in 1953. I met Ruby as a member of my bowling team, and in 1955 we were married at Hay Lakes. Thus began our numerous moves over the ensuing years. We lived in Calgary briefly, then back to Edmonton for two and a half years. In 1958, Barry was born. We moved to the West coast, Vancouver, for one year and Cheryl was born there in 1960. Being fed up with big city life we settled in Hay Lakes for twelve years, and Heather was born in 1962.

During our stay in the village, I worked at the Hay Lakes Hardware for several years, and later formed my own business in plumbing and heating. I served on the village Council a number of terms, resigning after a brief run as Mayor due to the heavy pressure of store business. In 1970 we purchased and operated the Hay Lakes Supply general store. One year later with a new store building, the business became known as Yoner's Best Valu. The store was sold in March, 1973 to Ronald and Esther Hnatiw, and the Yoner family moved to Vernon, British Columbia where we all lived for seven and a half years.

In March, 1980, the sixty-eight-year-old Hay Lakes Supply building landmark was torn down board by board, most of the old lumber being salvaged. Another move was made in August, 1980. We



L. to R.: Cheryl, Heather, Ruby and Bill Yoner — 1976.

came back from Vernon, British Columbia and settled in the Hay Lakes district on an acreage west of the village.

Ruby

I was born on the family farm west of Hay Lakes in July, 1930, the beginning of the depression. I had a happy childhood with warm affection, filled with music and a seemingly constant stream of visitors. My education began at Canard School. The first school day was unforgettable — I could speak only German. My teachers were Mrs. Irna Mittelstadt, Miss Lena Koshman and Mrs. Louise Nordin. My schooling was completed in Camrose and Stettler business schools in preparation for the working world.

The sounds of singing and instrumental music that filled my home has left an everlasting impression in my life. When very young my sister Eileen, and I sang duets to our frequent visitors, which progressed to church, school and social functions as we grew older. Our milking cows were always serenaded, often with the latest pop hits. I took piano lessons from Mrs. Gola Berry in the early '40's, which advanced further through Mrs. Ethel Freeman of Camrose. I developed deep appreciation of the classics. At the same time Eileen took singing lessons from Mrs. Freeman, as did our cousin Violet Mittelstadt. The three of us spent many hours practising our lessons together. Incidentally, that piano became mine, still in use, and in excellent condition.

This basic musical training has served us well in the church choir and our brief singing careers, with great encouragement from family and friends. We had joined the church choir that performed at both St. Luke's and St. Stephen's Lutheran churches. I became church organist for both churches for a brief period. The parish was served by Pastor Leonard Koss at that time. Directed by our brother Reins

Mittelstadt in those years, we choir members have not forgotten the rehearsals that produced such beautiful anthems and hymn arrangements, always sung without accompaniment.

Three of us, Eileen, our niece Ruth Lachman, and I always enjoyed trio singing in the early '50's. Calling ourselves the Ruby Sisters, we entered local talent contests. As part of a group we sang in many places in Edmonton briefly on radio and one special event was for the 20th anniversary of CFRN Radio in 1954. The trio disbanded when marriage and greener fields caused us to go our separate ways.

I started working at Edmonton Motors in 1952 and was employed there for several years. A mutual friend, Jeannette Johnston, encouraged me to join a bowling league where I met Bill as a member of his team. After our marriage our first home was in Calgary for a brief year; our second home was in Edmonton two and a half years when our son Barry was born. Our daughter, Cheryl, was born within the year 1960 when we made our third home in Vancouver. The village of Hay Lakes became our fourth home for twelve years, and Heather was born in 1962 to complete our family.

Village life suited us. We were active in the community in school, church, business and library functions. I became church organist of Our Saviour Lutheran Church for services conducted by Pastor Otto Frank, and the choir was directed by Mrs. Agnes Frank and Reins Mittelstadt.

My interest in the local library grew as I served terms as Library Board Member. I re-entered the work force as the first Hay Lakes school secretary, and was the municipal library custodian. Those years fulfilled an extremely interesting experience for me.

My days became busier yet in the next two and one-half years behind the Hay Lakes Supply store counter, particularly during the period that Bill supervised the construction of the new building that became Yoner's Best Valu. After we sold the store to the Hnatiw's, we moved to Vernon, British Columbia where we found a different way of life.

The unusual experience as carpenter's helper came about March, 1980 as I assisted Bill in tearing down the old Hay Lakes Supply building, a landmark gone forever. This experience was well worth the effort when we built our present home on the acreage. The old salvaged lumber will build a shed or two.

Barry and his wife, Linda, their two daughters, Crystal and Amber, reside in Edmonton.

Cheryl and her husband, Robert Hutton, presently reside on an acreage out of Lumby, British Columbia.

Heather attends Lethbridge Community College, and is completing a Radio Arts course for a career in communications.

History of the Adolf Zelt Family

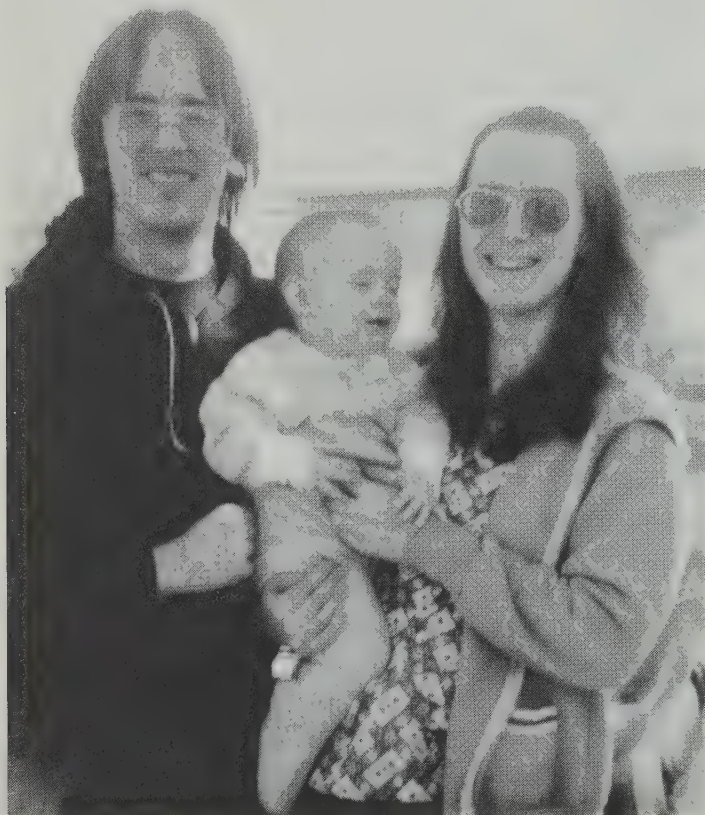
Adolf Zelt was born on June 3, 1892 in Volhynia, Russia. He emigrated to the United States with his brother in 1910 and settled in Chicago where he worked for Swifts in their packing plant. In 1912, he moved to Edmonton where he worked for Gainers as a butcher.

On April 11, 1915, he married Emily Lechelt of Nisku, Alberta, daughter of William Lechelt. Their first son, Wilfred, was born on February 26, 1916.

In 1917, they moved to Hay Lakes where he bought a farm. A year later, he bought a store that contained a butcher shop which they operated for the next eight years. In 1925, they closed the store and went on an extended vacation to Portland, Oregon to visit Emily's sister, Lydia.

In 1926, they returned to Hay Lakes and shortly after moved to Nisku where he took over the general store from Mr. Long. They remained in Nisku until 1945. During this period, they had a son, Harold, in 1927; a son, Gordon, in 1930; a son, Vernon, in 1933; and a daughter, Lorraine, in 1935. Adolf expanded the business in Nisku into trucking and supplying the local farmers with petroleum products.

In 1945, the family moved to New Westminster, British Columbia. He purchased and operated a restaurant in Vancouver for about two years. He then



Barry and Linda Yoner with daughter Crystal — 1981.

returned to his original profession of butcher and worked for Dr. Ballard's in Vancouver until his retirement in 1957.

Emily Zelt passed away in New Westminster on February 25, 1961. Adolf passed away ten weeks later on May 6, 1961.

Wilfred retired from Robin Hood Mills in 1981 and presently resides with his wife, Marguerite, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Harold works for the Toronto Dominion Bank and resides with his wife, Joan, in Victoria, British Columbia. Gordon works for Esso Chemical Canada and resides with his wife, Eileen, in Sherwood Park, Alberta. Vernon passed away suddenly on March 23, 1977 at the age of forty-four. His wife, Sophie, resides in 100-Mile House. Lorraine resides with her husband, Ron McLeod, in Ottawa, Ontario.



Adolf Zelt Family. L. to R., Back; Vernon, Lorraine, Wilfred. Front: Harold, Adolf, Emily, Gordon.

Little Town

I like to live in a little town

Where trees meet across the street,
Where you wave your hand and say "Hello"
to everyone you meet.

And listen to friendly gossip of
the folks that live next door.

For life is interwoven

with the friends we learn to know

And we hear their joys and sorrows
as we daily come and go;

So I like to live in a little town,

I care no more to roam,

For every house in a little town

is more than a house, it's home.

Author Unknown



Where Do You Fit In?

There was an important volunteer job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody accused Anybody. Now that it's done, Everybody cares, because YOU did it!

Epilogue



Back Row: Richard Pearson, Margaret Arnston, Lil Mallas, David Holdsworth. Middle Row: Martha Nordin, Evelyn Pearson, Wanda Grah, Doris Holdsworth, Alpha McLean. Front Row: Pauline Maruschak, Gola Berry, Pat Rost.



Pauline Maruschak.



Louise Palm proof reading.



L. to R., Standing: Wanda Grahn, Pauline Maruschak, Doris Holdsworth. Seated: Evelyn Pearson.



Marg Arnston and Lil Mallas.



L. to R., Standing: Helen Heinz, Gola Berry, David Holdsworth. L. to R., Seated: Alpha McLean, Evelyn Pearson, Doris Holdsworth, Richard Pearson.



Pat Rost and Martha Nordin.



Standing: Alpha McLean, Bertha Stavne, Lil Muir. Seated: Ed Fisher, Pat Rost, George Davies.

Special Thankyou

Special appreciation must be given to Mrs. Pat Rost, for without her foresight and tireless efforts over the past few years this book would never have become a reality. Pat, from all of us and from all of the stories in this book we thank you and note again how your Step has now left its Mark! A job well done.

The Committee and your friends.

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